

HAWKINS HQ

Press Release:

Uncertain Data: A counter-reading

Rosa Duffy

On view: January 10 – February 21

Opening Reception: Saturday, January 10 from 6:00 - 9:00 PM.

Atlanta, Georgia – Hawkins Headquarters is pleased to present the first gallery solo exhibition of archivist, artist and curator Rosa Duffy titled *Uncertain Data*.

Rosa Duffy's newest body of work in *Uncertain Data: A Counter-reading* is a response to the constant turnover of history. A history that is actively and horrifyingly folded unto itself and contorted beyond recognition by the hands of the untrusted and uninformed. This history becomes both oversimplified and overcomplicated, resulting in monstrous misstellings unrecognizable to their originator. The watermarks, creases, and blurs that act as intentional omissions remove critical context from the timeline of a country built entirely on the backs of a people. This act of violence moves to oppress and rewrite a story that never needed an editor. But at a pace as swift as its oppressor, the oppressed also formed a counter-language that beautified and traced back to the source. A sharp eye, partnered with an intuitive knowing of their true form, works to return and preserve.

Following the works of Bessie Harvey and Lonnie Holley, trees and their appendages are an important part of this series. Tree burls, organically created mutations, formed from genetic stress, trauma, infection and disease. These irregular growths are nature's attempt to protect the tree's core, an act of resistance against infestation. Connective metals are used as a means of understanding manipulation formed by the human hand. In the context of Duffy's work, they are used to constrain the root, which has been traditionally understood as both a literal and spiritual source of healing. Metals are extracted, heated, and reshaped to alter original structures into forms of strength and utility that serve systems of power, often at the expense of origin, context, and collective memory. The layered images serve as a reminder that counter-language will always develop in response to restraint.