

# Rashid Johnson: A Poem for Deep Thinkers

## Videos installed within Antoine's Organ

English



North side:

### *Samuel in Space, 2013*

Color video with sound, transferred from 16mm film  
4 minutes, 55 seconds  
Courtesy of the Artist



West side:

### *The Sweet, Sweet Runner, 2010*

Color video with sound, transferred from 16 mm film  
3 minutes, 19 seconds  
Courtesy the Artist and Monique Meloche Gallery, Chicago

An actor runs through New York streets and Central Park, weaving through dog walkers, crossing a bridge, and briefly locking eyes with another runner. His actions, subtle yet tense, unfold to the score of Melvin Van Peebles's 1971 film *Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song*, whose soundtrack was composed by Earth, Wind & Fire.

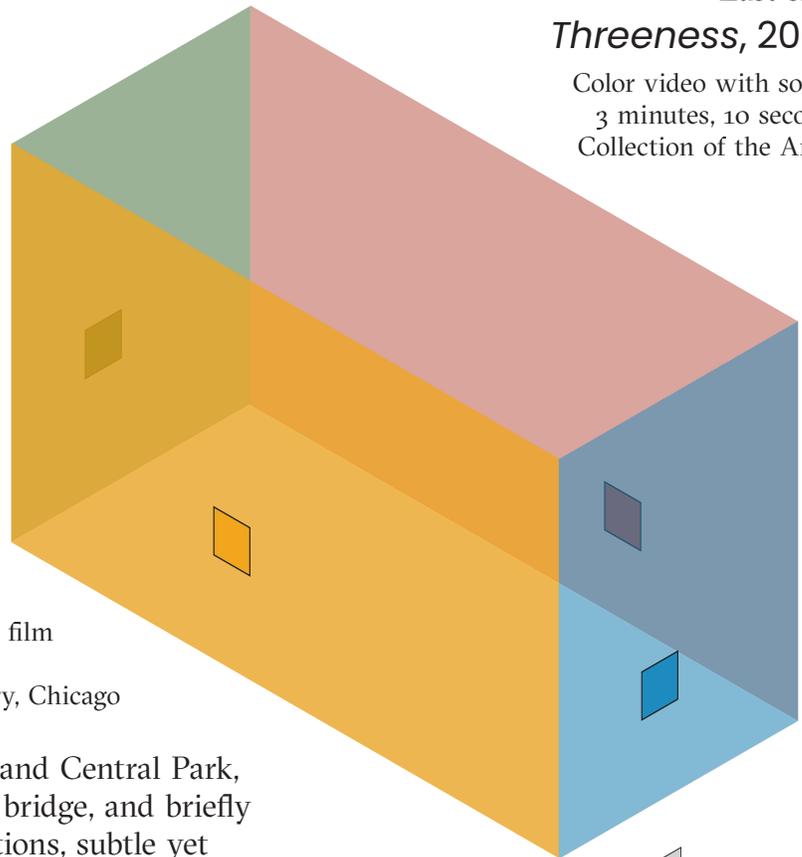
In Van Peebles's landmark film, the Black protagonist is on the run, trying to reach the US-Mexico border to escape both the authorities and the Hell's Angels. The 1971 film's raw, fast-cut aesthetic, fragmented sound, and percussive score heighten the urgency of escape, transforming mundane spaces like city streets and alleyways. Johnson similarly uses music to heighten the stakes of a Black man's banal daily jog. The shifting camera perspective positions the viewer in a dual role—both surveilling and engaging with the runner—blurring the boundary between observer and observed.



East side:

### *Threeness, 2005*

Color video with sound  
3 minutes, 10 seconds  
Collection of the Artist



South side:

### *Watching "The End of Blackness", 2007*

Color video with sound  
3 minutes, 5 seconds  
Collection of the Artist

## Performances in the Galleries

Performances take place the last weekend of each month: Friday, 5:30–7:30 pm and Sunday, noon–2 pm  
Included with gallery admission.

## Antoine's Organ, 2016/2026