

# Cameron Patricia Downey: 'Orchid Blues' at Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara

Acclaimed Minneapolis-Based 'Anti-Disciplinary' Artist Will Have Work on View at Paseo Nuevo Location Through December 23

By [Leslie Dinaberg](#) | Photos by [Ingrid Bostrom](#)

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*Cameron Patricia Downey: Orchid Blues* had its opening reception at Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara (MCASB) on Sunday, September 17, and the *Independent's* photographer Ingrid Bostrom was there to capture the festivities.

The new exhibition features sculpture, installation, photography, and a new video, with pointed references to blues traditions and the quotidian. An anti-disciplinary artist and environmental scientist from Minneapolis, Minnesota, Downey mediates concepts and bounds of world-building and survival artistry by way of Black, fantastical, and precarious spaces and forms that include sculpture, film, photography, the written, and the performed. Downey's *Orchid Blues* crosses, circles around, and dwells in found, amassed, and preserved objects – known to be personally and communally dear.



Opening of 'Cameron Patricia Downey: Orchid Blues' at Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara, September 17, 2023 | Photo: Ingrid Bostrom

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Downey graduated from Columbia University in 2021 with a double concentration in visual art and environmental science. Their art has been exhibited by HAIR+NAILS, Minneapolis; Aronson Gallery, New York; Kunstraum Kreuzberg/Bethanien, Berlin; Engage Projects, Chicago; as part of Midway Contemporary Art's Off-Site program; and M+B Gallery, Los Angeles. They are the 2023 recipient of the Carolyn Glasoe Bailey Foundation Minnesota Art Prize, and are currently in residence with the Walker Art Center's Moving Image department.

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