

《沉默法則》

在公共領域中，聲音對於表達鮮為人知的故事、集體身份和政治觀點至關重要；當發聲被禁止時，我們通常會聯想到意見審查制度或口述歷史的消逝。《沉默法則》中的視頻作品運用無聲、對聲音有所保留或對聲音不作解釋的方式來培養人的內在性和親密感，並以此來顛覆上述這種虛幻的二元論。

《沉默法則》的部分靈感來自於學者凱文·誇希的“安靜”概念。他認為在面對各種暴力、鎮壓和抹殺時，非裔美國人社區不得不優先考慮面向公眾的、政治化的溝通方式，而這往往會削弱個人與自我內心的溝通。誇希承認關於抵抗的表達必須無畏且顯著才能將其公共視野中的效用最大化，但同時也強調“安靜”表達的巨大潛力。他將安靜比作“一個人內心世界的全部範圍”。此外，安靜可以提供一種保護性的屏障以“對抗社會生活對人的主導；因為它有自己的主權”。

通過廣泛延伸安靜這一概念，《沉默法則》展示了分別來自雪莉·布魯諾、阿麗莎·科恩、卡羅琳·莫內和考琳·史密斯的四個多面向的視頻作品，它們邀請我們不僅關注那些有聲的時刻，同時也留意那些具有豐富含意的沉默。這些視頻作品和永久收藏中來自萊斯利·普爾、托尼·昂利和哈利·斯坦布里奇的與本次主題相關的畫作共同營造出一種沉思的氛圍。

CODES OF SILENCE

Within the public sphere, the voice is vital for expressing untold stories, collective identities, and political perspectives; when the voice is silenced, we tend to think of censorship or the marginalization of oral histories. *Codes of silence* radically overturns this illusory binary with videos in which the voice is muted, withheld, or unexplained in ways that cultivate interiority and intimacy.

Codes of silence is inspired in part by scholar Kevin Quashie's notion of *quiet*. He argues that in the face of violence, suppression, and erasure, African American communities have had to prioritize public-facing, politicized types of communication, often to the detriment of more inward-facing modes of expression. While acknowledging the necessity for the discourse of resistance to be bold in its aim for maximum legibility within the public arena, Quashie underscores equally the radical potential of cultivating expressions of *quiet*. He employs quiet as "a metaphor for the full range of one's inner life." Moreover, quiet can offer a kind of protective safeguard "against the dominance of the social world; it has its own sovereignty."

Expanding broadly from this idea of quiet, *Codes of silence* presents four multifaceted videos that invite us to pay attention not only to the moments voices are present, but to also to those moments of rich quiet. These videos by Shirley Bruno, Aleesa Cohene, Caroline Monnet, and Cauleen Smith are presented in tandem with a selection of paintings from the permanent collection by Leslie Poole, Toni Onley, and Harry Stanbridge, which resonate with the exhibition's themes, creating an ambience of contemplation.