

# CARLETTA CARRINGTON WILSON

carlettacarringtonwilson.com  
Seattle, Washington

The narrative threads of Carletta Carrington Wilson's literary and visual works, in recent years, began to merge as her artist books, installations and collages mirrored the melding of language and form.



The Pacific Northwest's moody skies, mountain ranges and bodies of water are integral to her artistic practice. It is here that her work has rooted itself, has ascended and descended, has formed the structure upon which eye + hand, mouth/tongue/mind conjoin to create text & image reaching across realms of time. Each creation, embedded in its own language, each form of some remnant vision comes alive. Here, tracing edges of horizon, shore, border, periphery, lip, Wilson finds refuge and return.

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Carrington Wilson's work has been described as "decorative with a message." In her exploration of the "text" of textiles Wilson's works evolve along a path in which cloth is a visual and literary medium.

*Language is a visual medium, one by which form, shape and color inform an eye and shape a mind. Through the lens of history, I visit and revisit the role language has played in the creation of a past and the scripting of its future.*



The *sow series* currently consists of four ancestral maps tracing the plantation landscape. Through embroidery, found objects and fabric Wilson explores key aspects of the planting process as well as making inferences to and the imagining of physical, emotional and psychological states under which her ancestors must have labored.

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Artist books, collages and installations exhibited at Wa Na Wari, Bainbridge Island Museum of Art, CoCA, King Street Station, the Elisabeth C. Miller Horticultural Library, the Kittredge Art Gallery and the Collins Library at the University of Puget Sound, University of Washington's Jacob Lawrence Gallery, Denver Public Library, Northwest African American Museum, Pacific Lutheran University Art Gallery, Columbia City Gallery, the Onyx Fine Arts Exhibition, Port Angeles Fine Arts Center and King Street Station have created conversations and inferences between series and select works.

Her work can be found in the collections of Bainbridge Island Museum of Art, Cynthia Sears Book Art Collection, UW Allen Library Book Art Collection, Collin's Memorial Library Book Art Collection, Swarthmore College McCabe Library and UCLA Judith A. Hoffberg Collection of Artist Books.

Carrington Wilson is the author of the recently published, *Poem of Stone and Bone: The Iconography of James W. Washington Jr. in Fourteen Stanzas and Thirty-One Days*.

Her poems and essays appear in *This Light Called Darkness*, *Take A Stand: Art Against Hate*, *Stealing Light*, *Cascadia Zen*, *Make It True: Poems from Cascadia*, *Beyond the Frontier: African American Poetry for the 21st Century*, *African American Review*, *Calyx*, *Cimarron Review*, *Obsidian III*, *Raven Chronicles* and *Seattle Review*.