

DERICA SHIELDS

Derica Shields is a writer and editor from South London working across disciplines with a particular focus on Black aesthetics, cultures and epistemologies. Her criticism and essays appear in *Art Review*, *Frieze*, *Flash Art*, and *Girls Like Us*, and in catalogue and gallery publications. She is a former contributing editor at the *New Inquiry* and *LIES* journal, and former Features Editor at *Rookie*.

Derica has programmed film screenings and taught classes internationally. Between 2013 and 2015, she co-ran *The Future Weird*, a screening and discussion series that placed experimental shorts and features by Black and Global South directors alongside clips from the news, archive film, and blockbusters. In 2017, she co-taught *Cinema in Black* with Fanta Sylla, a nine-week class on Black auteurs and experimentalists. She has also given talks, lectures and workshops at *Light Work*, the *New School*, and *BAM*, New York; the *ICA*, *Frieze Art Fair*, *South London Gallery* and *Somerset House*, London; and *RCMC* and *Metro54* in Amsterdam.

Over the past several years, she has experimented with schematic writing and orality through commissions from *Cell Project Space* (2019), *Wysing Art Centre* (2019) and *Turf Projects* (2021). Her oral history project *A Heavy Nonpresence* (*Triple Canopy*, 2021) gathers seven Black Londoners' accounts of the British welfare state. She was a 2022–23 resident at *Jan Van Eyck Academie* where she developed 'Given to Cottons and No Silk', a two-channel video installation. In 2023, she gave the second annual *Sylvia Wynter Lecture* at *King's College London*. Her book *Bad Practice*, which considers the potentials of Black failure, is forthcoming from *Book Works*.