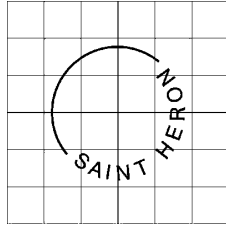


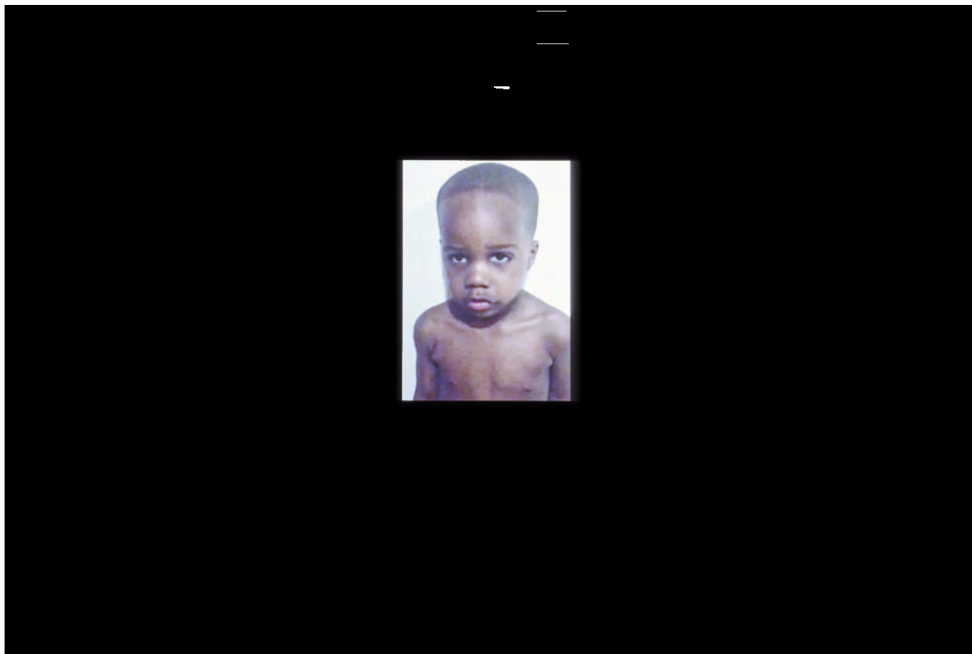
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Ciarra Walters, "Arthur Jafa Releases 'Love is the Message, The Message is Death' Visual," *Saint Heron*, January 09, 2017



ARTHUR Jafa RELEASES 'LOVE IS THE MESSAGE, THE MESSAGE IS DEATH' VISUAL

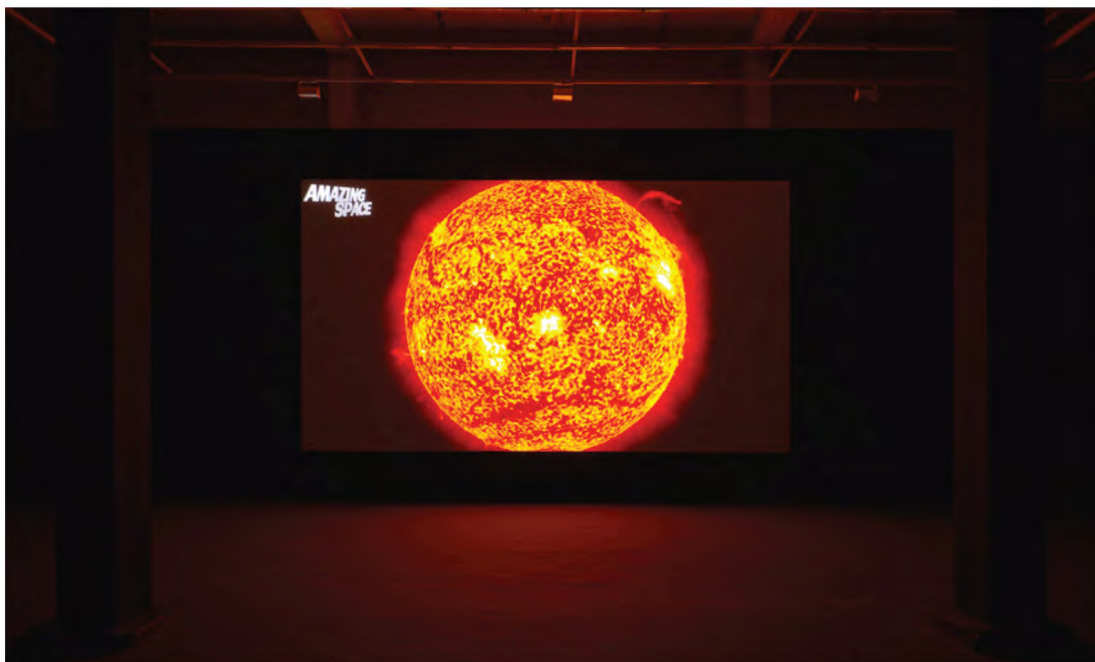
BY CIARRA WALTERS | PUBLISHED: JANUARY 9, 2017



[Arthur Jafa](#) is a director, filmmaker and cinematographer who has used his platform to promote and express Black culture through a variety of mediums. In addition to speaking up about transgression in public spaces with Black culture guru Bell Hooks, he shot [Spike Lee's](#) '90s classic *Crooklyn*, co-directed the photography of our very own [Solange's](#) "[Cranes In the Sky](#)" and "[Don't Touch My Hair](#)" visuals and assisted with [Beyoncé's](#) "[Formation](#)" video. Jafa is known for the activism he freely expresses through his art and how it connects the history of Black people with current relevancy in the community.

His newest art installation, *Love Is The Message, The Message Is Death*, is an eight minute film consisting of clips and photographs from all avenues of Black life and media in all forms. From music visuals, video art, YouTube videos, dash-cam footage and photographs, Jafa's piece presents still visuals of the everyday reality of Black folks. Soundtracking [Kanye's](#), "[Ultralight Beam](#)" over raw footage (both past and present), the filmmaker also included photos of [Malcolm X](#), [Dr. King](#), [President Obama](#), Beyonce, [Nina Simone](#), [Jimi Hendrix](#) and [Lebron James](#). Art critic Hilton Als calls *Love Is The Message, The Message Is Death* a "film-essay." In this brilliant showcase of hardships in the Black community, Jafa's work is a powerful, thought provoking film that artfully shares the struggle of racism and everyday life of people of color.

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Love Is The Message, The Message Is Death will be showing at Gavin Brown's Enterprise in Harlem until January 28th. Click [here](#) for pictures and more information about Arthur Jafa's art installation.