



WAVE HILL SUNROOMPROJECTSPACE

August 29–October 11, 2026

TARIK JEREMIAH BROWN

Hush Harbor

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Born in Chicago, IL
Lives in New York, NY

Detail from *Hush Harbor*, 2026, mahogany wood panels, found prayer bench, books, sawdust, soil, Super 8 film, sound. Courtesy of the artist.

In the site-responsive exhibition *Hush Harbor*, Tarik Jeremiah Brown reimagines the Sunroom as a space of refuge and spiritual resistance. Drawing from Black church traditions, literature, archival research, his family's musical legacy, and the landscapes of Wave Hill, Brown explores the histories of Black survival, memory, and imagination, particularly those that originated in the Antebellum period. Hush harbors were clandestine gathering places where enslaved Black communities worshiped and fostered resilience beyond their captors' surveillance. The exhibition title invokes both a place of shelter and a symbolic space of sanctuary, arrival, and possibility.

Through sculpture, Super 8 film, and sound, Brown creates a multisensory environment that invites viewers to engage with the work through the body and the senses. At the center of the installation is a found prayer bench that holds a small library, including Albert J. Raboteau's *Slave Religion: The Invisible Institution* (1978), a comprehensive study of Black religious practices across the Americas. Projected nearby, a film portrays scenes of Black American folk life through shadow puppets based on figurines Brown carved during his 2026 Wave Hill Winter Workspace residency. The film is accompanied by the spiritual jazz score, "Ancestral," composed by Kelan Cohran for the Hypnotic Brass Ensemble.

Four carved mahogany panels reference African American and Caribbean syncretic spiritual traditions, including the ring shout, Shango's sacred axe, mount possession rituals, and tools used to conceal prayer and song. Each of the panels bears the four-point star, connecting sky, navigation, and divine guidance, while mahogany sawdust and soil from Wave Hill's woodlands bring one of the earth's most critical resources and the memory of the land inside.

Moving between documented history and ancestral memory, *Hush Harbor* privileges and offers up quieter forms of knowledge otherwise erased from historical archives. In so doing, Brown transforms the Sunroom into an active space where narratives of Black resilience continue to shape contemporary understandings of belonging, faith, and community.

Tarik Jeremiah Brown is a 2026 Van Lier Fellow at Wave Hill. He has presented work internationally at Koppel Project Bank and Central Saint Martins in London, UK, and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, IL. Brown is a 2026 recipient of the New York State Council on the Arts/Wave Farm Media Arts Assistant Grant and a 2024 Henry & Adeline Collins Prize. He earned a BFA from Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts, London, UK.

PUBLIC PROGRAM: SUN, OCT 4, 2PM, Meet the Artist: Join the artist for a listening program exploring Black spiritual traditions through music and the oral tradition.

Organized by Curator of Visual Arts Rachel Raphaella Gugelberger, the Sunroom Project Space provides an opportunity for artists in the New York City area to develop and present a site-specific project as a solo exhibition. The 2026 season features Sujin Lim, Hyunjin Park, Etienne Gisto Cipriani, Tarik Jeremiah Brown, Camille Cooper, and Melanie Brewster, consecutively.

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