

Phi Beta Kappa Campus Visit Options

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Public Speaking

- 1) A reading of my poetry, to be drawn from published and unpublished works:
 - *semiautomatic* (2017)
 - *the new black* (2011)
 - *a half-red sea* (2006)
 - new work (2017–present)

I can slant my reading towards a particular collection that is being taught at the time or can foreground intertextual relationships between my work and other poets/artists. The reading can be followed by a Q&A, upon request.

- 2) “Write What You Know” / Imagination’s Sovereignty
 - A talk that considers the tensions between two incarnations of the muse – knowledge and imagination – and examines the social and political implications of both through discussions of work by such writers as Phillis Wheatley, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Harriet Jacobs, NourbeSe Philip, and Saidiya Hartman, as well as my own poetry. Note: I may need a projector for powerpoint slides.

Class Visits / Student Interactions

- 1) How Does Poetry Engage Politics? Let Me Count the Ways
- 2) Black Aesthetics after the Black Arts Movement
- 3) Q&A on any one or more of the following topics:
 - my poetry
 - my career as a poet and scholar (and a former lawyer)
 - African American poetry (20th- & 21st-Century, with the possibility of focusing on a particular poet)
 - contemporary American poetics (late 20th- & 21st-Century, with possibility of focusing on particular forms, schools, movements, trends, etc.)