Family Review

Ekene Ijeoma | A Counting
Beginning July 23, 2020
A Counting is a remotely accessible, participatory public art project by the Texas-born, New York and Boston-based artist Ekene Ijeoma. This work reflects on the linguistic and ethnic diversity of the United States by capturing “voice portraits” of major U.S. cities. CAMH has collaborated with Ijeoma on the second iteration of this project in Houston following the launch in New York City. This work addresses the undercounting of marginalized communities in the United States census. It also serves as a meditation on immigration and assimilation and seeks to provoke a discussion and critical thought around what it means to be “counted.”

This work is accessible by visiting camh.org/beyond or by. Anyone is welcome to call and add their voice to the project by calling the hotline and counting from one to 100. Additionally, individuals from around the world are invited to contribute to the project by helping with the transcriptions of the recordings.

This work has entry points for people of all ages—from young children learning to count, to adults yearning for the chance to engage with new artwork and ideas in the midst of a global pandemic. This participatory piece is also safe to engage with during this time of social distancing and stay at home orders. Everyone is welcome to participate either through recording their own “voice portrait,” helping with transcription, listening to the voices that are recorded, or viewing the video work. You are encouraged to check back on the site regularly as new voices are added and the work changes through time.