

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Joey Enriquez | *ruined on a riverbank*
April 2 – May 7, 2022



and i stopped on the trail (replicated only twice), 2021, plaster, brick, and pigment

Washington, DC: Hamiltonian Artists is pleased to present Joey Enriquez's solo show *ruined on a riverbank*, a site-specific installation comprising sculptural brick arrangements, raw-earth paintings, and topographical histories of DC. The artist uses bricks to convey the fragments of history that piece together contemporary realities, such as gentrification, access, displacement, and geographic infrastructure. Their practice of running along the Potomac River corridor in DC and collecting derelict bricks confronts ideas of labor and migration. Enriquez explains, "I construct objects, half-architecture–half-ruin, using these neglected building blocks that entrap trash, detritus, urban material, and our own context, to frame and attempt to reconcile histories of those that have lived and worked in the District for decades." Historic remnants become recycled back into construction material.

The exhibition includes three site-specific sculptures made from found bricks and other discarded materials once belonging to long-forgotten domestic and commercial structures; paintings made using materials sourced from the earth such as mud, silt, and dust; brick casts made of plaster; and reproductions of archival technical drawings of DC neighborhoods annotated by the artist to reference what once was and now is.

Join us for the exhibition opening on Saturday, April 2, 4–7 pm and artist talk Thursday, April 21, 6 pm.

About the artist

Based in Washington, DC, Joey Enriquez makes sculptural work and printmaking. Originally a graphic designer from Southern California, they transitioned from design to art in 2017 to explore a more interdisciplinary creative practice. Their most recent work consists of clay monotype prints that appropriate imagery and text from their grandmother's photo albums along with clay and soil prints made while running and biking along the Potomac River; they unearth family narratives of memory loss and location as well as reveal sites of entropy and inadvertent human encroachment in open spaces. Their other work consists of sculpture and digital renderings about location, movement through space, and passage of time.

Enriquez earned their BA in Art–Design from California Lutheran University in 2018 and their M.F.A. in Fine Arts at George Washington University in 2020. They are currently a Fellow with Hamiltonian Artists in the 2020–2022 cohort and were awarded a residency through The Studios at MASS MOCA in November 2021. Enriquez is also an adjunct professor at George Washington University, American University, George Mason University, and Carroll Community College.

About Hamiltonian Artists

Hamiltonian Artists' mission is to build a dynamic community of innovative artists and effective visual art leaders by providing professional development opportunities to innovative new artists and by advancing their entrepreneurial success. Through its unique investment into the next generation of cutting-edge artists, Hamiltonian helps artists to develop important business skills, professional experiences, and visibility to support and sustain their art career. Through artist talks, public events, and its membership program, the organization contributes to the vitality of DC's burgeoning arts scene by deepening the appreciation for contemporary art and culture throughout Washington, DC, and beyond.

GALLERY HOURS/HOW TO VISIT

The exhibition is on view at Hamiltonian Artists, 1353 U St NW, Washington, DC 20009.

Gallery hours are Tuesday–Saturday, 11–6 pm. Walk-ins welcome. Admission to the gallery is always free.

For the safety of our community and staff, and in accordance with DC guidelines, all visitors will be required to show proof of vaccination against COVID-19 and wear a mask covering their mouth and nose at all times. The number of visitors may be limited to allow for social distancing. Public restrooms are not available at this time.

For more information visit www.hamiltonianartists.org.

For press inquiries and additional info contact: Tomora Wright, Fellowship Director, tomora@hamiltonianartists.org.