

## Written Objects

Written Objects is a text based series of art objects that appear as declaratives. This series discusses the concept of identity and consent, and relies on the underlying tension between collective and individual identities—it is an ongoing study of formalism and its relationship to identity. The connection of Formalism, Conscious Realism, and the culture surrounding Yoruba sculpture inform this project. The focus of Written Objects is to liberate art objects, and highlight the violent nature of the viewer's gaze, that art objects when material are defined by a prejudiced viewer and are arbitrarily defined by the institutions, culture, and politics of the spaces that host them.

This project gives audiences the opportunity to host in part the responsibility that material artists have as a narrator for ideas. As the viewer reads, the image is conjured within the mind's eye, and they have to acknowledge the object as its declared self. This is a confrontation with physicalism challenging the notion that any “body” can define an identity, that definition can only be found within the immaterial—that the body is in conversation with consciousness, much like Queerness. This project intends to liberate the immaterial.

This is a larger conversation on the inaccessibility of a classical art practice, and the dangers this presents in the larger overarching society, due to the limitations of the individual artist's finances, education, skillset or social status these art objects might never exist. Some of the art objects are impossible to create within our physical reality either because physics would not allow it, the materials that would create it do not yet exist, or the artist simply does not have the resources to make the object. Can art objects ever truly be autonomous?

Written Objects is also accompanied by a zine featured during shows called “Talking Objects,” which highlights the two main inspirations behind the project.