

## THOMAS DANE GALLERY

'Projects 107: Lone Wolf Recital Corps'. *The New Yorker* Online. 27 September 2017

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ART MUSEUMS AND LIBRARIES

## Projects 107: Lone Wolf Recital Corps



Illustration by João Fazenda

The American artist Terry Adkins's dual passions for music and sculpture, and his determination to entangle the two, defined his singular oeuvre. The conceptual artist, who died in 2014, when he was sixty, made totemic objects inspired by his fascination with such historical subjects as the contested Moorish heritage of Beethoven and the abolitionist John Brown. Sometimes Adkins's sculptures functioned as props. This exhibition focusses on the Lone Wolf Recital Corps, the ad-hoc performance group he founded in 1986, whose ranks included, at various times, Charles Gaines, Sanford Biggers, and Jason Moran—as well as Adkins's own alter ego Blanche Bruce, named for the first African-American senator to serve a full term. The eclectic style of the Corps is illustrated here by a collection of objects and instruments. Vintage megaphones, brass bells, fezzes, and blue sashes fill one display. The center of the room is reserved for a selection of elongated trumpets, which also appear in a neighboring video. It documents "Last Trumpet," a performance from 2013, in which Adkins conducts musicians in a cacophonous, ceremonial, jazz-inspired recital befitting his poetic aim to "reinsert the legacies of unheralded immortal figures to their rightful place within the panorama of history."

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