

RUBY CITY

For Immediate Release

Ruby City Announces Acquisition of Robert Hodge's *Promise You Will Sing About Me*



Robert Hodge (b. 1979, Houston, TX); *Promise You Will Sing About Me*, 2019; enamel, acrylic, found objects collaged on canvas; 85 x 76 x 12 in.; Linda Pace Foundation Collection, Ruby City, San Antonio, Texas

What: Updated work on view for *Irrationally Speaking: Collage & Assemblage in Contemporary Art* (9.21.24-8.31.25)

When: Work of Robert Hodge will be on view starting June 12, 2025 – August 31, 2025

San Antonio, TX (June 9, 2025) — Ruby City is happy to announce that Robert Hodge's *Promise You Will Sing About Me*, 2019, a recent acquisition to the Linda Pace Foundation Collection, will be joining *Irrationally Speaking: Collage & Assemblage in Contemporary Art* beginning June 12, 2025. To make space for this exciting addition, selections from the *Timeline* series, 2004-5 by Linda Pace, will be deinstalled on June 9, 2025. Ruby City has been pleased to have shared Pace's work with the public and look forward to welcoming visitors to experience this new addition.

Promise You Will Sing About Me is a multidimensional, altar-like structure that weaves together everyday materials and reclaimed objects to explore themes of cultural memory, loss, and resilience. Featuring fabric, LP sleeves, found images of the Black Panther Party, acrylic flowers, a model ship, and a

small globe, the work evokes complex social and political histories. The globe, inspired by Hodge's childhood mishearing of a lyric in a popular song by A Tribe Called Quest "Award Tour" as "A World Tour," becomes a metaphor for the transatlantic slave trade and the forced migration of African peoples.

At once personal and communal, the work serves as a tribute to lost friends, family, and ancestral legacy. Carefully chosen books—including *Black Saga: The African Experience*, a Fred Wilson exhibition catalog, *Black Roots: The Beginners Guide to Tracing the African American Family Tree*, and *The Judas Factor: The Plot to Kill Malcolm X*—further ground the work in a critical historical context. Hodge's signature *STEREO* motif appears layered throughout the piece, asking the enduring question: "Can you hear me?"

This powerful work will join *Irrationally Speaking*, an exhibition that explores the creative and conceptual possibilities of collage and assemblage in contemporary art. Through layered materials, disparate objects, and unexpected juxtapositions, the featured artists—including Leonardo Drew, Trenton Doyle Hancock, Wangechi Mutu, and Deborah Roberts, among others—challenge the boundaries of visual language to reflect on history, identity, and culture.

Hodge's work will be on view as part of *Irrationally Speaking: Collage & Assemblage in Contemporary Art* beginning June 12, 2025, and through the duration of the exhibition which closes on August 31, 2025.

For more information, please visit rubycity.org.

Ruby City is a contemporary art center in San Antonio, TX, dedicated to providing a space for the city's thriving creative community to experience works by both local and internationally acclaimed artists. Envisioned in 2007 by the late collector, philanthropist and artist [Linda Pace](#), Ruby City presents works from the Linda Pace Foundation Collection of more than 1400 paintings, sculptures, installations and video works. The building which opened in 2019 is designed by [Adjaye Associates](#) and is part of a campus, which also includes a sculpture garden, [Chris Park](#), a one-acre public green space named in memory of Pace's son, and Studio, an auxiliary exhibition space which presents curated shows and [programming](#) throughout the year.

Ruby City is open Thursday through Sunday, 10am to 6pm. Admission is always free; reservations are recommended. Information and reservations are available at www.rubycity.org.

For further information please contact: Patricia Morales, Head of Public Engagement & Communications, pmorales@rubycity.org

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