

## VIP: Very Important Platforms at EXPO 2017



*Protest Banner Lending Library* installation by **Aram Han Sifuentes** at the Chicago Cultural Center. Photo by eedahm .



*Project Tool* by **Onye Ozuzu**, wood-working in progress. Photo courtesy of the artist.

For this year's EXPO CHICAGO at Navy Pier, 3Arts and 6018North are presenting *VIP: Very Important Platforms*, a democratic lounge space located on the floor above the fair with interactive installations that, literally and figuratively, call on visitors to take a stance.

Who needs a microphone? Who needs a stage? VIP invites the public to create and build platforms together. 3Arts awardee **Aram Han Sifuentes**'s *Protest Banners Talking Back* offers a communal space for people to participate, speak up, and resist. Materials, as well as skills, are shared to create a large communal banner. In this space, voices are supported and everyone is invited to come together in solidarity through making. And making is a form of resistance.

3AP (3Arts Projects) artist **Onye Ozuzu**'s *Project Tool* is a dance performance and installation in which a sprung wood dance floor is built. The audience is invited to watch and/or learn the skill of woodworking and reconnect body, task, and tool. What is learned physically, emotionally, and conceptually during the building process, shapes the ongoing performance.

### Visitor information:

#### **VIP: Very Important Platforms at EXPO CHICAGO 2017**

September 13, 2017 – September 17

EXPO CHICAGO is located at Chicago's historic Navy Pier in the Festival Hall  
600 E Grand Ave, Chicago, IL 60611

Wednesday, September 13 | 6:00 PM–9:00 PM (earlier hours for Opening Preview)

Thursday, September 14 | 11:00 AM–7:00 PM

Friday, September 15 | 11:00 AM–7:00 PM

Saturday, September 16 | 11:00 AM–7:00 PM

Sunday, September 17 | 11:00 AM–6:00 PM

Open to all EXPO CHICAGO ticket holders.

For more information, visit the [EXPO CHICAGO website](#).

## Schedule:

*Protest Banners Talking Back* will be active from 12:00 PM to 9:00 PM on Wednesday; 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM Thursday, Friday, and Saturday; and 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM on Sunday.

Artist collaborators: Aram Han Sifuentes, Verónica Casado Hernández, Ishita Dharap, and Tabitha Anne Kunkes

*Project Tool* performances will take place as follows:

Wednesday, September 13 – Opening Preview

12:00 PM–4:00 PM: Jessica Marasa and Onye Ozuzu

6:00 PM–9:00 PM: Jessica Marasa and Keyierra Collins and Onye Ozuzu

Thursday, September 14

11:00 AM–2:00 PM: Keyierra Collins and Anna Martine Whitehead

3:00 PM–7:00 PM: Onye Ozuzu and Jessica Marasa

Friday, September 15

11:00 AM–2:00 PM: Keyierra Collins and Jessica Marasa

2:00 PM–5:00 PM: Anna Martine Whitehead

3:00 PM–7:00 PM: Onye Ozuzu

Saturday, September 16

11:00 AM–2:00 PM: Keyierra Collins and Onye Ozuzu

3:00 PM–7:00 PM: Keyierra Collins and Onye Ozuzu and Jessica Marasa

Sunday, September 17

11:00 AM–2:00 PM: Onye Ozuzu

3:00 PM–6:00 PM: Keyierra Collins and Onye Ozuzu

## *Project Tool*

Choreographer: Onye Ozuzu

Movers: Keyierra Collins, Keisha Bennett, Jessica Marasa, and Anna Martine Whitehead

Sound Design: Damon Locks

Visual/Interior Design: Petra Probstner

Wood and Fabrication Consultant: Bryan Saner

Videographer: Jovan Landry