

# WILDING CRAN GALLERY



Karon Davis  
***Pain Management***

September 17 - November 12, 2016

Wilding Cran Gallery presents ***Pain Management***, a solo exhibition of new work by **Karon Davis** on view September 17 – November 12, 2016. This is the artist's first solo exhibition in Los Angeles since 2012 and features an installation of work that reflects on the physical and emotional experience of pain and loss.

Davis recreates the hospital-bound world in which she and her husband lived for so long. With eight figurative sculptures in total, each is created out of plaster casts and shredded medical bills. Three nurses dressed in colourful scrubs are placed throughout the gallery. Each nurse plays a different role, an angel, an ominous scarecrow and a stoic caretaker. Four sculptures of children, which Davis calls Children of the Moon, represent the spiritual realm and the preservation of memories and health. Inspired by Davis' interest in the Egyptian practice of mummification, they are delicate shells, incomplete casts, presenting an ethereal and dreamy effect.

In the middle of the gallery sits a larger-than-life tissue box sculpture titled *Cry, Baby* as an offering to release the pain and remind us of the catharsis of crying.

This world that Davis is mirroring in her installation is a liminal space - a realm that hangs capriciously between hallucination and reality; that space between life and death. It is a place defined by what it offers: relief from pain. It is both the intoxicating, psychedelic relief offered by opioid pain medication, as well as the warm, restful safety of the spiritual realm.

The show asks viewers to consider: What do you do for the pain? Is it possible to transcend? If so, how?

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## **About Karon Davis**

Karon Davis has a wide-ranging multimedia practice that encompasses installation, sculpture, film, photography and performance. Davis grew up the child of Broadway performers in New York City, trained at USC film school, and credits her husband Noah Davis with teaching her much of her cross-medium practice. Her work draws on elements of performance, theatricality, and mythology as it explores issues of humanity, survival, and ways of being. Davis is also the co-founder of The Underground Museum, a cultural hub and urban oasis located in Arlington Heights that serves low-to-moderate income communities in Los Angeles and cultivates the hope that increasing access to art will inspire, educate, and transform lives.

## **Karon and Wilding Cran would like to thank:**

Jade Altman & Depict, Leanne Barnes, Laci Blackford, Aileen Getty, The Davis family, Kathleen Deems, Cory Lavisher, Brandon Malone, Helen Molesworth & MOCA, Marlon Rabenreitherm, The Underground Museum family & The Vereen Family