

# locustprojects

3852 North Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33127  
305.576.8570 | info@locustprojects.org | www.locustprojects.org



My child,  
built from crabgrass and concrete.  
You are constructed of things  
that cannot die.  
so I won't let you.

– Arsimmer McCoy,

*You can Always Come Home, 2021*

## Poet in Residence: Arsimmer McCoy

Arsimmer McCoy's large photo mural visible along the windows on North Miami Avenue is presented as part of an initiative to invite local artists and organizations to activate Locust Projects' Mobile Storefront Studio. The image is a still from a film by McCoy created in collaboration with filmmaker Terence Price II and an excerpt from a poem written by McCoy and artist Reginald O'Neal:

*My child,  
built from crabgrass and concrete.  
You are constructed of things  
that cannot die.  
so I won't let you.*

from *You can Always Come Home, 2021*

# locustprojects

3852 North Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33127  
305.576.8570 | info@locustprojects.org | www.locustprojects.org

The project amplifies the importance of Black health and wellness—this year's theme for Black History month. Through this project McCoy seeks to *“give honor to people of color in this city that push every day to be better for themselves, their communities, and above all, their children. My health and wellness come from my heritage, my child, and creation. My black child standing tall and strong is a message to all that see it, that we are here and will continue to persevere for generations to come.”*



The powerful image depicts McCoy's daughter standing alone, shown in profile, looking ahead. It was shot in the Parkview Elementary school field in Carol City as part of a short film created in collaboration with filmmaker Terence Price II and stylist Margo Hannah, entitled *"A poem for My Black Baby"* that was featured recently in the New Orleans Film Festival and at the 2022 Miami Film Festival.

The poem excerpt is from a joint piece written by McCoy and Miami-based artist Reginald O'Neal.

## RELATED PROGRAM

**A Higher Power hosted by Arsimmer McCoy**

**Friday, April 8 | 6PM | Locust Projects | [RSVP Link](#)**

A Higher Power is a live performance, audio, & visual homage to Miami's sovereign storyteller Will "Da Real One" Bell.

Bell transformed the Spoken Word plane by cultivating spaces of belonging, through creation, space, and practice. Bell's voice of resilience, through hard-won experience, resounds as the familial anchor for Black and brown communities across the city of Miami and beyond. Will Bell is the embodiment of Miami's culture and artistic innovation. Bell honored the vulnerability of a people, seeking rooms that embraced expression, liberation to silenced hearts, and rest to the anxious and exhausted. Will "Da Real One" Bell was murdered in front of the Literary Cafe on May 29th, 2011. The Cafe was one of the collective hubs Bell purchased for poetry events, workshops, and education.

# locustprojects

3852 North Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33127  
305.576.8570 | info@locustprojects.org | www.locustprojects.org

Delving into the revolutionary intricacies of sound, this celebration closes the series of programs on the SIRG platform.



## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Arsimmer McCoy is a 34-year-old storyteller, from Miami, FL, by way of Richmond Heights. McCoy is a collaborative artist, educator, & cultural worker, who has been dedicated to these disciplines for over a decade. As a writer & poet, Arsimmer’s work is centered around her reflections on accountability, obligation, community, the power of transparency, and the nuances of living in this city.

## ABOUT LOCUST PROJECTS

Founded by artists for artists in 1998, Locust Projects is Miami’s longest running nonprofit alternative art space. We produce, present, and nurture ambitious and experimental new art and the exchange of ideas through commissioned exhibitions and projects, artist residencies, summer art intensives for teens, and public programs on contemporary art and curatorial practice. As a leading incubator of new art and ideas, Locust Projects emphasizes boundary-pushing creative endeavors, risk-taking and experimentation by local, national and international artists. We invest in South Florida’s arts community by providing artists with project grants and empower creative careers by supporting the administrative work of being an artist through an onsite artist resource hub and access to pro bono legal services.



Locust Projects 2021-2022 exhibitions and programming are made possible with support from: The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation; The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts; The Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, The Children's Trust; The National Endowment for the Arts Art Works Grant; Hillsdale Fund; the Albert and Jane Nahmad Family Foundation; VIA Art Fund | Wagner Incubator Grant; Diane and Robert Moss; Susan and Richard Arregui; Elizabeth Bailey; Cowles Charitable Trust; Diane and Werner Grob; Kirk Foundation; Diane and Alan Lieberman; Artis; and the Incubator Fund Supporting Sponsors and Friends.

**ART HAPPENS HERE.**

# locustprojects

3852 North Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33127  
305.576.8570 | [info@locustprojects.org](mailto:info@locustprojects.org) | [www.locustprojects.org](http://www.locustprojects.org)

3852 North Miami Avenue, Miami FL 33127  
305.576.8570 | [locustprojects.org](http://locustprojects.org)