

# HYPERALLERGIC

## Over Rice, a Conversation About Race at Smack Mellon

On August 3, Dominique Duroseau will host the participatory performance “Rap on Race with Rice,” which revolves around one activity: separating black and white rice.

Elisa Wouk Almino



Dominique Duroseau, “A Rap on Race with Rice,” at “Your Decolonizing Toolkit” at MAW Guru, New York (image courtesy the artist and Smack Mellon)

In August of 1970, the cultural anthropologist Margaret Mead and legendary intellectual James Baldwin sat together for seven-and-a-half hours in a public conversation on race, identity, gender, and privilege. The riveting transcript was later compiled into a book entitled *A Rap on Race*. Inspired by this historic open dialogue, contemporary artist Dominique Duroseau is hosting a participatory performance 47 years later titled “Rap on Race with Rice,” which invites the public to engage in “discourse about issues on race and racism.” The event is the second-to-last in Smack Mellon’s series *Race and Revolution: Still Separate, Still Unequal*, which has focused on the systemic forms of injustice embedded in US society and schools. Duroseau’s performance, being held on the evening of Thursday, August 3, will revolve around one activity: separating black and white rice. Participants will be encouraged to share personal experiences and stories as they relate to race in the US, with a particular emphasis on the unfortunate yet pervasive realities of modern-day school segregation.

**When:** Thursday, August 3, 7–9pm

**Where:** Smack Mellon (92 Plymouth Street, Dumbo, Brooklyn)