









Part 1: January 31 - April 11 Part 2 April 25-June19

THE CARR CENTER

DOUBLE EXHIBITION
COLLABORATIVE
ONE

ATT W OART EXHIBITION

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#### ANNIE LEE 1935-2014

Artist Annie Frances Lee was born on March 3, 1935, in Gadsden, Alabama; raised by a single parent, she grew up in Chicago, Illinois, and attended Wendell Phillips High School. Lee began painting at an early age, winning her first art competition at the age of ten. Lee was offered a four year scholarship to attend Northwestern University after high school, but married instead and raised a family. It was not until age forty that Lee decided to pursue a career as an artist; she enrolled in Loop Junior College and completed her undergraduate work at Mundelein College in Chicago. After eight years of night classes while working at Northwestern Railroad as a clerk in the engineering department, Lee earned her M.A. degree in interdisciplinary arts education from Loyola University. Lee's railroad job inspired one of her most popular paintings, Blue Monday, which depicts a woman struggling to pull herself out of bed on a Monday morning. Her trademarks are the animated emotion of the personalities in the artwork and the faces which are painted without features. At age fifty, Lee had her first gallery show; she allowed prints to be made of four of her original paintings. Using her unique designs, Lee also developed figurines, high fashion dolls, decorative housewares, and kitchen tiles. After showing her work in other galleries for a number of years, Lee opened Annie Lee and Friends Gallery where she displayed her works as well as the works of other artists. When several of her paintings appeared on the sets of popular television shows such as The Cosby Show and A Different World, the exposure helped popularize her work. Although she regularly received requests for public appearances, Lee preferred to appear at gallery shows; she also enjoyed visiting schools to encourage and inspire students. She passed away on November 14, 2014, at the age of 79.



HOLY GHOST

OIL ON CANVAS 24 X 18 INCHES



#### DAMILERE KANYINSOLA 1994 -

Damilare Jamiu was born and raised in Lagos Island, a bustling commercial area of Lagos, Nigeria. From a young age, he discovered his passion for drawing and apprenticed with Lagos- based artist Muyiwa Williams. As a young Nigerian artist, he draws inspiration from the rich tapestry of his environment, capturing the essence of contemporary Black awakening. His work is deeply rooted in the transformative power of painting human figures, often accompanied by pets like cats and dogs, reflecting the profound depth of African experiences and philosophies. This practice serves as his sanctuary, where he contemplates the beauty of the world and humanity, embracing the essence of his Black experience.

Damilare Jamiu is not only a master painter but also a certified linguist specializing in Arabic. He holds a degree in Arabic Language (with a History and International Studies major) from the University of Ilorin, Nigeria. His talent has been recognized both locally and internationally, as he views art as a means to transcend socio-political power dynamics. Damilare Jamiu considers himself an African Realist, focusing on authentic African narratives that contribute to a broader discourse on African identity and culture. Jamiu began his career in 2016.

He expanded his international presence in 2022 with shows at the TAAG Gallery in Iowa, United States. His reputation has continued to grow with a notable museum collection- NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) with four of his major works being added to their collection in 2024. He has also exhibited at the "Ecobank +234 Art Fair" (2024) and is currently participating in "Wanders Shall Never End" (2024) at the Kokopelli Art Gallery here in Lagos, Nigeria. Despite not being represented by any gallery or art agency yet, Jamiu has over 30 works in private collections both locally and internationally.

#### Artist's Statement:

The content of my work centres on painting human figures, often accompanied by pets like cats and dogs, to reflect the profound depth of African experiences and philosophies. My paintings, primarily in oil and acrylic, are enriched with damask designs and patterns that evoke Black heritage, celebrating the beauty of the world and humanity while embracing the essence of my Black experience.

I aim to confront socio-political issues and amplify marginalized voices, recognizing art as a powerful tool for social change. I view art as more than just a medium; it is a means to disengage from socio-political power dynamics. Clarity of message is central to my work: I aspire to uplift the underprivileged, reshape African imagery, and foster a rediscovery of Afrocentric pride and culture.

Through my pieces, I offer viewers a moment of pause, providing an opportunity for introspection and a deeper sense of belonging. I envision my art as a time machine, allowing viewers to journey through the past and imagine the future, creating a space for reflection and connection.

Synopsis of the works:

Since inception, cats have always been Africans pet. Humans and cats share a sense of ecosystem that's strongly rooted in tradition, culture, belief, and spirituality. Africans believe that a home with cat is the safest place to be. Ever since my childhood, I have always wanted to share my experience with people, but there hasn't been a perfect medium until recently. I suppose I owe my life to telling about this beautiful messiah in animal form who saved my life while I was growing up and died after. I had a personal experience with cats. My parents love cat a lot a d had one in our home. There was a time i fell seriously sick while I was a young, I was admitted to the hospital for many days, ran many tests, but there was no obvious improvement. I had to be returned home to consider local herbs for treatment. As I arrived home, on my sick bed, one of our cats came to my side and lied. A few minutes later, I slept off with her beside me. Upon waking up, I noticed I was feeling okay and better, I stood up myself and sought water. I thought the cat was still sleeping, not knowing she was dead already. It was a shock for me, I called upon my mum. She took me one side and handled the cat herself, lying dead on the bed. I was later told that the sickness I've been in for months wasn't natural but spiritual, and the cat had to take the sickness away with herself and died on my behalf.

This has always been the story about cats and other home rearable animals, but my parents never witnessed it to know. They simply chose to have one because of her neatless and homely fun. Cats are very special animals. They possess this distinctive quality of neatness and warmness around their owner. They also keep the house clean from pests and harmful diseases pests can cause. Like rats, cockroaches, snakes, and others, including invisible harms. They are known to possess good omen and spiritual endowment against evil spirits and spells.

At a point in time, I realised that my art doesn't always seem complete without a form of my hero in it. Maybe when I'm done and feel fulfilled telling that story, I can talk about other things. Just like Maya Angelou, when she eventually wanted to talk, she had a lot to say.

3



# NATURAL HABITAT

OIL AND ACRYLIC ON CANVAS 16X48 INCHES



# DIOR DIOR

OIL AND ACRYLIC ON CANVAS 36X48 INCHES 2024



# EDDY OCHIENG 1998-

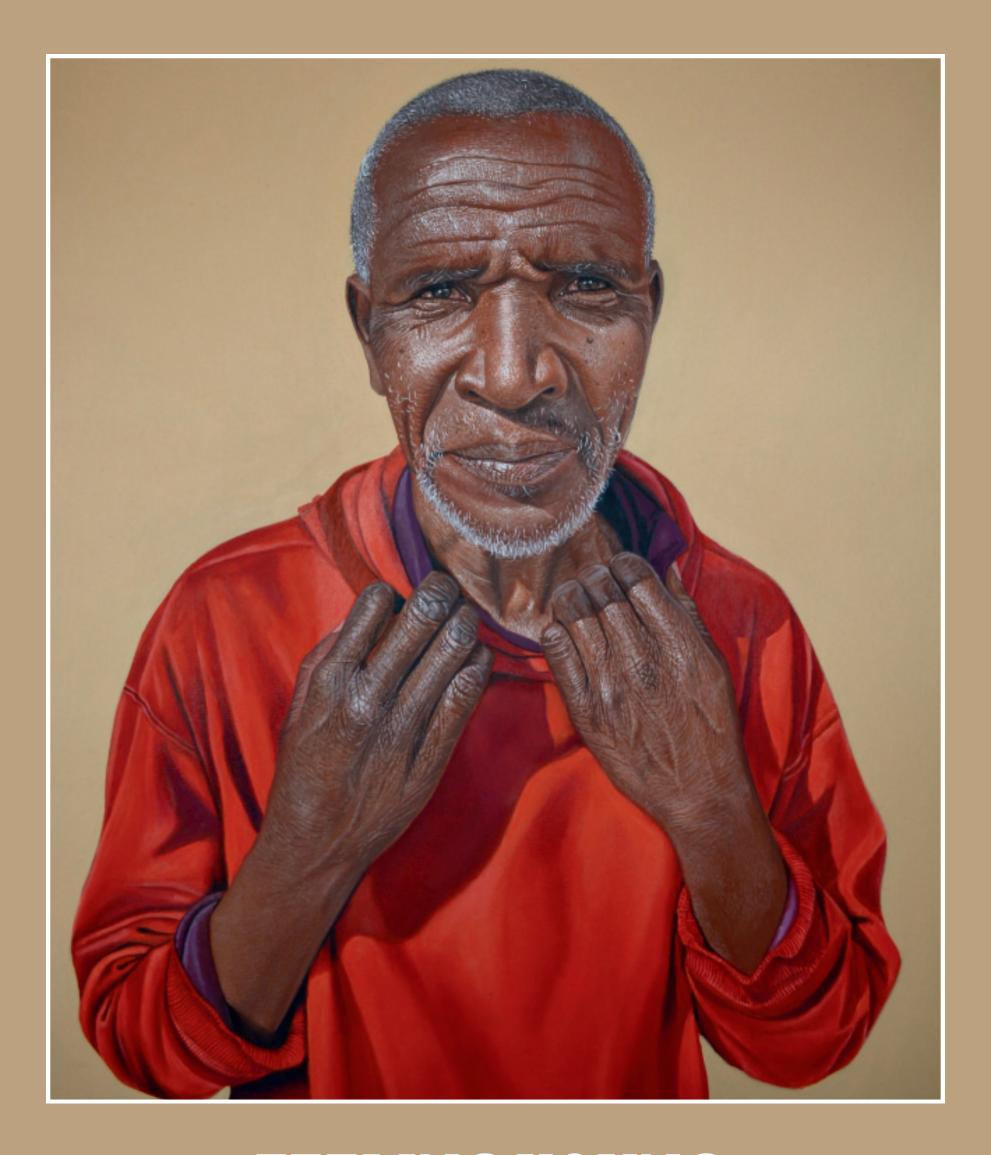
Eddy is a hyperrealism artist based in Nairobi, Kenya.

His work revolves around portraits; an exploration of expressions, emotions and stories that weave a realistic life onto itself. With superb attention to detail we are looking at a new master with several awards & sales that continue to have this artist out of Africa one to watch!



SURROUNDED

OIL ON CANVAS 47X60 INCHES



FEELING YOUNG

OIL ON CANVAS 47X60 INCHES



#### FLOYD STRICKLAND 1984 -

Floyd Strickland is a multi-disciplined artist from Los Angeles, CA. Strickland's works are a reflective critique of aspects of American culture, through the lens of black and brown children. Drawing inspiration from his childhood environment, Strickland often juxtaposes realistic figures with aspects of American cultural figures, creating ethereal figurative paintings.

Strickland garners inspiration from Kerry James Marshall, famed Birmingham-born, Chicago-based contemporary artist exhibiting works since 1981, and his all-time favorite artist Aaron Douglas, the most prominent Harlem Renaissance artist-illustrator dubbed the "father of African-American art," highly active in the 1920s.

The unconventional path that brought Strickland to the art world contributes to the uniqueness of his work. After building and renovating elementary schools throughout the country, Strickland noticed the lack of confidence in many black and brown children, which he struggled with as a child. To combat this, Strickland began painting large-scale figurative oil paintings depicting the beauty, strength, and potential of these children.

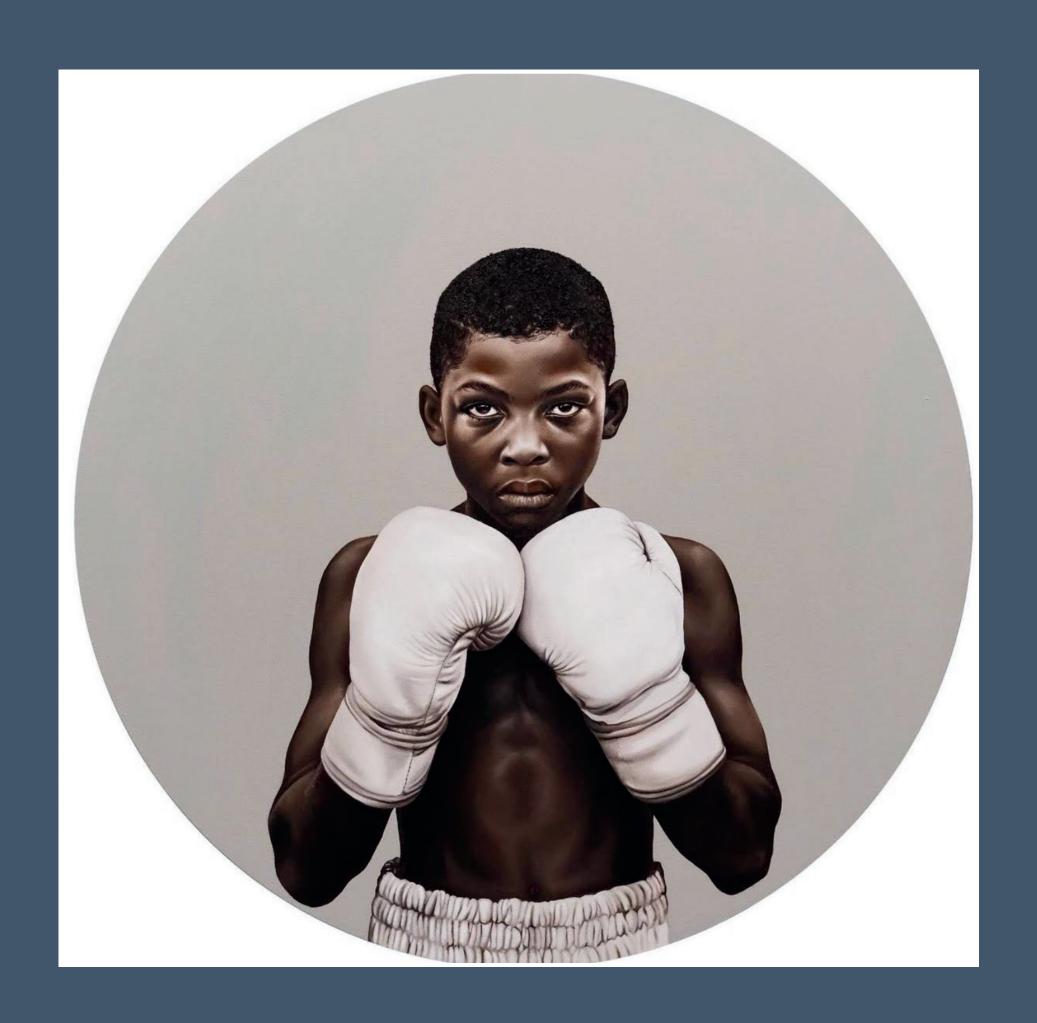
Strickland's children are often the focal points of his pieces, expressing that his best works feature them because that immense care and emotional attachment for them comes through. He wants his children to see themselves as larger-than-life figures and hopefully understand how much he loves them.

Strickland currently works and lives in Los Angeles.



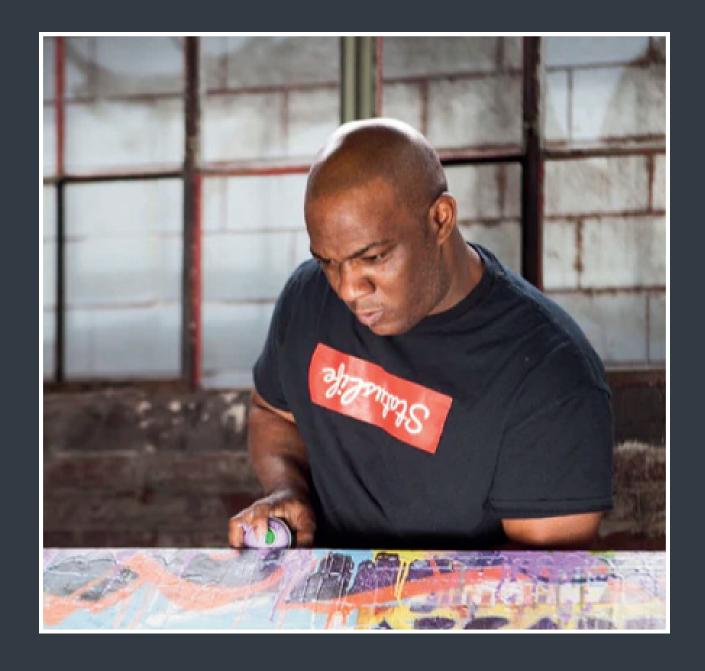
GET READY

OIL ON CANVAS 30X30 INCHES



HOLD YOUR GUARD

OIL ON CANVAS 30X30 INCHES



#### FRANK MORRISON 1972-

Frank Morrison (b. 1971) started his journey as a graffiti artist in New Jersey, tagging walls with spray paint. However, it was the opportunity to tour with music artist Sybil as a breakdancer, an influential high school art teacher, and a visit to the Louvre Museum in Paris that opened him up to new artistic and creative avenues.

An early indoctrine into hip-hop culture can be seen through Morrison's work, which has been dubbed a mash-up of urban mannerism, graffiti and abstract contemporary, and reflects deeply on the lost of human stories from past eras.

Morrison strives to capture people as they are, translating emotions through his paintings and leaving a memoir of our life and times today. His work depicts African-American livelihood in a way that is both familiar and comforting to those who often feel histories have been forgotten and culture has been usurped.

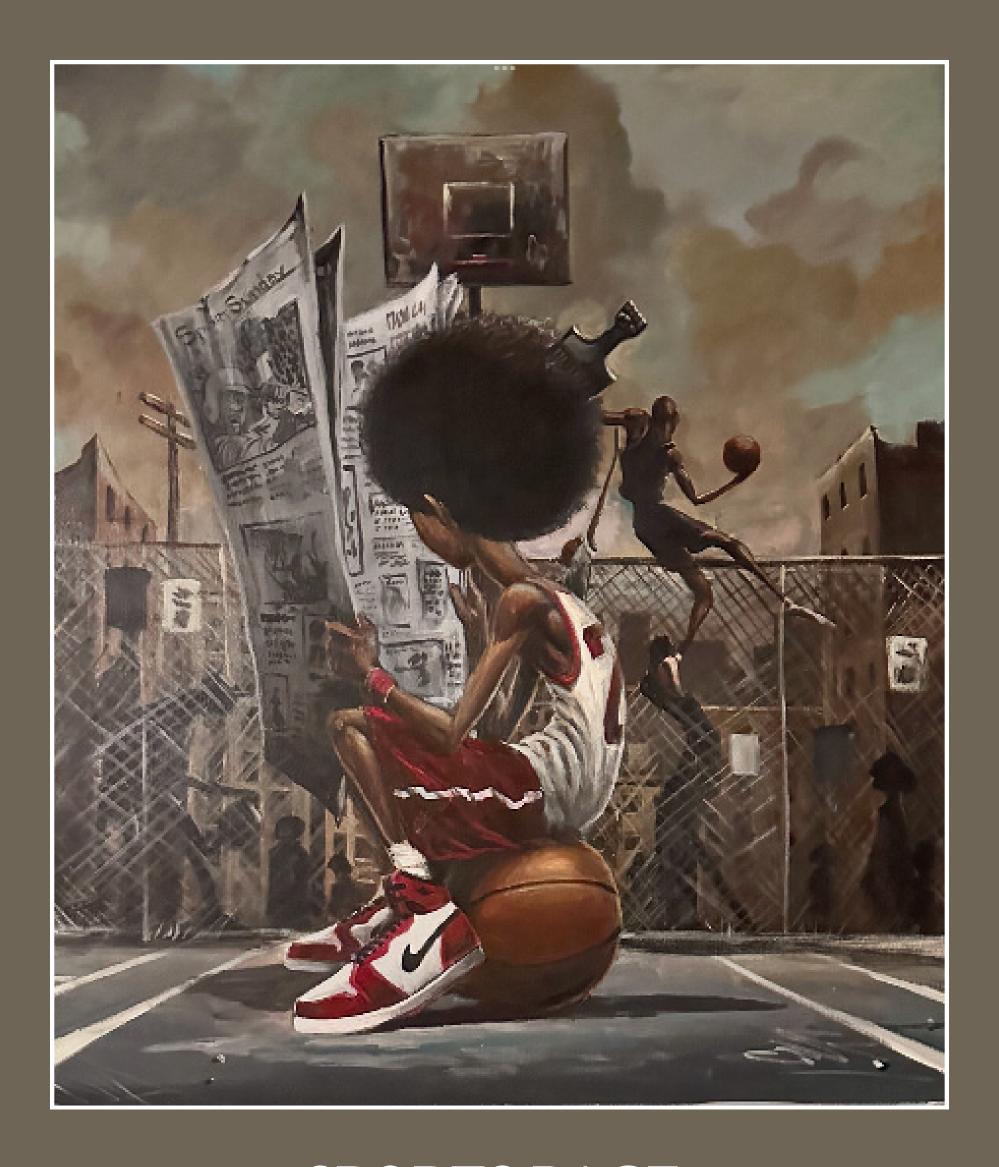
Citing both Ernie Barnes and Annie Lee as forebearers of this tradition, Morrison remarks on his practice, "My work dignifies the evolllution of everyday, underrepresented people and places within the urban landscape. I seek to both highlight and preserve the soul of the city through the lens of hip-hop culture and urban iconography. I want people to experience the visual rhythms that choreograph life for the average, everyday person."

Morrison's work has been featured at Art Basel, Scope Miami and Red Dot art fairs, and shown at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture (sponsored by ESSENCE ART and Toyota) and Mason Fine Art Gallery (Atlanta, Georgia). His solo exhibitions include "Frank Morrison: Live, Love and Jazz" (2013) and "Graffiti" (2014), both at Richard Beavers Gallery (Brooklyn, New York).

The William H. and Camille O. Cosby Collection, and the private collections of art patron Peggy Cooper-Cafritz and athlete Derek Jeter include work by Morrison. He has als been commissioned to create works for recording artist, producer and art curator Swizz Beats, and Emmy Award-winning writer and producer Jordan Peele's film "Get Out".

An acclaimed illustrator Morrison's work can be found in numerous award-winning children's books including Coretta Scott King - John Steptoe Award winner Jazzy Miz Mozetta, NAACP Image Award winner Our Children Can Soar and Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor, Little Melba and her Big Trombone. His literary client list includes international book publishers Penguin Books, HarperCollins, Hyperion, Random House and National Geographic Kids.

Continuing to celebrate the teacher that changed his life by insisting he visit his first art museum, Morrison signs each of his works "TTG ("Thanks to God") to also show his gratitude for God's plan in positioning him where he is today. "I know where I am is not by accident. I want to just be able to continue doing what I do."



SPORTS PAGE

OIL ON CANVAS 30X40 INCHES



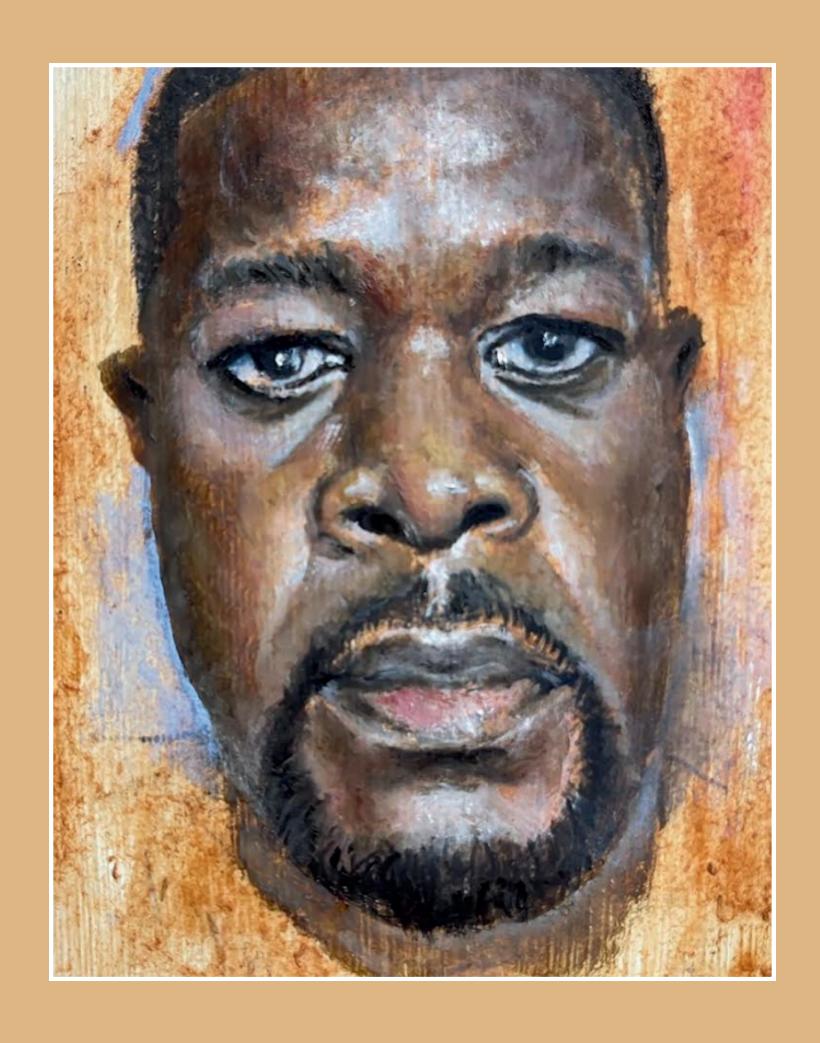
# PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

OIL ON CANVAS 30X30 INCHES



#### GIL ASHBY 1958 -

Gil Ashby was born and raised in Harlem, New York, and launched his career as an editorial artist after earning a B.F.A. in Illustration and an M.A. in Visual Journalism from the School of Visual Arts (SVA) in New York City. In 1999, Ashby was appointed as department chair to establish the illustration program at the College for Creative Studies (CCS) in Detroit. Under his leadership, the program gained national recognition, and in 2011, he transitioned from department head to a full-time faculty role. That same year, the Society of Illustrators in NYC honored him as the "Distinguished Educator of The Arts." Currently, Ashby is an Associate Professor at CCS, where he teaches figurative drawing, blending traditional and digital painting techniques to inspire the next generation of artists.



PROPHETS SERIES



### HENRY JAMES 1996 -

Oriolowo Henry, popularly known as Henry James, is a highly skilled and prolific visual artist with a passion for painting. His love for art began in childhood, and he has dedicated his life to honing his craft and expressing himself through his work.

Henry James holds a National Diploma in Fine Art from Lagos State Polytechnic and has further developed his skills through training at Abdulsalam Concept in Ikorodu, Lagos, Nigeria. He later went on to obtain his Higher National Diploma in Fine Art from Lagos State Polytechnic in Ikorodu.

As a full-time practicing studio artist, Henry has participated in numerous art competitions and exhibitions.

In his art, Henry focuses primarily on human figures and the beauty of nature in the environment. He skillfully blends vibrant colors and fabrics to bring out the beauty of African humans and their surroundings, using his work to celebrate the richness of African culture and heritage.

Henry James is a master of color and expression, and his paintings are a true reflection of his passion for his craft. His work is a testament to the power of art to inspire, provoke thought, and bring beauty into the world. With his unique style and dedication to his craft, Henry is sure to continue making an impact in the world of art for years to come.



JOYFUL HEART

PAINTING OIL ON CANVAS 47X38



# US

PAINTING OIL ON CANVAS 36X40



# JAMES PATE 1967-

HIS GRANDMOTHER RAISED HIM IN Cincinnati and liked to tell him stories about his childhood. While his siblings would be busy on the floor playing with toys, she remembered, he would be in the middle of it all, focused on his drawings.

That scene hasn't changed much over the years. To-day, the floor is a studio space in the Wright-Dunbar Historic district and James Pate is still focused on his art. He believes art can assist all of us in our personal journeys.

"I look at art as sorta like having a conversation with people," explained the artist/educator who received the Dayton Art Institute's Pamela P. Houk Award in 2013 for Excellence in Art Education. The DAI

commended Pate for the way he uses his art to in - spire youth, and the way he engages them in dialogue about issues vital to their lives.

"You're extracting something from yourself and expressing something that people can relate to," said

Pate. "It's offering up advice from your point of view, offering different perspectives. And I think people should participate when they see the art and leave with some insights."

Pate said teaching is like a life blood to him because there are so many "learnable" moments. "You learn so much about yourself and you sharpen your communication skills," said Pane, who has taught classes at the Dayton Art Institute, K12 Gallery and TEJAS and many schools.

Pate is in the news for a couple of reasons at the mo-ment. The Dayton-based artist will be receiving the only Individual Artist Award at the upcoming Governor's Award for the Arts luncheon this week in Columbus. And his dramatic series entitled "Kin Killin Kin," which has been on tour to other cities, has most recently been featured on 13 Dayton bill - boards. He hopes that it will help to reduce gun violence by expanding awareness, inspiring conversation and empowering the community to take action.

Carol Rogers, an art instructor at Belmont High School, has worked closely with Pate for more than 15 years and is one of many who supported his Governor's Award nomination. She says he is one of the strongest visual communicators you'll ever en-counter.

"James shares his art in humble, in your face, relevant ways that can change lives," she said.

Artist Willis "Bing" Davis, who was honored at the Governor's art luncheon in 2009 with the Irma Lazarus Award - given only occasionally to someone of artistic excellence who has gained international recognition - has been a mentor and friend to Pate for more than 20 years. In 1968. when Pate was a high school junior in Cincinnati, Davis received a letter from the art supervisor for the Cincinnati Public Schools about an award-winning student who was not only artistically gifted but had a 'spe-cialness' about him. "He said if I ever got a chance to work with him, I should do so," recalls Davis who took that suggestion to heart.

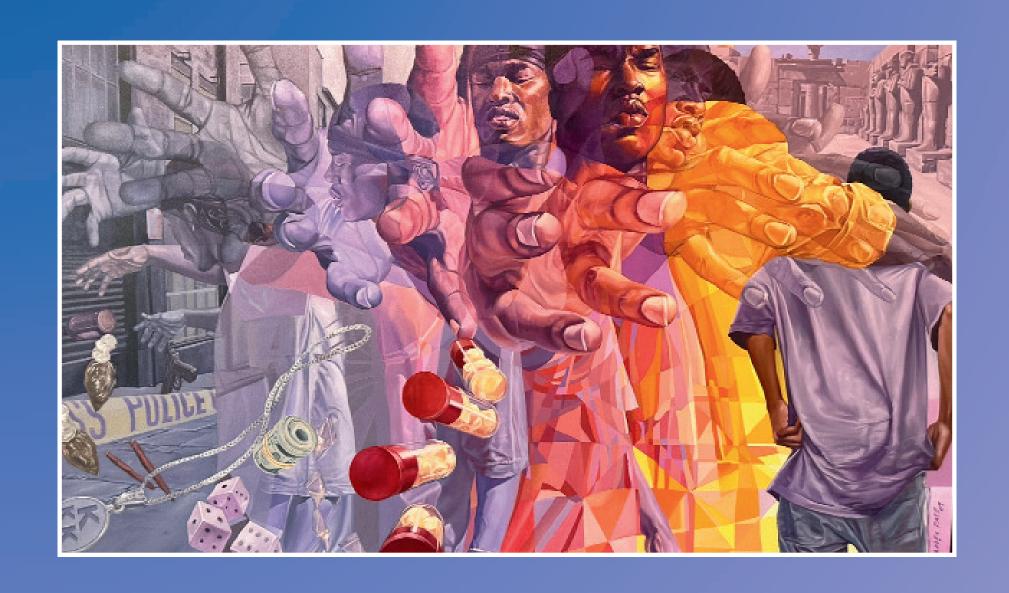
"He is one of the most gifted, talented and hardworking young artists that I have had the chance to know and work with during my 50-plus years in the field," said Davis. "James has the drawing skills of Charles White, the compositional skills of Romare Bearden, and the storytelling skills of Jake Lawrence. What sets James Pate apart and guides his artistic vision is his deep, sincere and well -informed commitment to youth and community. He knows what it means to be an at-risk youth. He knows what it means to grow up in a neighborhood where crime and violence is ever present and temptations are not singers on a stage, but a reality lurking just around the corner. James has not forgotten where he came from or those families, friends and foes that are still navigating that reality."Pate begins each new work by gathering informa-tion. "I want to saturate myself with all that surrounds a concept," he explained.

Pate worked on the "Kin Killin Kin" from 2000 to 2010.

"For years we have known that America has a problem with youth gangs," said Dr. Ed Jackson, executive architect for the Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial, another one of Pate's nominators for this week's award. "Through his artistry, Mr. Pate was able to stop, to suspend, to freeze that moment in time and show the horror of armed warfare on our streets, and the tragic loss of life of innocent by-standers, with the intent and hope of motivating communities across America to use their power as citizens, leaders and representatives of neighborhoods to change and eliminate this cancer that is destroying our communities from within."

Pate admits the series - which has been purchased by Tyler Perry's manager, art collector Arthur Primus - has been controversial and is embarrassing to those African -Americans who believe he shouldn't be "airing our dirty laundry" in public. **20** 

"But I'm trying to go to the laundromat and clean



# TERMS OF ENDEARMENT

OIL ON CANVAS 30X42 INCHES



# PAIN

CHARCOAL ON PAPER 36 X 42 INCHES



#### KEVIN WEST 1981 -

Kevin Nance West is a professional fine artist, art entrepreneur (and art instructor) in the Indianapolis area, specializing in contemporary abstract paintings and portrait art.

Kevin studied at the Herron School of Art and Design in Indianapolis prior to exploring business ventures in art. (Early initiatives included teaching art classes at the Boys and Girls Club of Indianapolis and hosting private portrait painting workshops.)

(Kevin, a cancer survivor, has not let life's obstacles stop him. Rather, they have fueled the passion for his craft. His larger than life art is filled with colorful lines of emotion dancing across the canvas.) In his twenty years as a professional artist, Kevin has experimented with a variety of mediums and concepts including mixed media and Oil Painting. His abstract portrait art done with acrylics and oil pastels are figures of pop culture, Black influencers and children.

In 2020, Kevin was selected by Indy10 Black Lives Matter and other community groups to help design and implement the Black Lives Matter mural along Indiana Avenue; a street that was once the center of Black life in Indianapolis.

Additional recognitions include:

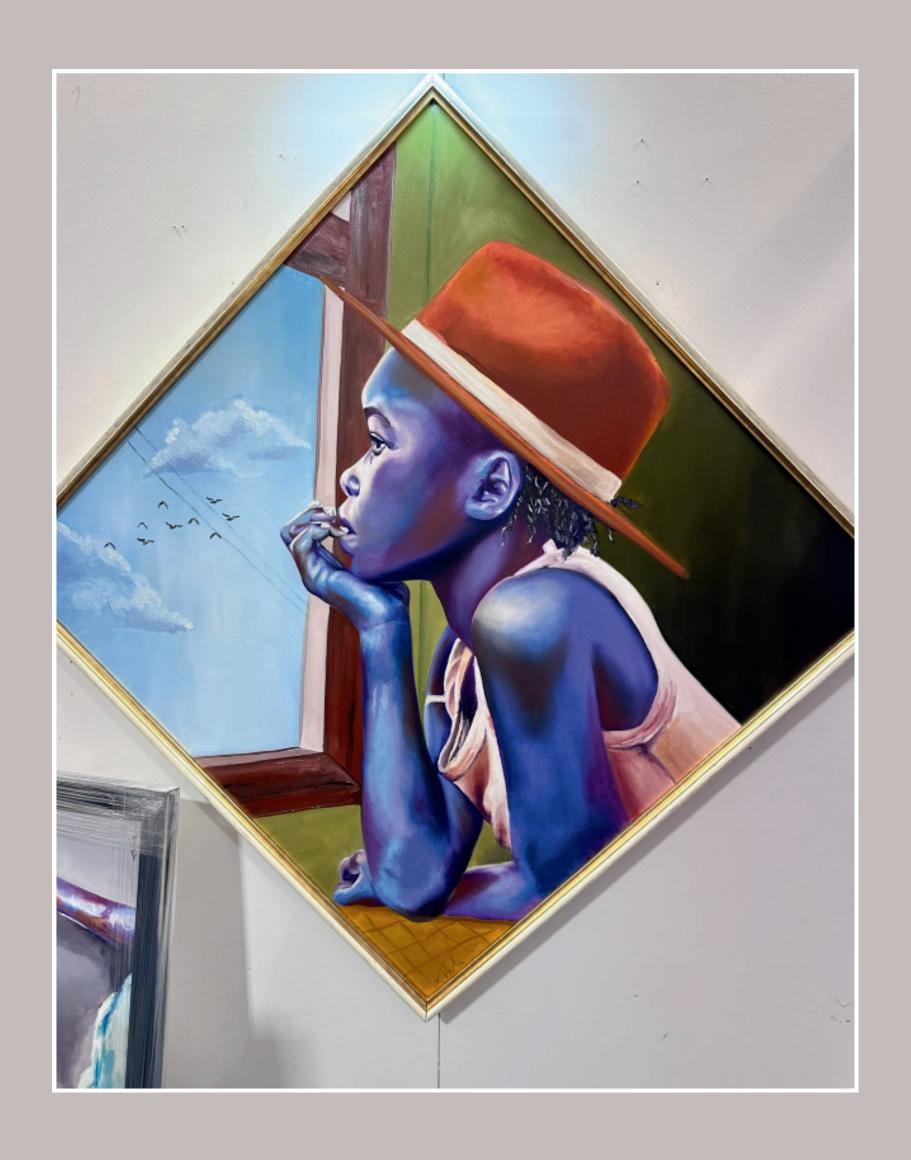
- 500 Art Festival 'Young Artist of the Year'
- Meet the Artist: Top 50 Artists of the Decade

Kevin is currently is focusing on his fine art career.

- Work featured at Nationally recognized Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Work featured at Nationally recognized Newfields Art Museum, Indianapolis, In.
- Works Acquired by NAACP
- Works Acquired by Indianapolis Children's Museum
- Works Acquired by IUPUI University

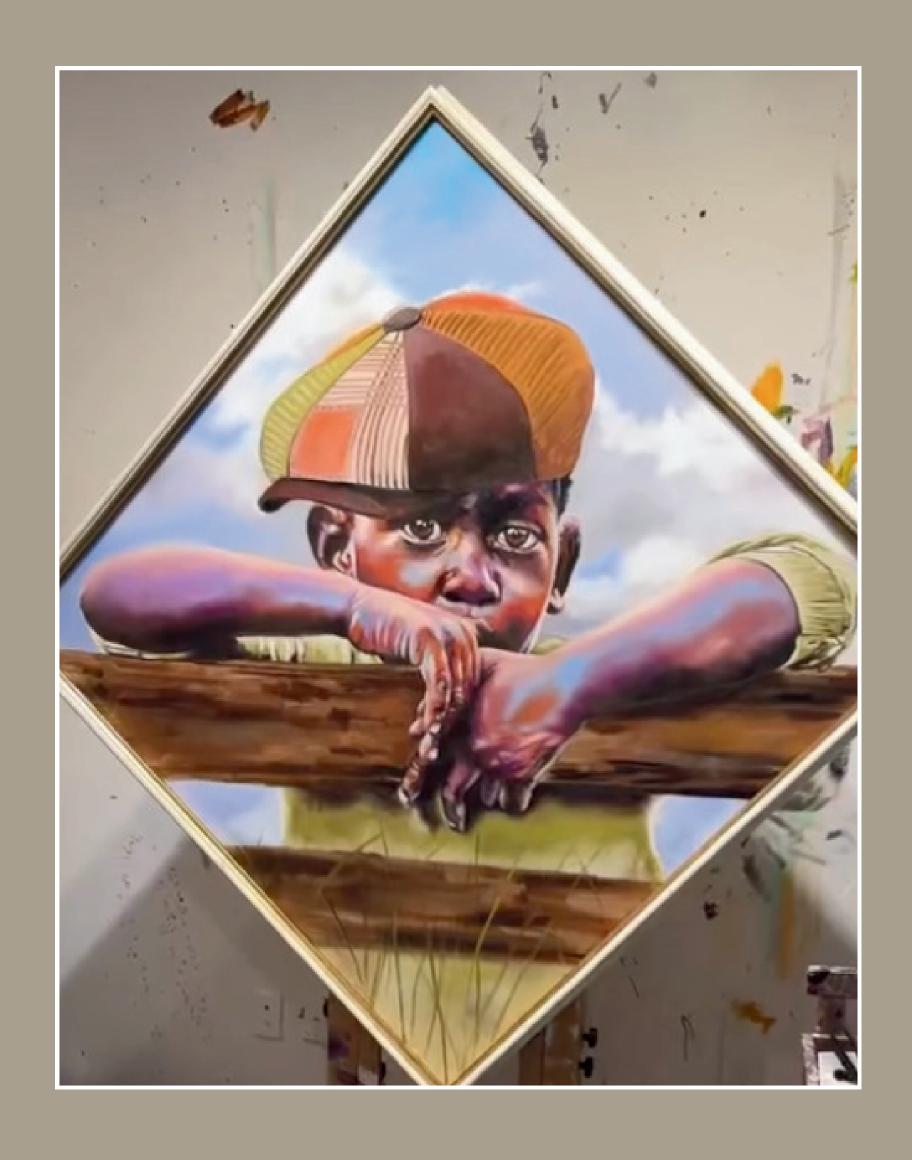
Commissioned by Wiley Publishing to paint the cover of Robert G. Hagstrom autobiography of Warren Buffett, Titled: Warren Buffett, Inside the ultimate money mind.

Influential Collectors:
Malcolm Jenkins, Pro Football
Ed Gordon, Journalist
George Hill, Pro athlete
Mike Epps, comedian
Warren Buffett, Investor
Jill Scott, singer and actress
Dwight Howard, Pro athlete
Anthony and Marlen Davis, Pro athlete
Jrue and Lauren Holiday, Pro athletes
Reggie Wayne, Pro athlete
Gary Brackett, Pro athlete



# CHANCE TO FLY

PAINTING, OIL ON CANVAS 48X48



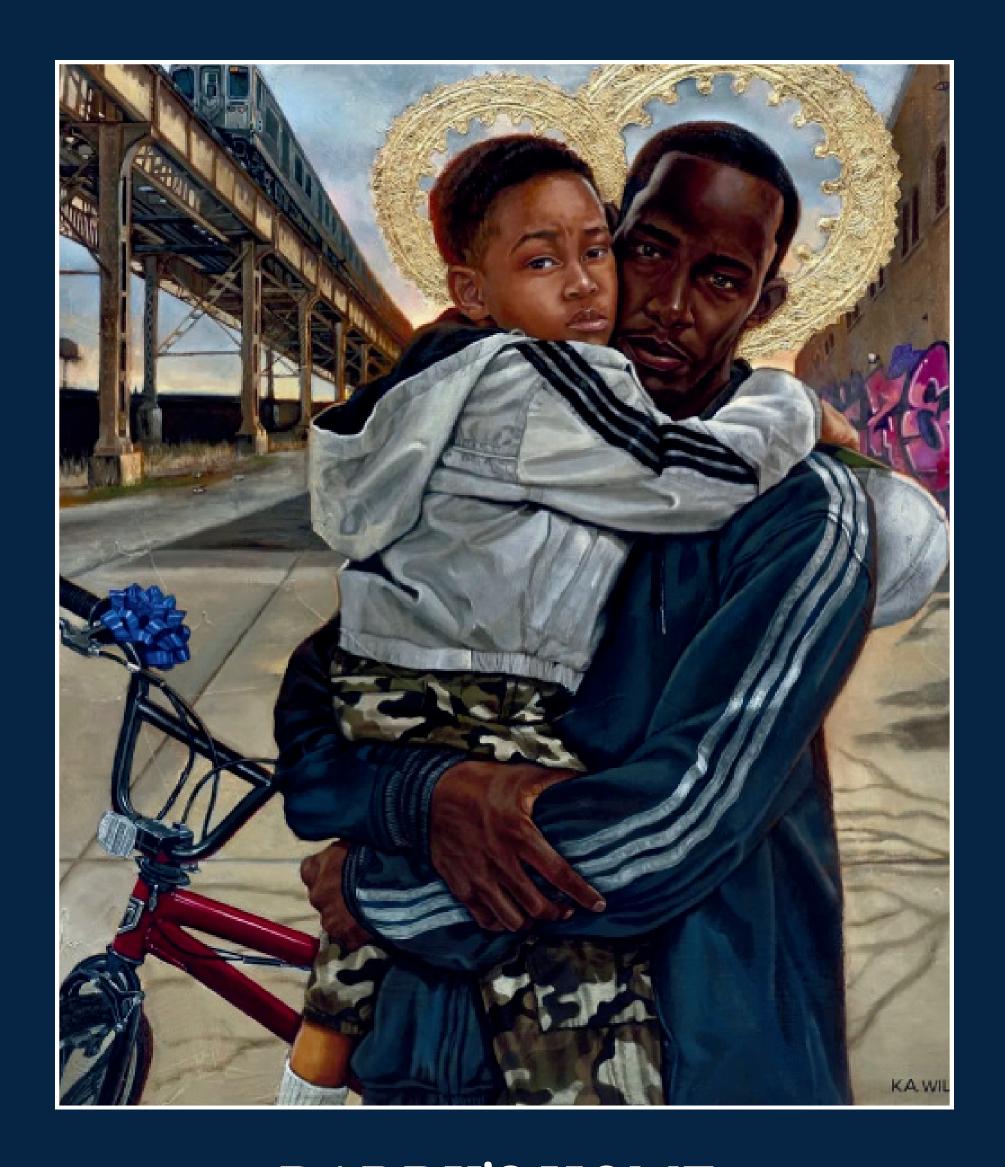
# MY CHANCE TO FLY

OIL ON CANVAS 48X48



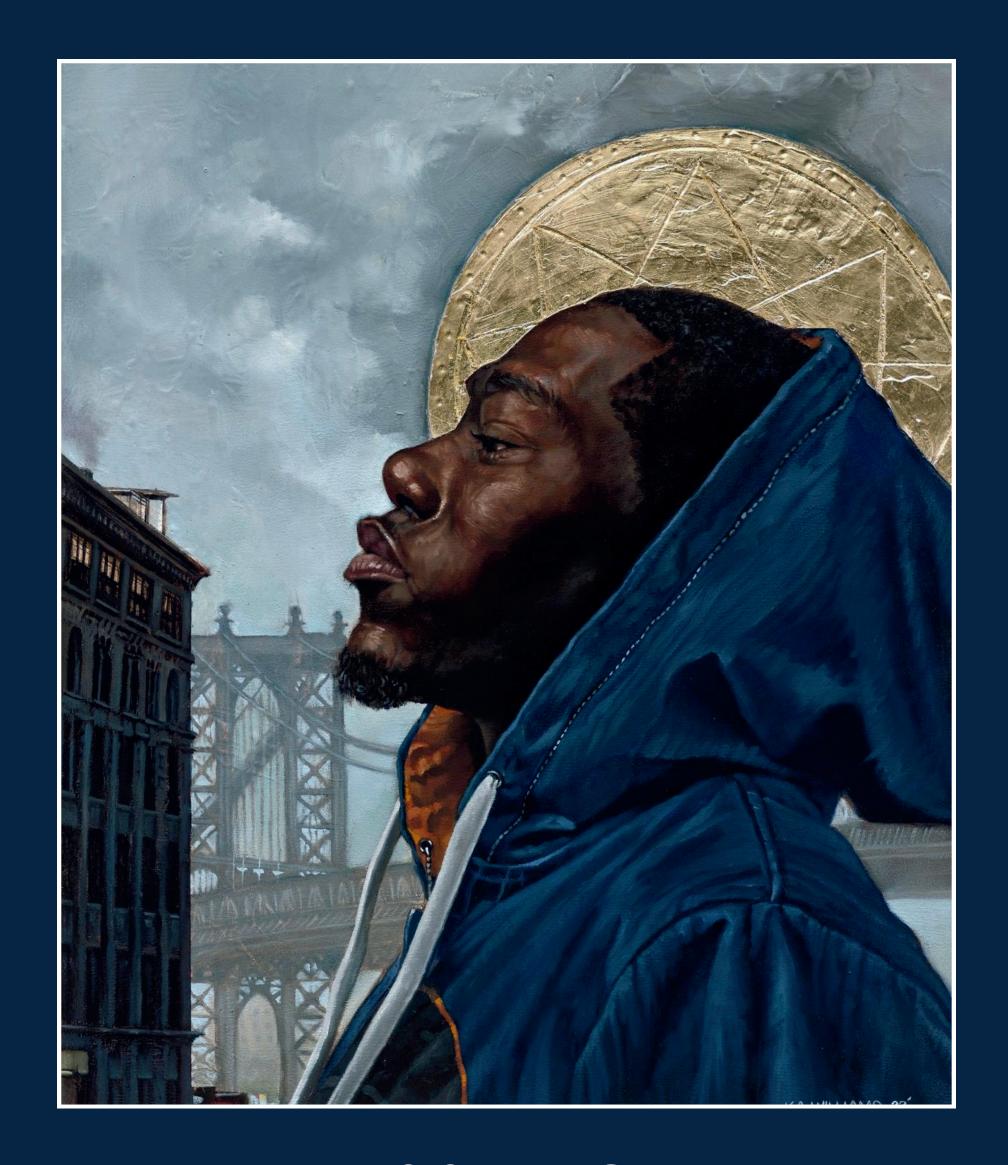
#### KEVIN WILLIAMS 1967-

Kevin A. Williams better known by the art moniker WAK, his initials backwards, is an American painter and businessman from Chicago's Southside. He is one of the most celebrated figurative storytellers of this era with his collection of paintings being the most widely circulated urban fine art series in the world. At the age of 15, Kevin A. Williams started working as an artist, on Chicago's Historic East 87th Street Black Business District, drawing and painting images for clothing boutiques and hair salons. At 19, he became a cosmetology illustrator for Soft Sheen hair products which eventually led to a commission from Alberto Culver USA, to create "Standing Appointment" which depicts 4 women under hair dryers, for their Motions hair care line. It is regarded the most popular art image in the history of the hair care industry. While developing his fine art line, Williams worked exclusively with the late Actor\Comedian Bernie Mac as his personal artist for over 15 years, creating over 20 original paintings, including a very important piece commissioned by the Actor\Comedian as a gift for Oprah Winfrey. The piece titled "Anointed Gift" was unveiled on Oprah's televised 50th birthday celebration, and was regarded by her as "the most amazing gift". This amazing gift currently hangs in the lobby of Winfrey's Leadership Academy for Girls in South Africa. In November 2009, Williams was commissioned by the Professional Golf Association (PGA) to memorialize Ted Rhodes, John Shippen, Bill Spiller, the first African-American inductees to the PGA who were denied membership during their professional careers, along with honorary member, heavyweight boxing champion Joe Louis. Williams also made history by becoming the 1st African American artist to have a painting to permanently hang in the PGA National Museum in Port St. Lucie, Fla. In April 2018, Williams was commissioned by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated to create a centerpiece for the newly renovated national headquarters in Chicago, Illinois. "The One" depicting the founding, legacy and continued life of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority..



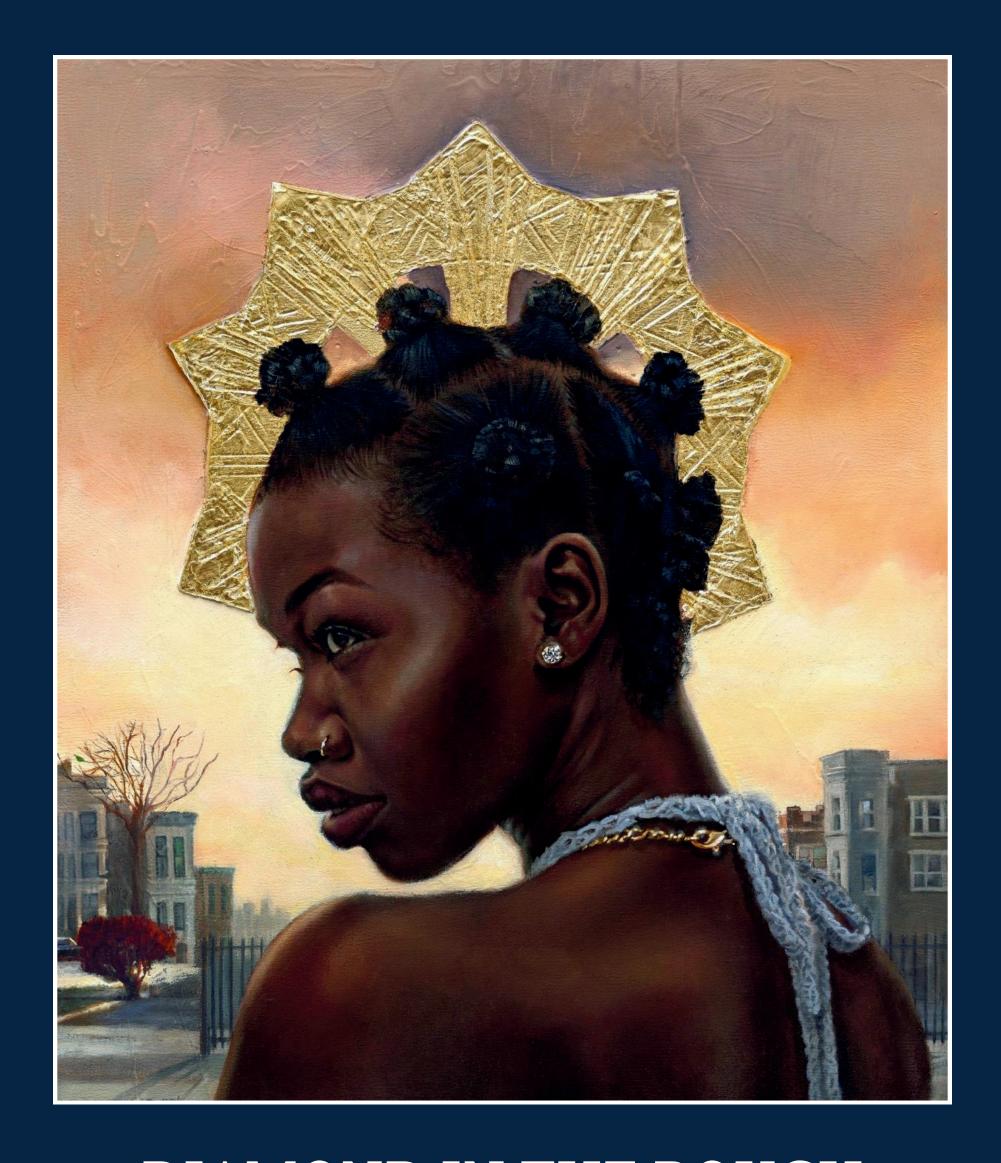
DADDY'S HOME

OIL ON CANVAS 48X48 INCHES



# HOOD RICH

OIL ON CANVAS 24 X 20 INCHES



# DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH

OIL ON CANVAS 24 X 20 INCHES



#### KIP OMOLADE 1969 -

Born in Harlem, NY Kip Omolade began his art career as a graffiti artist while interning at Marvel Comics and The Center for African Art. He continued his studies at The Art Students League of New York and earned a BFA at the School of Visual Arts.

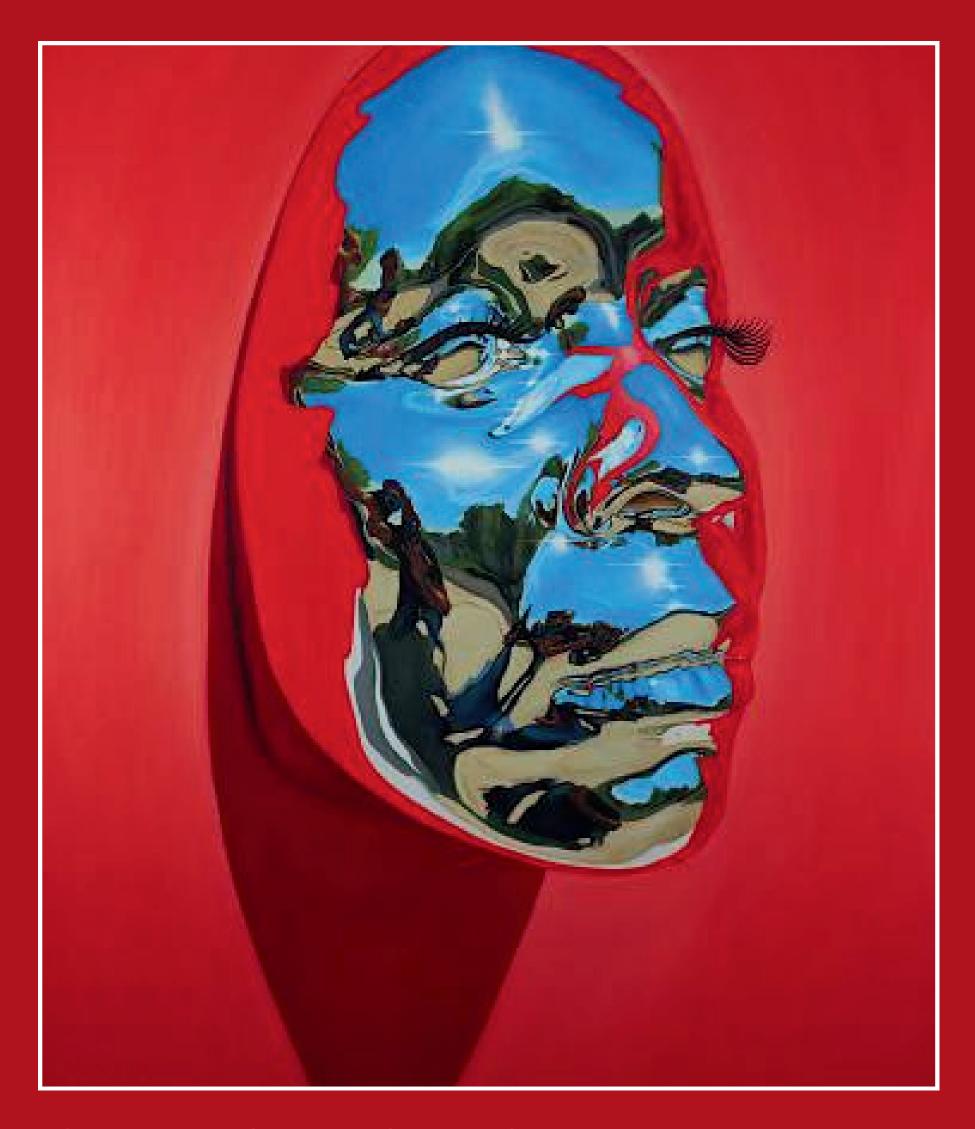
His work has been exhibited at Opera Gallery, Jonathan LeVine Projects, Joseph Gross Gallery and Art Basel Miami. Good Morning America, Huffington Post, Juxtapoz and Hi-Fructose have also featured his work. Special projects include ESPN, Red Bull, Nike, 2 Chainz, The Versace Mansion, Fantasia Barrino and Sony Music.

Kip Omolade's work is in the permanent collections of Viacom and Hallmark Cards



AMERICAN LOVE

PAINTING ACRYLIC ON CANVAS 36X48 INCHES



### DIOVADIOVA CHROME KARYN XXIII

PAINTING ACRYLIC ON CANVAS 36X48 INCHES



#### KONBOYE E. EUGENE 1992 -

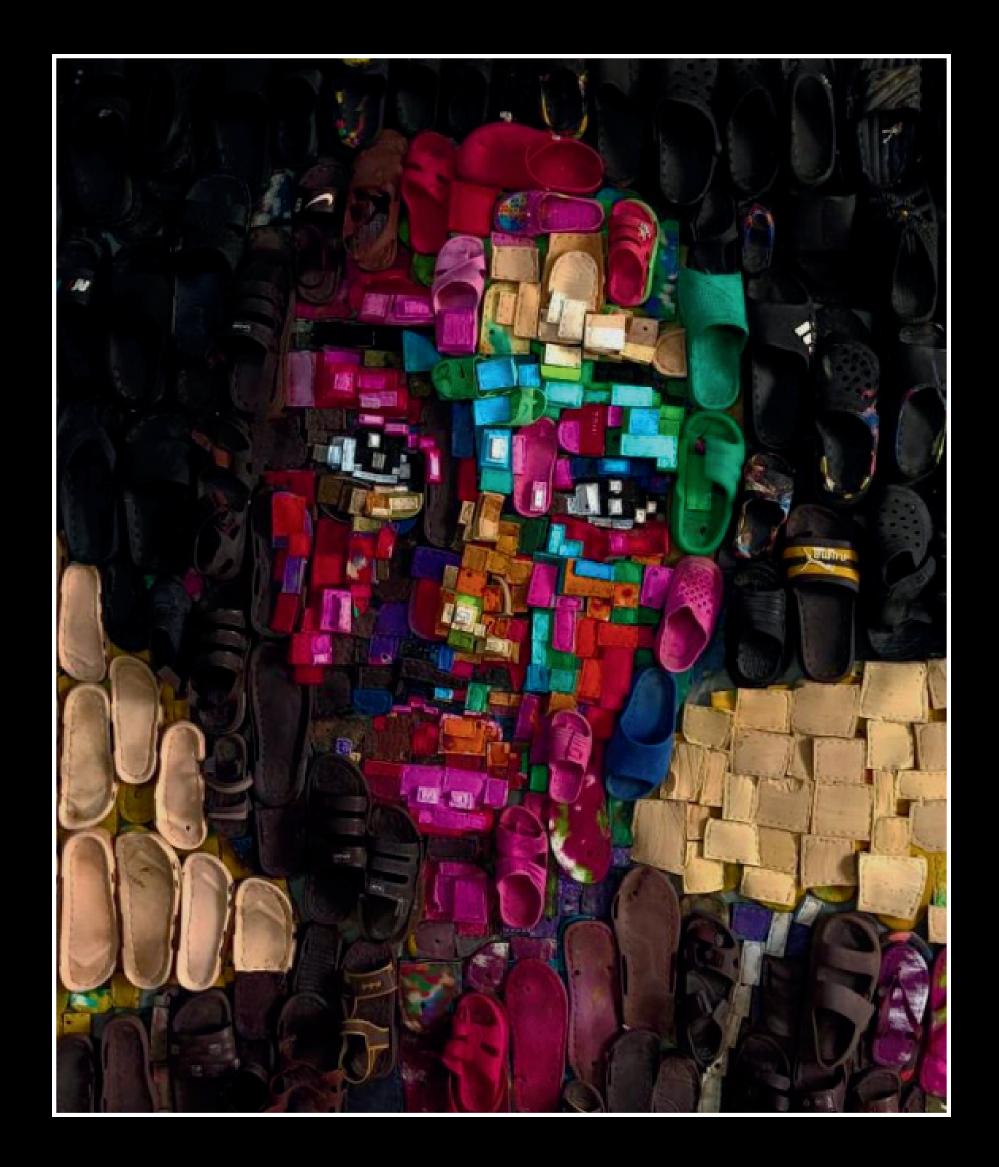
Konboye Ebipade Eugene is a visionary Nigerian artist who has made a name for himself by transforming discarded flip-flops into stunning portraits. He is a sustainable artist who is passionate about building the community by turning trash into treasure.

His artistic journey began at Auchi Polytechnic in Edo State, where he graduated with distinction in painting. The lack of unconventional materials at that time sparked his passion for eco-friendly art. Konboye creates stunning portraits by combining flip-flops with meticulous stitching, breathing new life into discarded materials. His creative process involves placing flip-flops onto canvases, held together by glue, resulting in intricate masterpieces.

Konboye's impressive repertoire includes a residency at the Omooba Yemisi Shyllon Art Foundation (OYASAF) in 2019 and a workshop at the prestigious International Mosaic Symposium in Patagonia, Argentina. He has also shared his insights as a speaker at the AFRIWOCC Pre-cop event, organized by H.E Samira Bawumia, the Second Lady of the Republic of Ghana, and as a panelist at the Nigerian Creative Conference (NCC) 2024 organized by Intellectual Property and Technology Law Club, University of Ibadan (IPTLC UI).

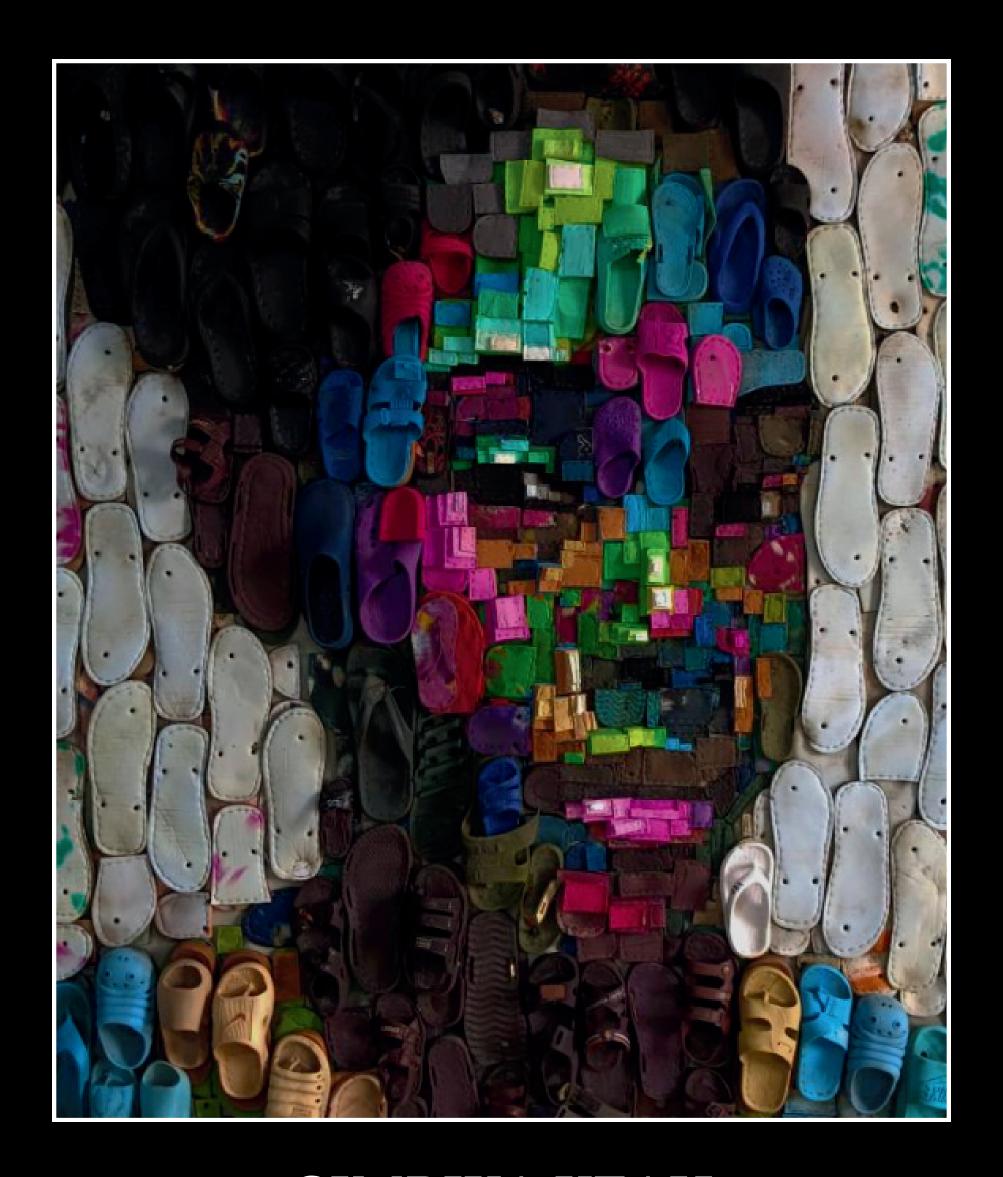
Konboye's debut solo exhibition, 'Beyond,' expertly organized by "The Rooom" and held in Bologna, Italy, was an exceptional showcase of his work. He has been featured in notable exhibitions which include: TotalEnergies Open House Exhibition (Eko Tower 2, Lagos, 2023), The Earth Speaks (2023), Summer Creative Clean Up (YPO Lagos, 2023), In Search (Galari, 2023), TotalEnergies Open House Exhibition (2022), Recycled Matters (Alexis Gallery, 2022), Framing Her (Awaranka, 2022).

Konboye's innovative approach to art and eco-awareness has caught the attention of prominent media outlets like Reuters and BBC, who have featured his inspiring story of turning waste into art. Ultimately, his purpose is to inspire a new generation of sustainable artists. When waste becomes art, think of Konboye.



## CLAYEFA LONGING

COLLAGE 60 X72



## GIMBIYA YEAH RIGHT

COLLAGE 60X72



### LEONARD MAIDEN 1972-

Leonard Maiden was born in Greenville Mississippi in 1972. His family then moved to Louisiana in 1978. In 1991 he served in the United States Marine Corps and was honorably discharged in 1995. In 1999 he entered community college at Bossier Parish Community College where he majored in Mass Communications with the hopes of becoming a graphic artist. After taking a required course in drawing at BPCC he was advised by his instructor to attend Louisiana Tech School of Art. In 2005 Leonard received his BFA from Louisiana Tech University. He began his public art career participating in small community venues in Shreveport, Louisiana where he was living and working at that time. In 2012 Leonard moved to Senatobia. Mississippi on his late grandfather's farm. Since then he has exhibited his work in Memphis, New Orleans, Louisville, and Chicago. Leonard still today lives and works in Senatobia, Mississippi.



SHE'S COMING THIS WAY

PAINTING OIL ON CANVAS 36X40



## LISA MATHEWS 1961 -

Lisa Mathews is a self-taught African-American artist.

She grew up in Dayton, Ohio. As a young child, Lisa spent countless hours with a pencil and drawing pad in hand. In addition to her love of visual arts, she also studied dance and performed with a dance company until she began college to continue her art studies at the University of Cincinnati. After college, over the next 20 years, Lisa would become a young wife and later a single mother of two daughters. She worked various corporate jobs to make ends meet while she raised her daughters and put them both through college.

At the age of 45, with no advance planning, she threw caution to the wind and stepped out in faith to pursue a career as an artist. During her pursuit, she happened upon an instructional book, "How To Make Clay Characters" by Maureen Carlson. It was through reading this book that she discovered what would become her passion as an artist. Lisa's chosen discipline is sculpture and her medium is polymer clay.

Her work has been exhibited across the US at various art festivals and fine art galleries. She is a member of the International Polymer Clay Association and the recipient of IPCA 2012 Progress and Possibilities judges and members "Best in Show" award in the category of sculpture. Her work was chosen, along with other renowned polymer clay artists, to be featured in a UK publication, "The Polymer Clay Artist's Guide" by Marie Segal, released the end of 2013.







## THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

Sculpture



## MARIO MOORE 1987 -

Mario Moore, a Detroit native, received a BFA from the College for Creative Studies, Detroit, MI in 2009 and an MFA in Painting from the Yale School of Art, New Haven, CT in 2013. Moore's paintings focus on the personal, social and political implications of our segregated society. Presenting stories of his own life and those of friends and family, Moore weaves in multiple references to history, art, politics and literature to complete his narrative. He is a recent Kresge Arts Fellow (2023) awarded through the Kresge Foundation and a recipient of the prestigious Princeton Hodder Fellowship (2018-2019) through Princeton University. He also has been awarded residencies at Duke University, Josef and Annie Albers Foundation, Fountainhead, and Knox College. Moore's work is in the permanent collections of but not limited to the Detroit Institute of Arts, Princeton University Art Museum, The Studio Museum in Harlem, the Mott- Warsh Collection, Louisiana State University Museum of Art, California African American Museum, Flint Institute of Art and The Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center.



COMMODITIES



## NATE AUSTIN 1988 -

I began my journey as an artist at a very young age. My mother would recall noticing that my artistic skills were a bit "advanced "at age six. My love for art was sparked at a young age, doodling on church fans and scrap paper to keep occupied during Sunday services. I attended the Cleveland School of the Arts in high school, then attended The University of Toledo. While art and self-expression seemed to take the backseat for some of my collegiate years, I found my way back to the passion, gift and calling I could no longer run from years after graduation.

Within the space of a blank canvas, my goal is to give voice to a world that is misrepresented, marginalized and often times misunderstood and to magnify the beauty that already exists. What fascinates me about any artistic medium is that it can pull the viewer out of a logical and common world, and place them within a space that is uncomfortable and unfamiliar. For some, my work resonates and confirms, and for others it informs and provokes. My work is mostly dedicated to sharing the realities of the African American experience. Behind the eyes of a melanated people lies the love, joys, sorrows and pains that they (we) commonly inherit.



FOR NOTHING. FOR NOTHING

OIL ON CANVAS 36 X48 INCHES



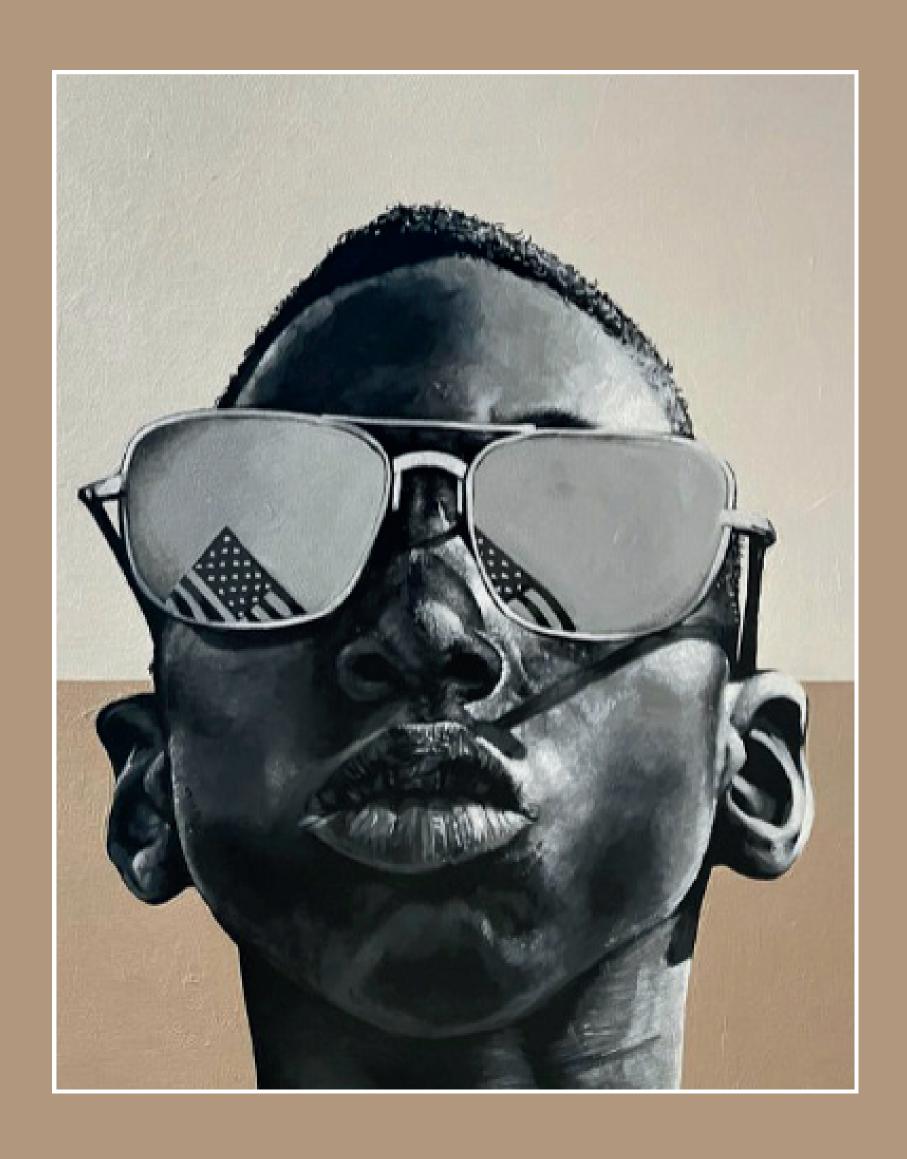
CIVIL RIGHTS A MUST

OIL ON CANVAS 36 X48 INCHES



PERFECT PEACE

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS 36 X 48 INCHES



## UNSTOPPABLE

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS 36 X 48 INCHES



## ODEYEMI OLUWASEUN 1992 -

Odeyemi Oluwaseun Ezekiel is an emerging artist based in Lagos, Nigeria. He received his National Diploma in Art and Design in 2015 at the polytechnic Ibadan and went on to earn his Bachelor's Degree (B.A) in Fine Art at Obafemi Awolowo University in Ile-Ife, Osun State, Nigeria, graduating in 2020. Oluwaseun work is a reflection of his experiences, environment, and emotions. he has exhibited his work in numerous exhibitions, both locally and internationally including ATLANTA ART FAIR 2024, STRENGTH IN UNITY, a duo exhibition @mitochondria, THE DUALITY OF EXISTENCE solo Exhibition 2023, @mitochondria gallery Multipolar NADA Exhibition 2023, @Mexico, Spectrum miami art fair 2022, RESILIENCE a Solo Exhibition 2022 @Mitochondria gallery, "I Am That I Am" (Blue Gallery NYC), "Serenity" (Mitochondria Gallery), "60x60x60" OAU @ 60th ile-ife, Experience the second (Kokopelli Gallery), "Ogirikan Miniature Art Fair", "Charity Art Exhibition" (AAF Gallery), "The Nu-Frican" (Artsy), So Far" Exhibition 2019, ifectivity exhibition, 70th international cultural exchange of arts by artcom expo, Nosa creative exhibition, mydrim affordable art fair, La grand bazart by a.f, Limcaf, and Union Bank art competition were he won the student price in 2017. He has is works both local and international collection.

Odeyemi's artistic language involves the use of noncontinuous lines, that intersect in an anisotropic arrangement. He employs conte crayons to create depth, layers, light, and texture on the skin of his subjects, in a manner that creates a tonality that is visually exclusive to Odeyemi's work. The anisotropy in the arrangement of the colors on the skin of his subjects is always unique to the specific work and an ode to individuality. His combination of wet and dry media across each painting is a skill Odeyemi Oluwaseun thrives in executing. The muses in his work range from people who have played an integral part in life, to people from his locality and others who have inspired him from afar. Works by Odeyemi Oluwaseun are in public collections in North America, Asia, Africa, and Europe



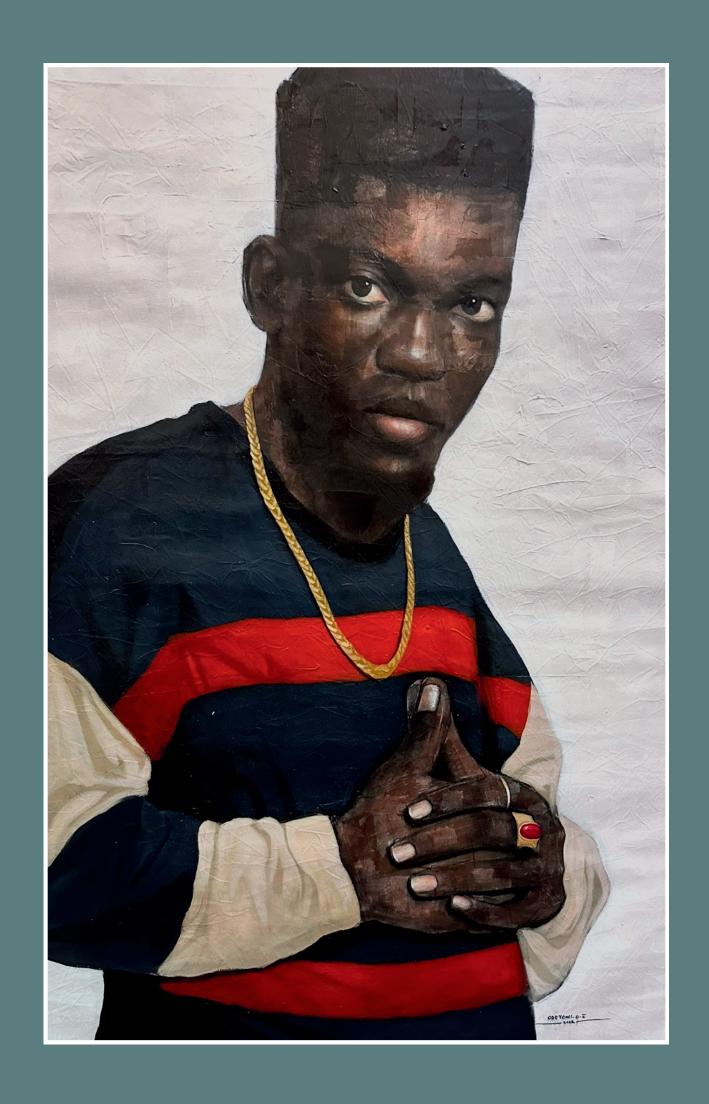
## **COMMON VISION**

MEDIUM: ACRYLIC, CONTE AND

CHARCOAL ON CANVAS

SIZE: 48X60 INCHES

YEAR: 2024



## STANDING ON BUSINESS

MEDIUM: ACRYLIC, CONTE AND

CHARCOAL ON CANVAS

SIZE: 60X48 INCHES

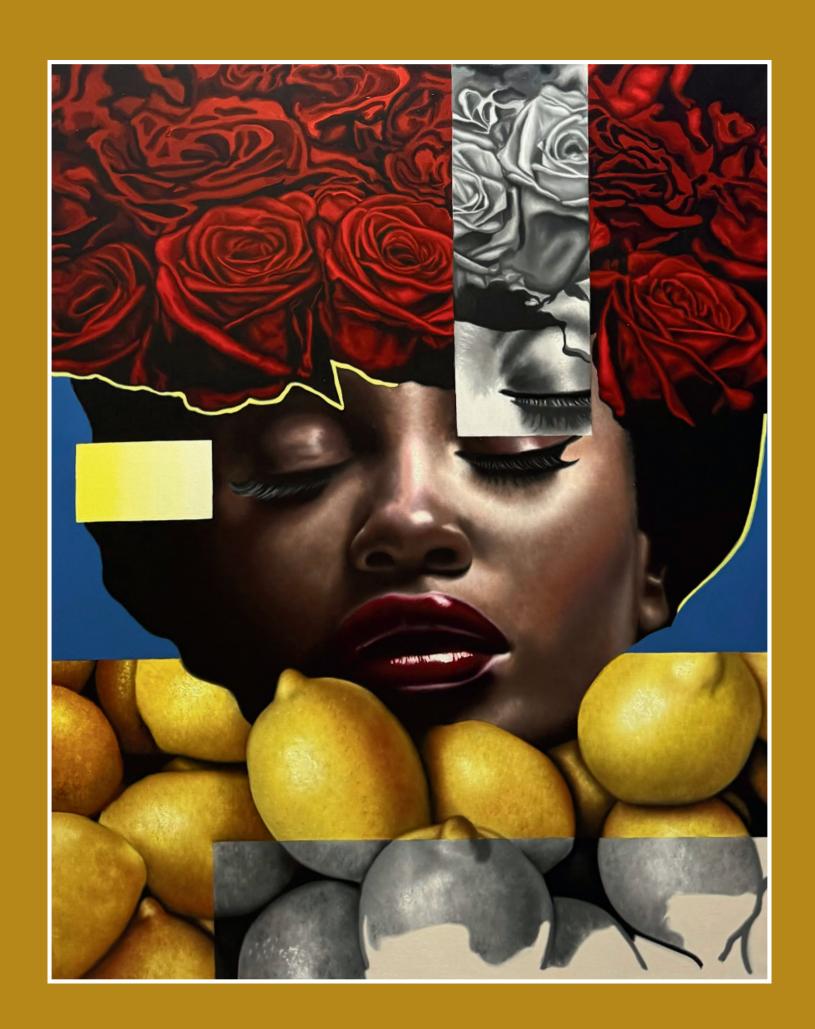
YEAR: 2024



O'NEIL SCOTT 1982 -

O'Neil Scott is aJamaican bornPennsylvania based representational oil painter. Influenced earlyon by his Uncleand Grandfather, each of whom pursued creative careers, he took to drawing as achild and spent much of his youth filling the pages of empty notebooks with images of individuals, both fictional and real. In college he hoped to study art but been awarded afootball scholarshipfrom Syracuse University and therefore had to prioritize activities. This meant after completing foundation art requirements he had to drop studio classes. Even after switching his major andgetting an MBA he never lost his passion for art. Rather, it remains a vehicle that he continues toutilize as a means to give a voice to his innermost concerns.

Inspired by old masters and contemporary realist, he has always been captivated by portraitureand its capacity to impart the complexities that comprise the human conditionHe had hisfourthsolo show in 2023at Villanova University Galleryand has been in numerous publications includingFine Art Connoisseur Magazine, American Art Collector Magazine, andArtist Magazine. His work is inprivateand publiccollectionsacross the United States and Internationally.



INNER GROWTH

MEDIUM: OIL ON CANVAS

SIZE: 60X48 INCHES

YEAR: 2023



FEELING FORGOTTEN

MEDIUM: OIL ON CANVAS

SIZE: 60X48 INCHES

YEAR: 2018

## AMBA ENIGHE - 2000

# Amba

#### **ABOUT**

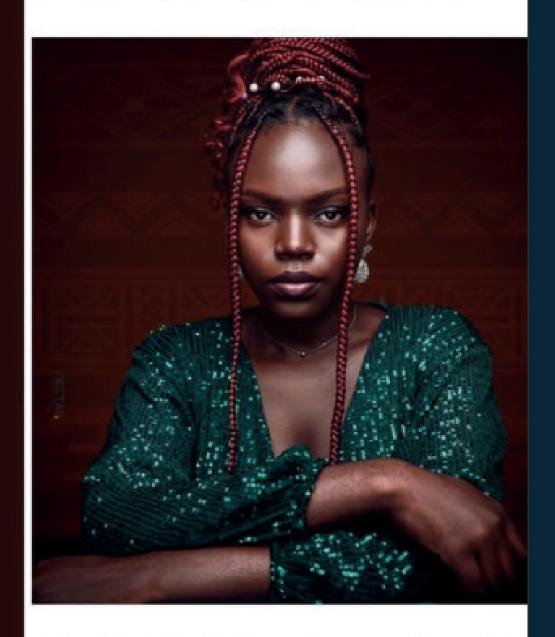
Amba Enighe (b.2000) is a figurative painter living and working in Uyo, Nigeria, and a BFA graduate in Fine and Industrial Art from the University of Uyo. Hailing from the Ejagham people of Southern Nigeria, the originators of the ancient Nsibidi visual language and script, Amba's practice is rooted in the preservation and celebration of her rich heritage, language and culture.

Adjacent and central to Amba's practice, is the advocacy of women empowerment and liberation, evidenced by the artist's choice of only women as muses across the entirety of her oeuvre.

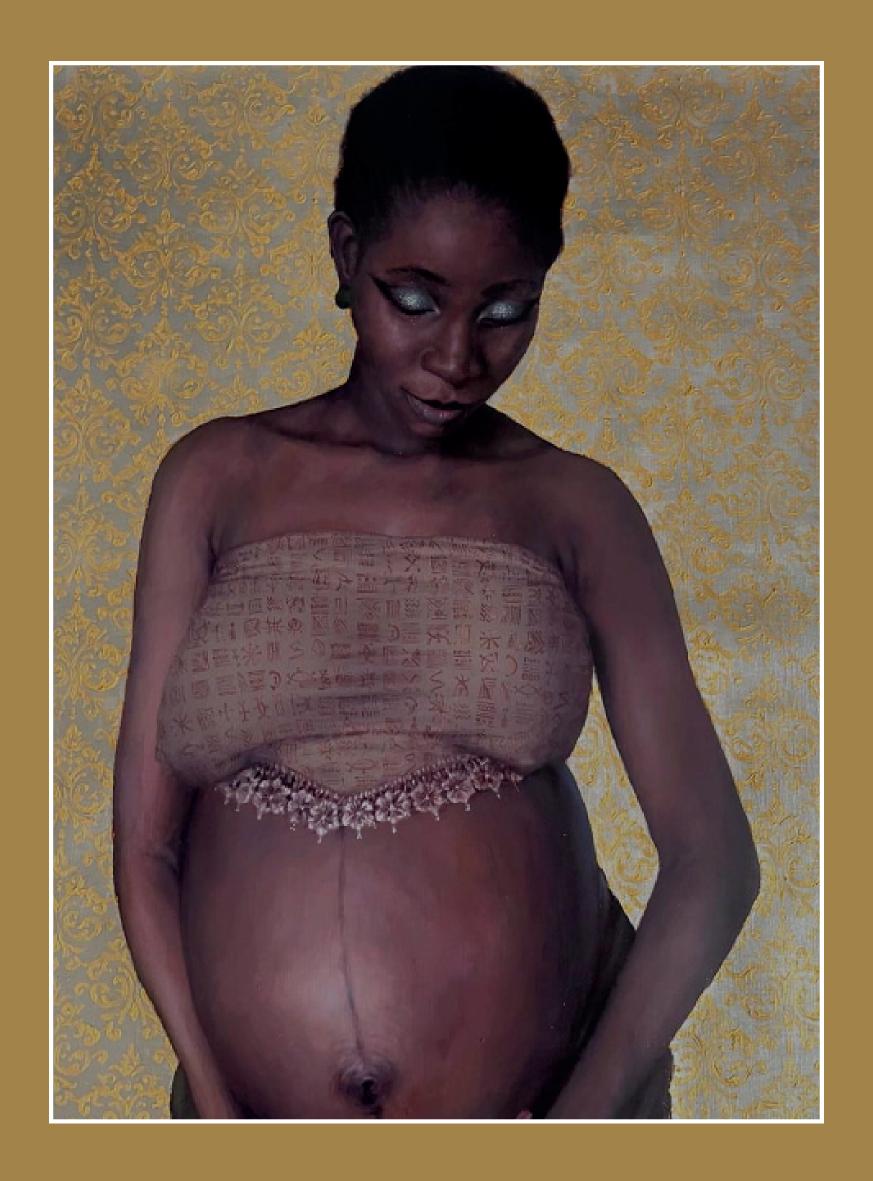
Amba edifies, reveres and immortalizes everyday women; from sisters and mothers to aunties and friends, in an intentional attempt to raise the esteem, self worth and pride of her fellow women and address social issues such as gender inequality, political disenfranchisement, female genital mutilation and among others.

Whilst striving to bolster and champion women's rights in her work, Amba's practice also speaks to the duality of women; both being capable of immense strength and perseverance, but also being shown in a softer, delicate and precious light that speaks to the feminine divine and sensuality. Amba's signature diamanté backgrounds painted in gold, silver or bright color paints, speaks squarely to the idea of the preciousness of women. She makes a direct reference to women as diamonds to be admired, appreciated and valued, whilst also acknowledging the rough and raw nature of the local women that she grew up around and she respected. Despite them often being overlooked and under appreciated, to her, they had immense potential to shine, guide and to lead, and were simply hidden gems, yet to be unearthed from the rough, much like the artist herself.

## ENIGHE



Already considered a burgeoning master of portraiture art by esteemed collectors and artists alike, Amba's practice has been shaped and inspired by a long tradition of artists like Okoye Chukwuemeka who hails from Anambra state, Nigeria and Susan Lyon who grew up in Oak park. Her works demonstrates an allure and gravitas that is reminiscent of Lynette Yiadom Boakye and attention to detail akin to Hamonia Rosale, her works also displays a minuscule of impressionistic realism which she picked from her teacher Okoye Chukwuemeka. In spite of the masterly artistic references, Amba's practice and style is uniquely her own, and shows considerable promise of the master artist she is striving to become.



## GREAT EXPECTATIONS

PAINTING OIL ON CANVAS SIZE: 53X33 INCHES



## AWAITING FOR YOU

PAINTING OIL ON CANVAS 60 X 36

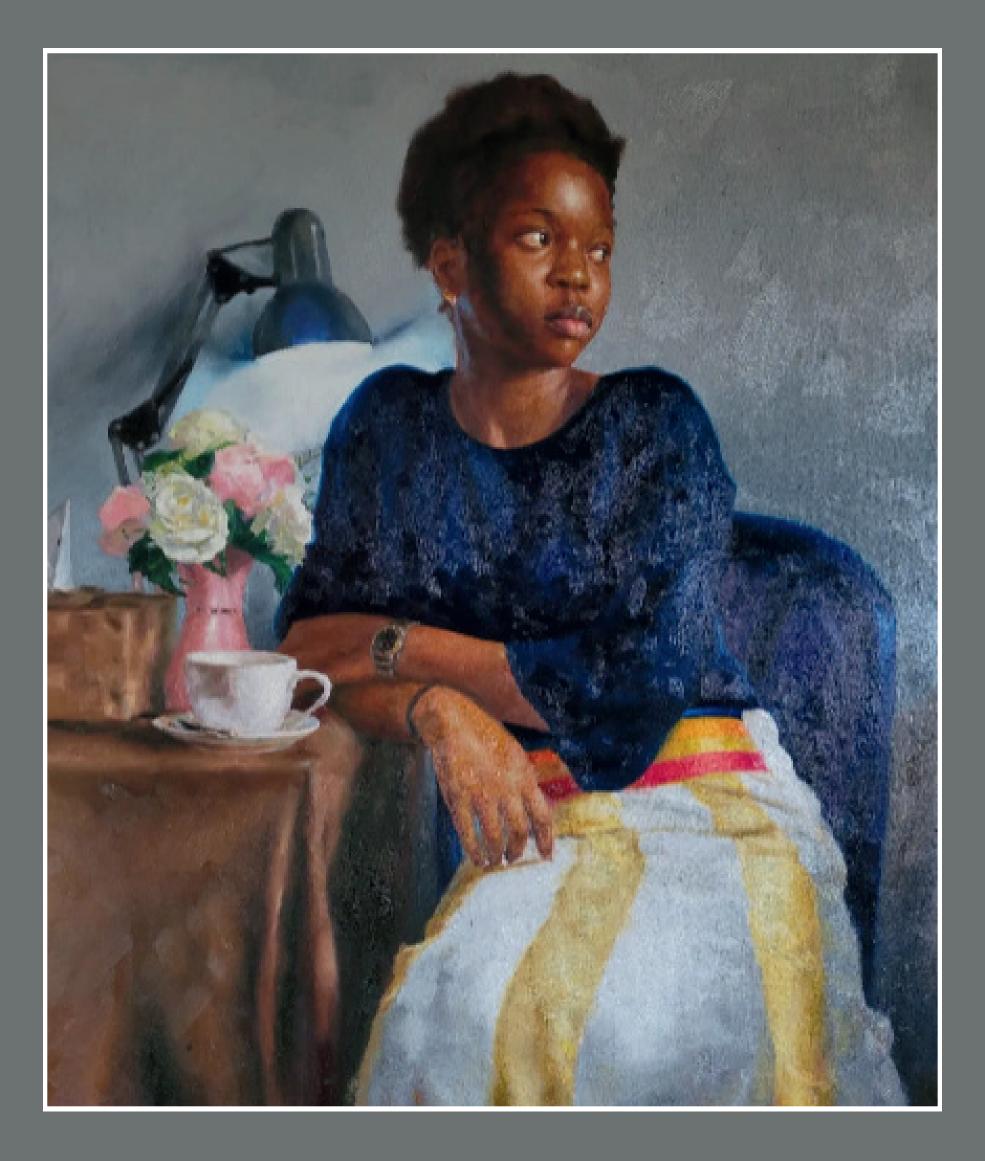


## RAJI M. BABATUNDE 1986 -

Biography Raji Mohammed Babatunde (b.1986, Layos) is ar impressionist artist known for creating figurarise portrairs rendered in warm hues and broom skin tones. His paintings capture mundane lije experiences, and dras on the innocence of children. — their instiners of love and justice. He holds a NCE from Adeniran Oqunsanya College of Education, Ijanikin (2008) and a Bachelor in Art Education from the Unidersity of Nigeria in Nsukka (2015). He undertook his Industrial Training (IT) programme at the Universal Srudios of Art, Igonmu. Lagos. Nigeria, training under renowned artists such as Abiodun Olaku, Ejoh Wallace and Joshua Ninesironye in 2008. He further went on to train under the renowned Nigerian artist Chenezer Akinola in 2009 where he mastered his figurative painting skills.

He is the Coordinator of Spacezo prudios in lagos. Nigeria. Babatunde paints in different media such as oil, acrylic, charcoal. pastel. pen, and graphite. In 2019. his painting titled "Reflection" was selected among the 260 best works in the British Portrait Competition and a 2024 ABSA L'Arelier Art competition finalist in South Africa. His works are in notable collections worldwide. and he has participated in several group exhibitions and six solo exhibitions.

Artist Statement "My works are hinged on an innate desire and creativity which over the years and through thorough schooling have by itself evolved to be more expressive and informative. I have also given myself to studying the circumstances prevalent in our society. using various mediums. styles and presentations to depier them."



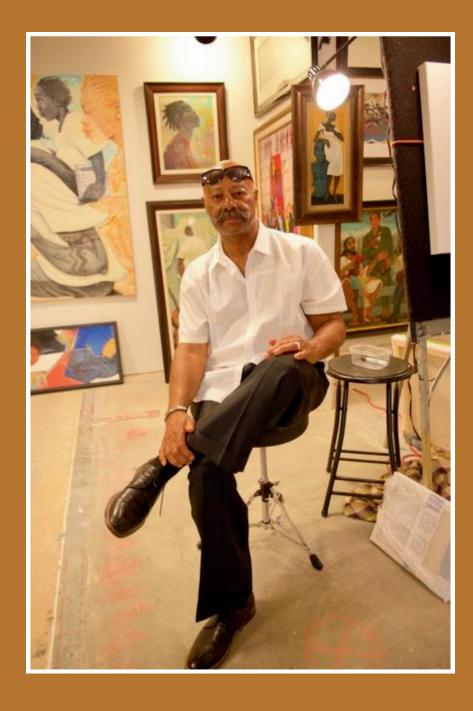
HOME ALONE

PAINTING OIL ON CANVAS 36X48



ELEGANCE

PAINTING OIL ON CANVAS 48X48



### RODERICK VINES 1949 -

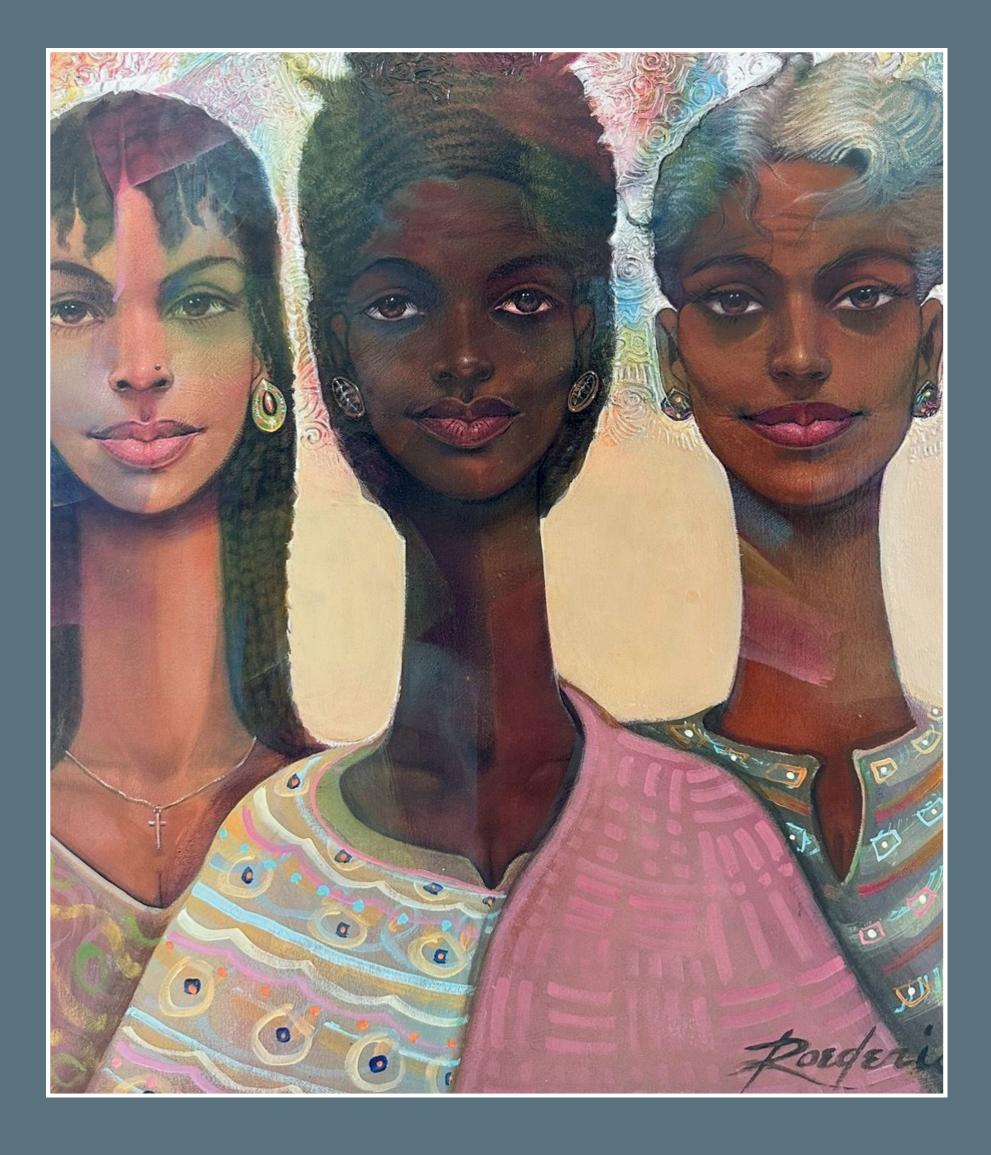
Born in 1949 in Toledo, Ohio, Roederick's talents surfaced early. He began painting at the tender age of four, then attended the Toledo Art Museum as a guest student at the age of nine. He studied Fine Arts and Illustration at the Columbus College of Art and Design in Columbus, Ohio, where he honed his technical skills. He currently lives in Stone Mountain, Georgia with his wife, Sharron.

Roederick describes his artistic energy as "beyond inspiration". He acknowledges that God anointed him with a unique talent—to be full of His spirit, ideas, and creativity. So strong is this inspiration that he stays on automatic drive, enabling him to effortlessly deliver that Spirit onto canvas. Roederick never experiences "artist block", nor does he lack for ideas. Rather, he searches daily for more time to download that kaleidoscope of images and ideas stored in his mind. He states that ideas bombard him daily, that they are all around him, to the point of information overload. He feels it is his duty to sort through this vast stored knowledge and interpret its form, color, rhythm, and flow onto canvas. Diversity of expression is apparent when viewing a body of Roederick's work. His images are always in motion, as if striving towards the higher calling of God. The images are predominantly elongated, lyrical and rhythmic; spiritual and thought provoking; whimsical with serious undertones; dramatic and colorful. His work displays balance and harmony, but above all, like a motion picture, his paintings tell stories.

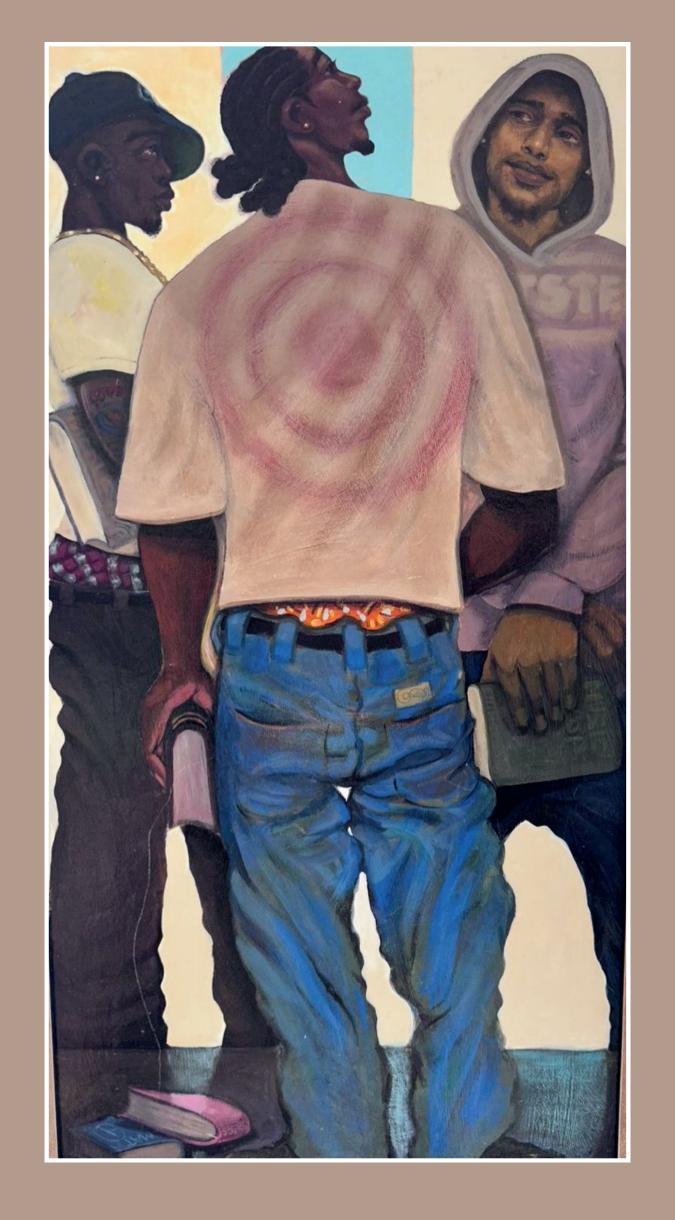
Roederick treats the human form with integrity and dignity, such that viewers may feel that his created forms speak personally to them. His abstracts challenge the eye of the most astute lover of the human form. He does not wait for inspiration to hit and then start painting. It is a gift God bestowed on him and it is an effusive process. He has the gift to visualize first, then paint what he sees, not from pictures but from what comes from within his mind, heart, and soul.

Roederick believes it is difficult for an artist to put a price on their own art because it is incalculable. His self-education and the time dedicated to perfecting his artistry over thirty-five-plus years are priceless. In creating, he experiences gratitude and responsibility for his creative gifts, which are both joyfully demanding and humbling.

Roederick's divine purpose in life is God's expression through him; to impart life messages of stability and hope through visual images to teach, reach and change lives.



GENERATIONAL



TARGET PEACE WARRIOR



## RONALD JACKSON 1970-

Ronald grew up a kid in the rural South of the Arkansas Delta. He is the youngest of eleven kids born to a farmer and a community organizer (before such term existed). His Mother and Father left a legacy of challenging and reshaping the norms of the racial status quo in his surrounding home communities. He came from a lineage black landowners farming in the South. In the mid sixties, his parents led communities in the organization of multiple boycotts against the establishment of local racial injustices. Despite suffering continual threats, harassments, and organized retaliations, efforts eventually led to a US Court of Appeals decision, ruling in the favor of forcing the area school districts into full desegregation.

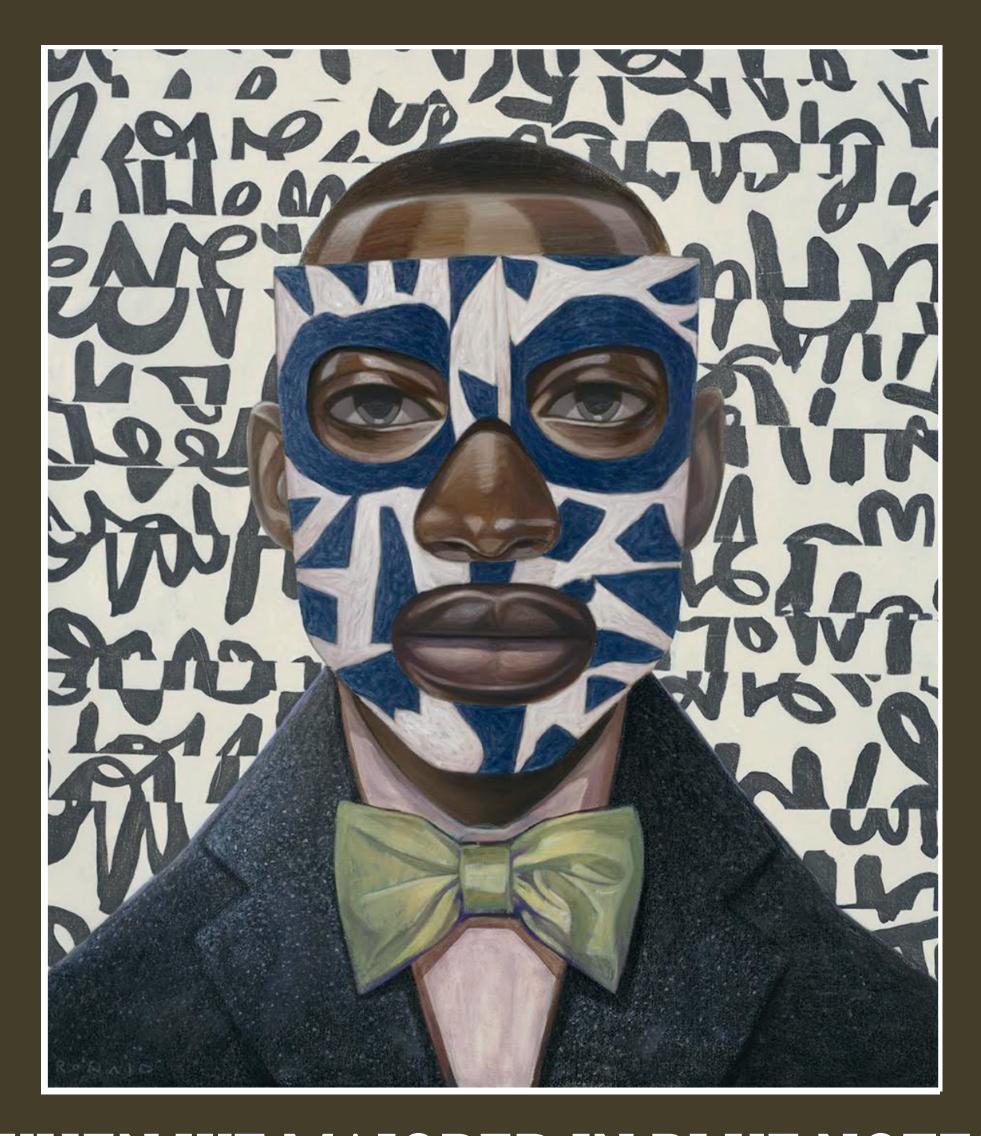
Jackson studied Architecture at Saddleback College in Mission Viejo CA before joining the US Army. He served 21 plus years in the Army retiring in 2014. Midway his military career, he began a pursuit of becoming a professional fine artist. With no access to art school, he engaged himself on a journey of self disciplines and personal discovery to realize this goal as a self-taught artist. The military afforded him the experience of living in places such as South Korea, Belgium, Italy, Germany, Iraq, and Kuwait; He believes that the culture of his childhood upbringing and his adult experiences; being immersed into other societies has given him a broad perspective on life and the complex challenges we all face.

He states, "I see life as a continual experience of discovery. Contrasting things that are apparent or taught with personal discoveries creates a perspective that is unique to every individual. Being mainly a figurative artist, I seek to capture intimate settings to use as a gateway to ponder the complexities of the human experience, as well as the society that influences them. A comprehensive catalog of unique experiences is veiled behind every silent gaze of the human expression. My goal is to create work that is visually poetic; aiming to create an interactive experience in which the viewer is compelled to ponder possibilities that are likely reflections of their own experiences. I hope that my work can become a catalyst to trigger self-discovery of value, beauty, and significance among people who in some way may feel marginalized. Additionally, I desire to invite viewers to discover and value the humanity of people of various backgrounds and beliefs - exercising this practice in the observation and study of figurative art."



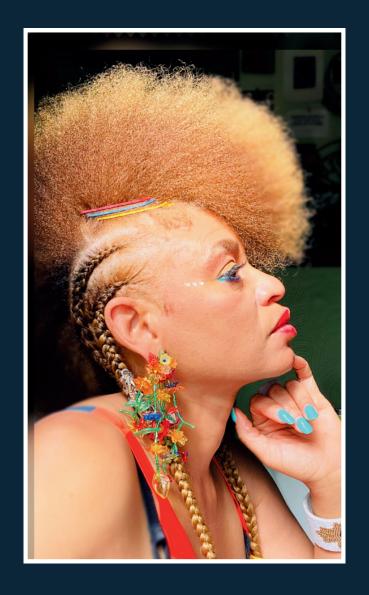
DAUGHTER OF AMBER HILL

OIL ON CANVAS 52X46 INCHES



## WHEN WE MAJORED IN BLUE NOTES

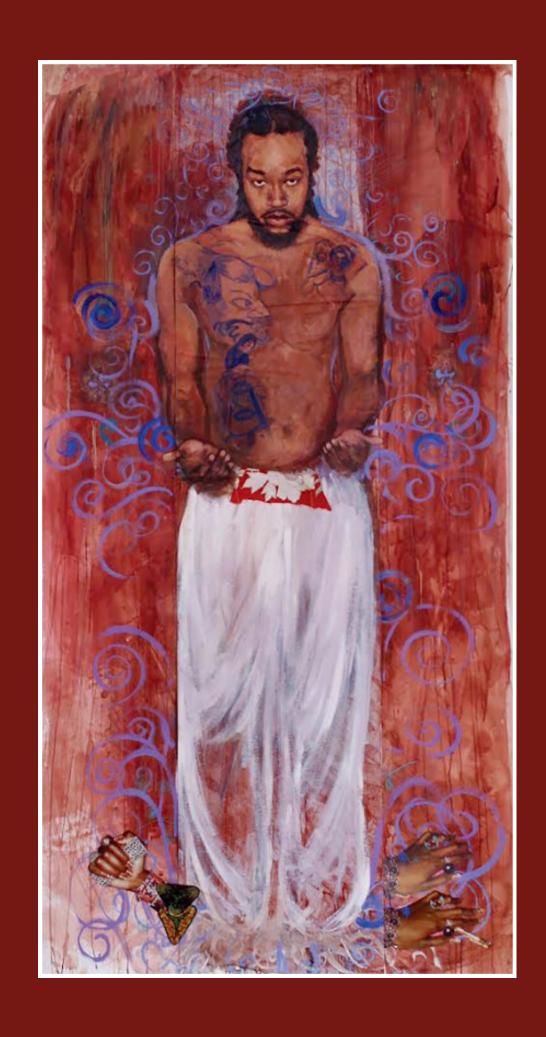
OIL ON CANVAS 52X46 INCHES



## SABRINA NELSON 1967 -

Sabrina Nelson was born in Detroit in the wake of the 1967 Rebellion and holds a degree in painting from the College for Creative Studies. Deeply influenced by Yoruba religion, as well as Eastern and African philosophies, her art weaves together spirit, motion, and intimacy. Beyond painting, her body of work includes sculpture, performance, and installations, showcasing her versatile approach to art. With over 35 years as a professional artist and nearly as long as an educator, Sabrina has taught studio art at the Detroit Institute of Arts and motivated students at the College for Creative Studies. Her work as a guest curator at The Carr Center and the Music Hall Performing Arts Center, along with her lectures on Black Feminism at the Charles H. Wright Museum, highlights her leadership and commitment to cultural dialogue. For more than three decades, she has curated exhibitions, judged art competitions, and conducted artist interviews for MyDetroitCable. Nelson's art has been exhibited widely, including at the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, and in venues across the U.S. and internationally. Her works are part of permanent collections at the Charles H. Wright Museum and various private collections.

She has also participated in notable shows, including Art Basel Miami at Jakmel Gallery and an exhibition at the American University in Paris.



## BOMANI PEACE WARRIOR

MIXED MEDIA 2021

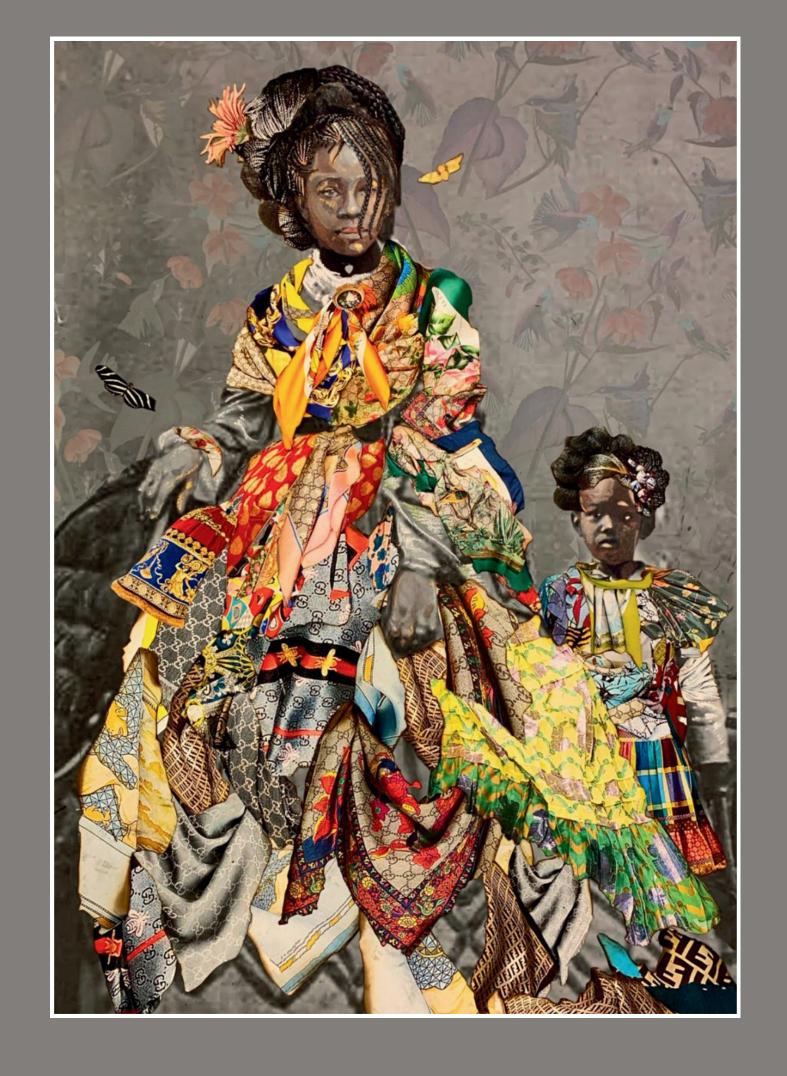


## STANLEY SQUIREWELL 1978 -

Stan Squirewell (b. 1978) is a painter, photographer, installation, and performance artist. Born and raised in Washington, DC in the Barry Farm neighborhood. Squirewell established a serious art practice while working from his Harlem-based studio before moving to Louisville, KY where he currently lives and works. His work examines who curates and controls the narratives that become accepted as history; from what perspective is history written, whose stories are told, and whose are neglected?

Squirewell's own family history provided an impetus for this line of inquiry after, in his 20s, he learned that his ancestry was not what he had been told, but included indigenous roots. Looking back at census and enlistment records, it became apparent how racial, cultural, and ancestral roots become blurred or even erased, sometimes by accident and sometimes on purpose. This inspired Squirewell to ask from whose perspective history is written.

It also inspired him to begin questioning the education system, as he realized that whoever controls the educational narrative controls the cultural consciousness. Says Squirewell, "Marginalized communities are often overlooked and omitted from history in general. The history I was taught did not have my ancestry represented. As a child of the hip hop era, born in the 70s, growing up in the 80s and 90s, I look at my work as almost remixing, crate-digging, but my crates are museums, private collections, and historical narratives. I remix my pieces according to my own way of writing history.



TINA AND CHELSEA

MIXED MEDIA COLLAGE WITH CARVED SHOU SUGI BAN FRAME 36X52 2021



## TIFFANIE ANDERSON 1988-

Not long after her stepfather kicked her out of the house for refusing to get a "real" job, Tiffanie Anderson used to fantasize about the day she'd make it as a professional artist and be able to rub her success in his face.

"I was like, 'I'll show you,'" she tells Shondaland. "I'm going to drive past your house real slow, like, 'Look at me now."

Now that her portraits, many of larger-than-life pop-culture icons, fetch as much as \$20,000 to over \$100,000 and have a buyers' list that includes <u>Steve Harvey</u> and <u>Tina Knowles</u>, it's reasonable to assume she'd be driving by his house every week. "I don't anymore," she says with a chuckle. "I used to."

Though her days of struggle are long behind her, Anderson, known as the Pretty Artist to her more than 100,000 Instagram followers, still keeps memories of those early hard days at the top of her mind. The self-described "normal L.A. girl from the Valley" can boast about having A-listers like Queen Bey's daughter Blue Ivy trying to buy her work at auction, but for Anderson, remembering those tough times keeps her grounded, motivated, and focused. Those are great traits for any working professional, of course, but as one of countless artists in a global marketplace, she can't forget the bottom

Now that Instagram is officially a top destination for art buyers and collectors, where some <u>87 percent of buyers</u> are on the hunt for the next hot thing in ways that rival traditional auction houses in terms of ease and accessibility, Anderson can't afford to forget the lean times or the art of the hustle. For her and artists like her who make a living selling and showcasing their work online, the work itself is just one thread of a tapestry: Making it as a modern artist requires business savvy, marketing know-how, selling a story, and, as Anderson possesses, grit.

"It was very hard for a really long time," she says. "But it pushed me to succeed. I didn't have a choice. There was no other option."

Though she dabbled in drawing as a kid, she has no formal training. After high school, she was an artist of a different sort: a singer. She was part of a Pussycat Dolls spinoff project, <u>Girlicious</u> — a wholly corporate endeavor that was part of that 2000s teen-band-with-a-TV-show wave (theirs was on the CW). She quit after about a year, frustrated with music industry politics and the commonplace chicanery that sucks in so many young women just starting out. She took up painting. Her own portrait of then-President Barack Obama made her take notice of her own gifts.

"I was like, 'Damn, I'm good.' I realized that with art, unlike music, I had a fair chance. I didn't have to involve anyone else; I could make money according to how hard I'm working," she explains.

Still, success didn't come overnight. Sometimes Anderson had to learn the hard way. Once, she delivered a commissioned painting to a customer who was dating a pro football player, a woman who never gave Anderson the \$500 she was owed. Anderson was living out of a room she rented in Compton at the time, desperate to make her career work, but realized she needed to find a style. After some soul (and Google) searching, she found a technique that would make her stand out: embedding crushed glass.

"I was like, 'Okay, how do I do this safely without cutting myself?' I tried using glue, but that expanded and turned white. It took me years to figure out a formula," she says.

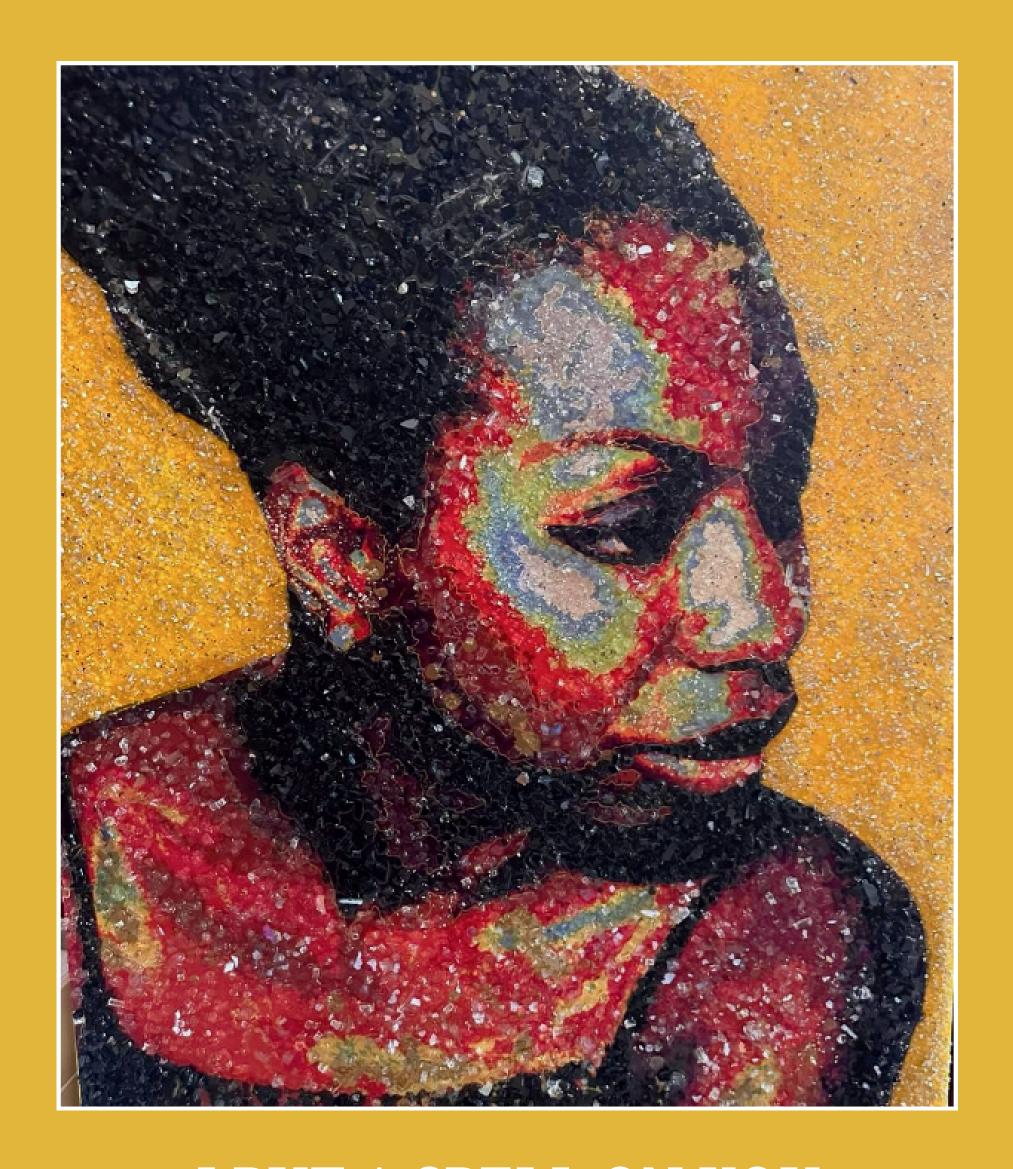
Suffice it to say, she found a method that works — so much so that she's inspired copycats, she says — but the originality and scope of her work speaks for itself. On Instagram, videos capture the magical, glittery quality of her paintings: Her portraits of figures like Jean-Michel Basquiat, Michael Jordan, and Madonna shimmer when the viewer moves (she gets the tempered glass pre-crushed) and manage to look hyper-real, while toying with perception thanks to geometric applications of color and what seems like haphazard drips of paint. But the work is methodical and done completely by Anderson, alone in the garage studio space of her home.

It's long been an open secret in the art world, even going back to legends like Andy Warhol, that many of the most celebrated, high-earning artists employ legions of assistants who translate the artist's vision onto canvas for them, churning out paintings that bear the artist's name only as opposed to their actual sweat. Anderson, by contrast, spends four or five days, 12 hours at a time, actually painting the works customers get — painstaking labor that has her on her knees, hunched over, enduring physical pain over the 60- and 70-pound pieces to bring her visions to life.



# YOUNG MICHAEL JACKSON

ACRYLIC & GLASS ON CANVAS 36X42



I PUT A SPELL ON YOU

MIXED MEDIA 30X40



PART 1: JANUARY 31 - APRIL 11

Part 2: April 25 - June 19

## THE CARR CENTER

# DOUBLE EXHIBITION DOUBLE EXHIBITION ART EXHIBITION



ALEXI TORRES	1-3
ANDENUGA JOHN OPEYEM	4-6
AARON HAZEL	7-9
DEAN MITCHELL	10-12
EDUARDO KINGMAN	13-14
ERNIE BARNES	15-17
EYITAYO ALAGBE	18-20
IJANIA CORTEZ	21-22
JEREMY BIGGERS	23-25
KIM WIGGINS	26-27
MASON ARCHIE	28-30
NEHEMIAH EDWARDS	31-33
REGINALD BAYLOR	34-36
RICHARD LEWIS	37-38

SAMUEL SOWETY	39-41
SHARON SPRUNG	42-43
TIM OKUMURA	44-46
TYREEK MORRISON	47-49
ERIN SMITH	50-52
DANIEL AYOMIDE EMMANUEL	53-55
ROBERT MOORE BMOORE	56-59
ROBERT PETERSON	60-62
DALIA REYES & OLIVER RAGSDALE JR.	63
CARR CENTER	64
ELIJAH M. RASHAED	65
DR. DERRICK LEE FOWARD	66-67
REV. WENDELL ANTHONY	68-69

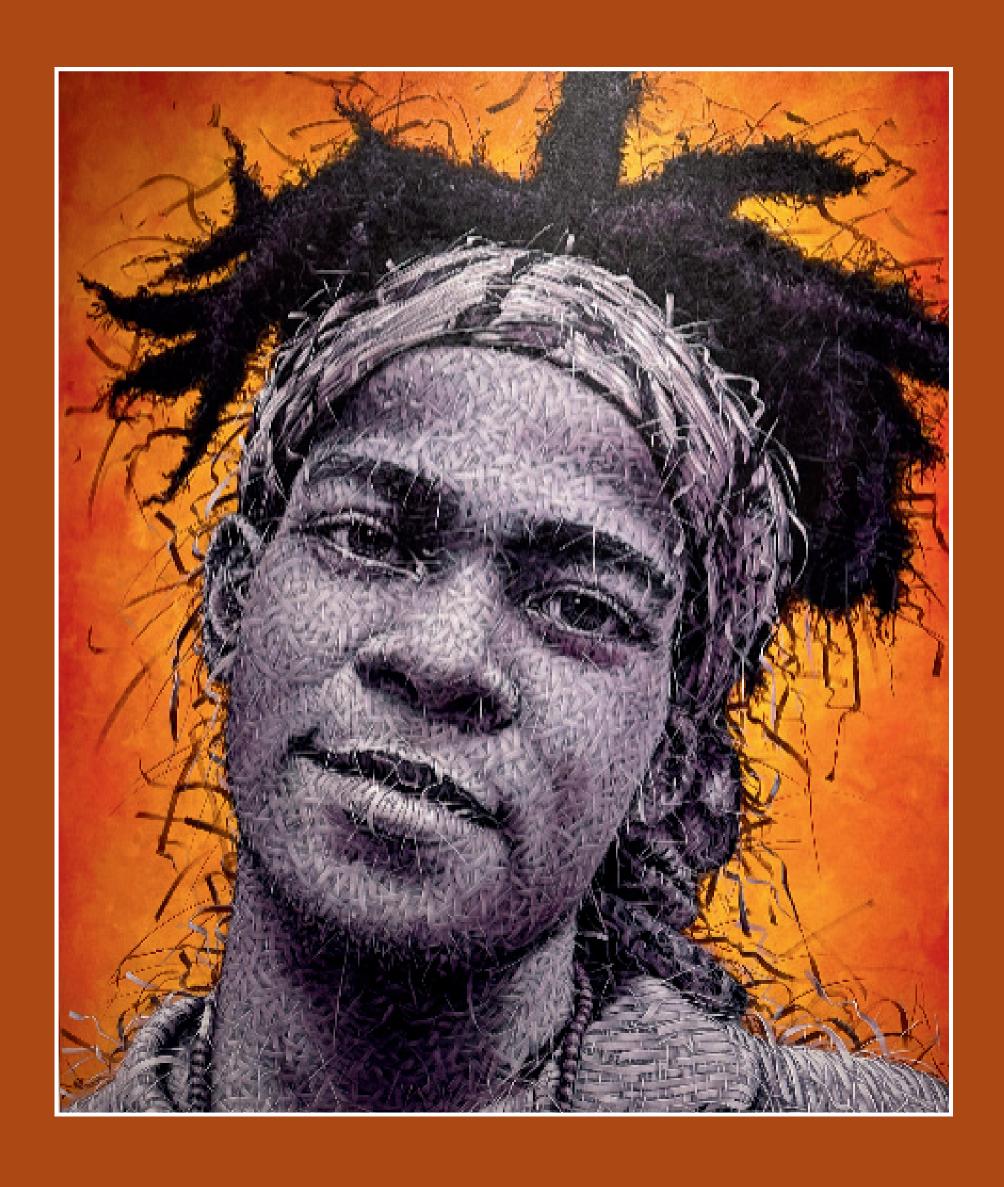


# ALEXI TORRES 1976-

Alexi Torres discusses the relationship between nature and man in a contemporary context emphasizing the interconnectedness of all living things. His works are exceptionally complex, intricately weaving together organic and symbolic elements to create monumental works which challenge the viewer to see beneath the surface into the archetypal qualities of his subjects. He seeks to initiate a dialogue on the effects and power of human thought and behavior on the ever-changing environment, and the need of appreciation of what is.

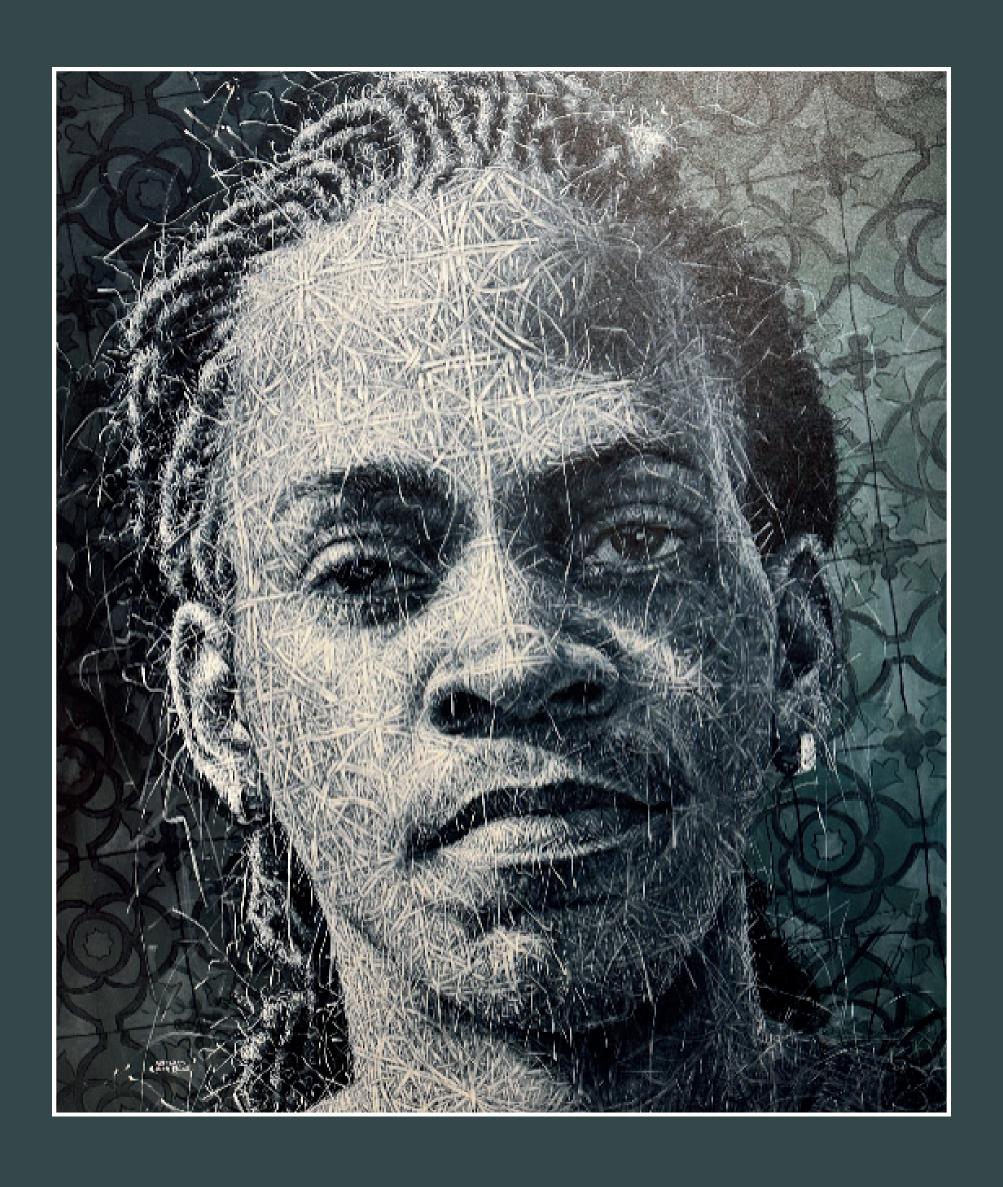
Torres taps into universal collective memory with playful themes and ironic juxtapositions relevant to the contemporary experience. His series range from portraits of ordinary people, cultural, military to a diverse sampling of symbols from popular culture. These images are then reimagined and reconstructed employing a unique multi-layer painting technique. Inspired by the agrarian lifestyle of his friends and family, Torres plants an idea for each new work and harvests it at completion according to the lunar patterns followed by his ancestors in his native Cuba. To record this ritual, each painting is begun and finished on a waning moon and recorded with his signature on the canvas.

Alexi Torres was born in 1976 in Bermeja, a small village about 70 miles southeast of Havana, Cuba. From 1989-1991 he studied at Escuela Provicial de Artes in Mantanzas and 1991-1995 at Escuela Nacional de Artes in Havana. Torres has had numerous solo and group exhibitions in the United States and abroad including: UNIX Gallery, New York, 2013 and 2016; Jones Carter Gallery, Lake City, SC, 2016; Marietta Cobb Museum Of Art, Marietta, GA, 2014; DMoMA Lausanne, Switzerland, 2013; Hoover Library, Alabama, 2013; Rush Gallery, New York, 2012; Kai Lin Art, Atlanta, 2012; Scope Miami, 2011-15; Art Miami, 2011-16; LA Art Show; Texas Contemporary; Art South Hampton; Evan Lurie Gallery, 2011; and Naomi Silva Gallery, Atlanta, 2004. Torres's work can be found in major private and public collections, including the private collections of Will Smith, Los Angeles, CA; Delta Airlines, Atlanta GA; Marietta Cobb Museum of Art, Marietta, GA; Hoover Public Library, Hoover, AL; Museum of Art Matanzas, Cuba; David Mills, San Francisco, CA; Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith, Atlanta, GA; Ruth Beardsley, Australia; Laura Rathe, Houston, TX; Bernie Marcus, Boca Raton, FL; Trijicon Inc, VA; Law & Moran, Atlanta GA. He is the recipient of the following awards: 2017 Top prize at Art Fields, SC. 2014 People's Choice Award; Red Clay Survey; Huntsville Museum of Art. 2002 Grand Prize "Mapa Conceptual", Matanzas, Cuba. 2000 Second Place Roberto Diego, Provincial Salon of Visual Arts, Matanzas, Cuba.



# PAINTING BASQUIAT

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS 84X60 INCHES



# PAINTING YANCY

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS 72X60 INCHES



# ANDENUGA JOHN OPEYEM 1992 -

BIOGRAPHY Hope, Nigerian hyper-realism artist born 8th November 1992 and raised in Nigeria, uses his art to tell the stories of his wildest dreams. With great reverence for African narratives,

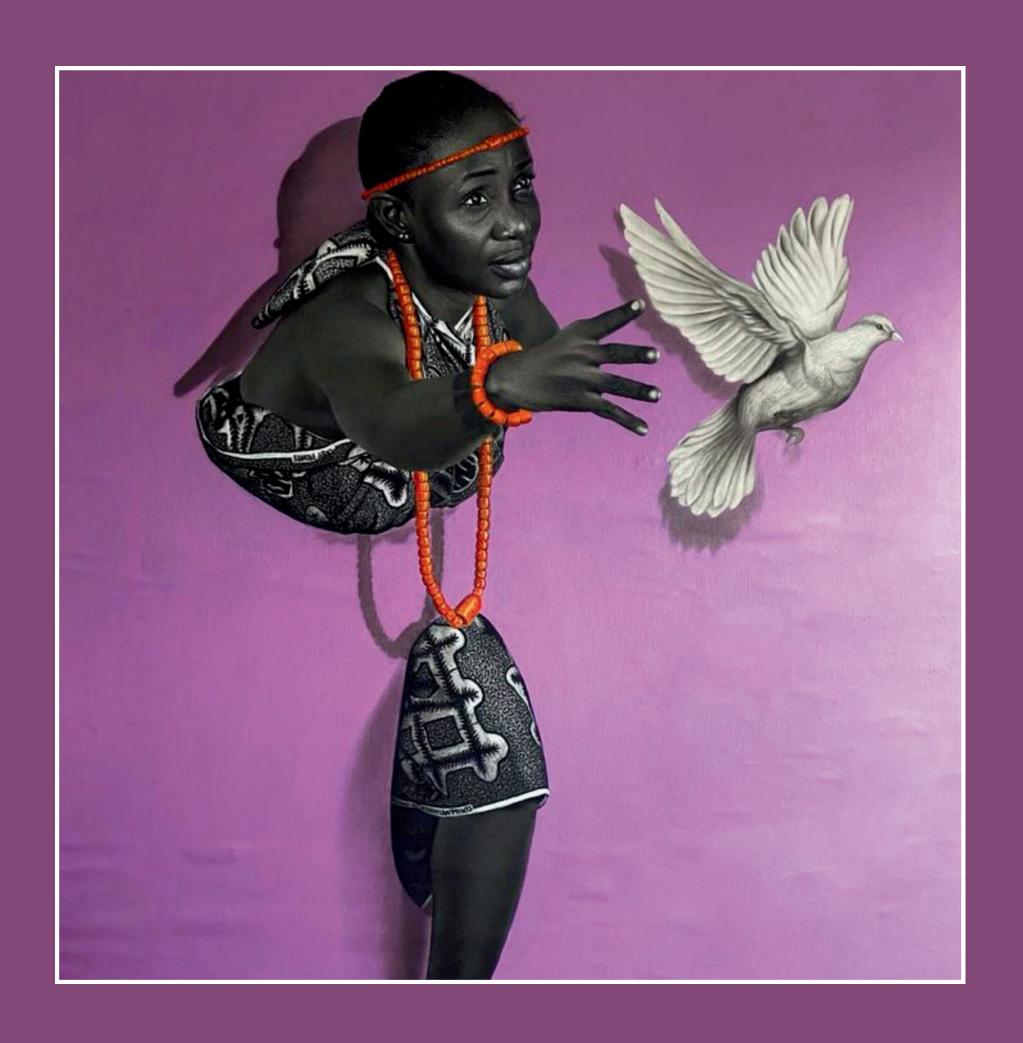
Hopex believes in artwork as a vessel for amplifying the voices of those around him. A self-taught artist, Hopex was encouraged by his peers to follow the path of portrait work. He fell in love with the craft's ability to bring life, exuberance, and color to the people and places that colored his world. As a child, Hopex's greatest companions were pencils and pieces of paper to express his imagination. But, it was not until 2017 that Hope began to develop his skills professionally. After he completed his National Diploma in Purchasing and supply from The Polytechnic of Ibadan into the year 2014, In 2017 Hopex decided to dig deep in art and he proceeded with the pursuit of Fine and applied Art from University of Benin, where he obtained his Bachelor of Art.

Hopex has been able to participate in various art exhibitions shows and competitions within and outside Nigeria, Intergalactic Open 3 - Juried Competition and Group Exhibition. 2021 13th Annual International Drawing Discourse Exhibition. 2021, ViewPoint 54 exhibition 2022, Mimesis Black Liquid Art 2023 to mention but few. Hopex has caught the attention of various new blogs and publications since he began which The Modern met and TRT Afrika are some of them.



LOVE

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS 36 X 48



PEACE

ACRYLIC ON CHARCOAL 36X48

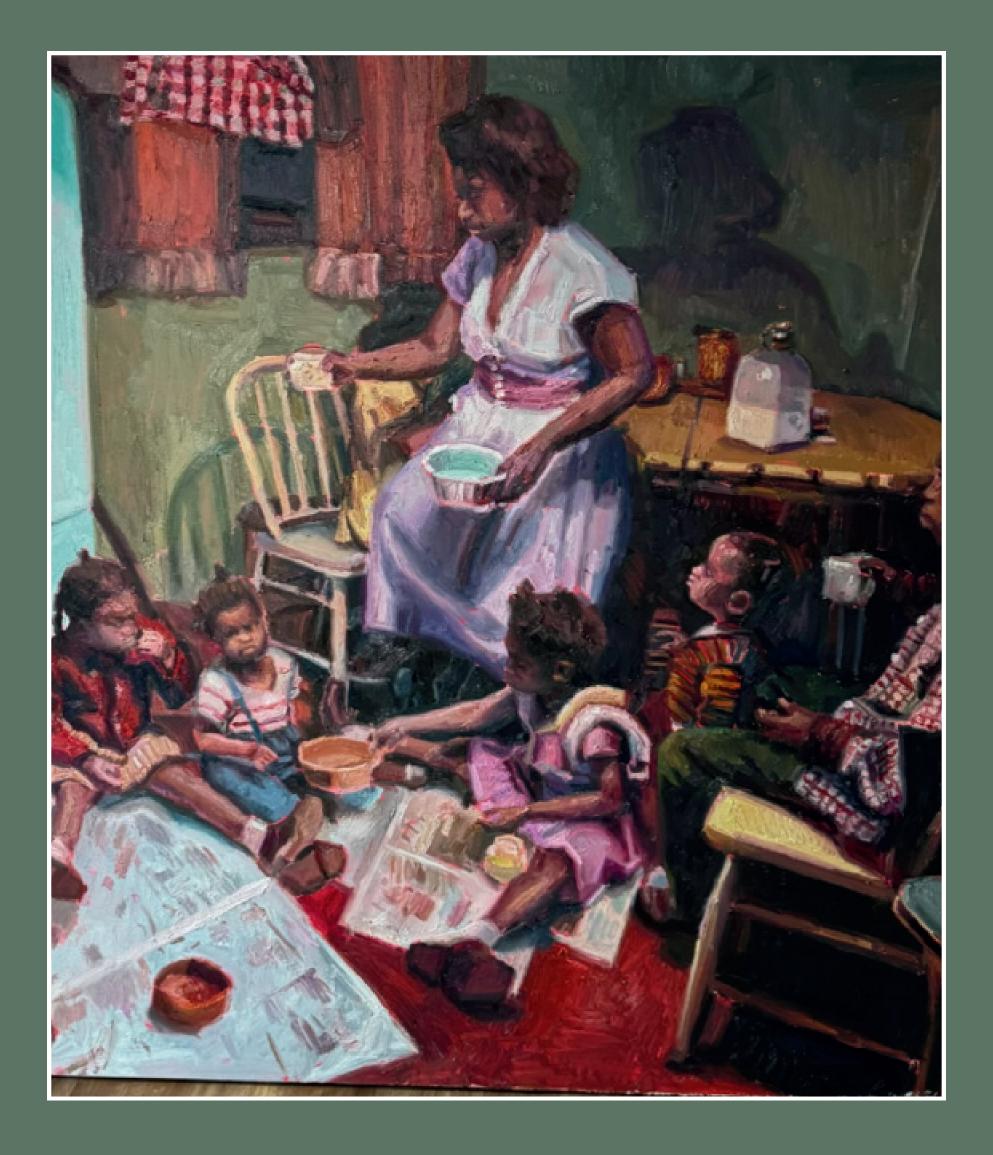


# AARON HAZEL 1988-

Aaron Hazel is a celebrated artist, known for his captivating wildlife depictions and his constant pursuit of new subject matter. He has received national recognition and been showcased in various publications. With a B.F.A. from Whitman College under his belt, Hazel was also part of the basketball team during his time there.

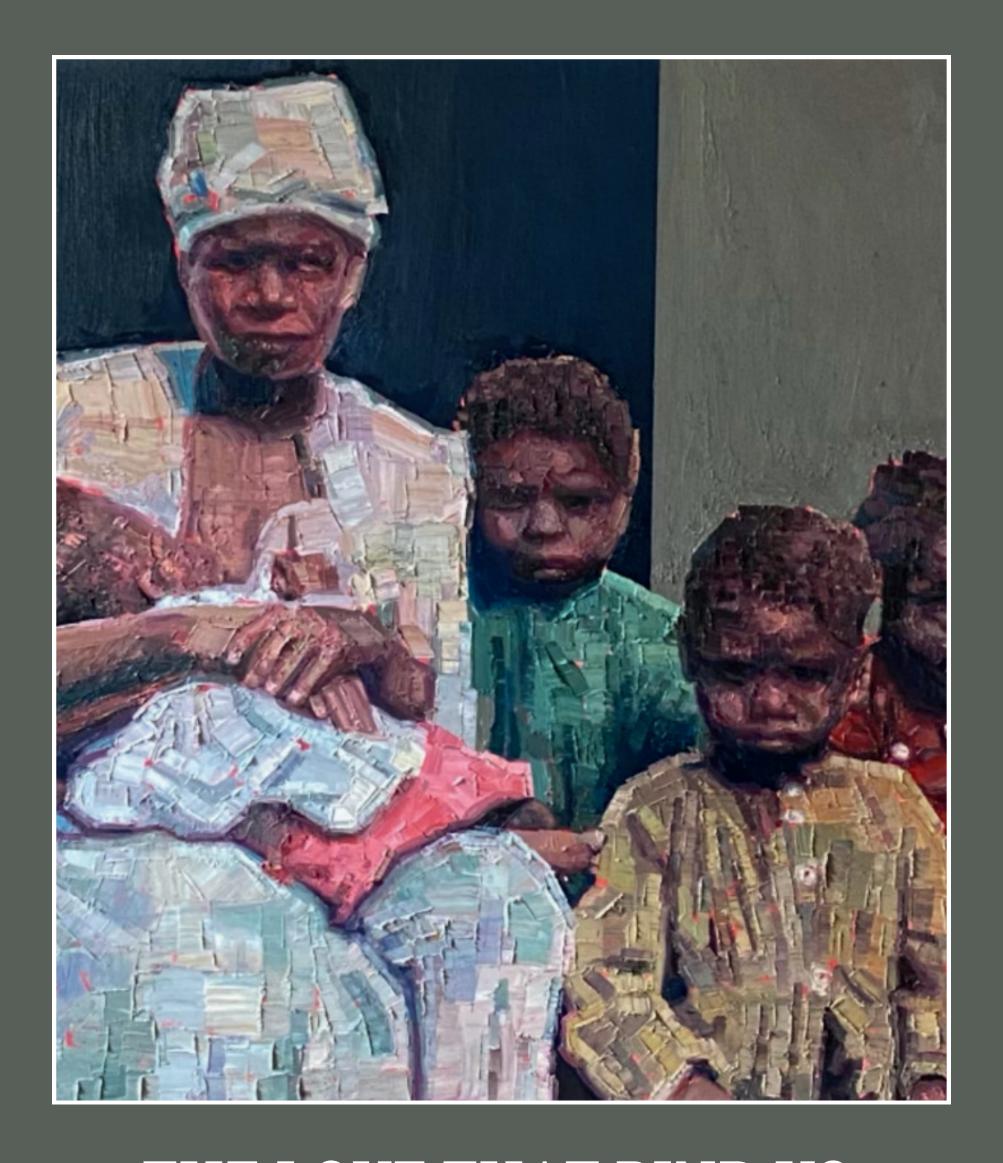
Combining his profound understanding of wildlife and their natural environments with his technical prowess, Hazel creates visually stunning pieces that showcase the beauty of the animal kingdom. His attention to detail and mastery of various mediums have garnered him widespread acclaim, both in publications and national galleries.

As an artist committed to growth and evolution, Hazel has studied under prominent figures such as impressionist Robert Moore, which has allowed him to further refine his technique and style. This continuous learning and exploration ensure that Hazel remains at the forefront of wildlife artistry.



# NEWSPAPER TABLE CLOTH

OIL ON CANVAS 48X48 INCHES



# THE LOVE THAT BIND US

OIL ON CANVAS 48X48 INCHES



# DEAN MITCHELL 1957 -

1980 BFA, Columbus College of Art & Design, Columbus, Ohio 1994 MFA, Columbus College of Art & Design, Columbus, Ohio

Born 1957 in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, he lives in Tampa, Florida. Dean is proficient in watercolors, egg tempera, oils, and pastels. During his four-decade-long career, Dean has become well known for his figurative works, landscapes, and still lifes. At the age of twenty-three, he became the youngest artist ever accepted into the National Watercolor Society; just five years later, he was admitted into the American Watercolor Society. He holds numerous gold medals from these and other prestigious painting associations worldwide. His awards now number in the hundreds, and his work is featured in museums corporate, and private collections throughout the country. The New York Times art critic Michael Kimmelman praised him as a "modern-day Vermeer." Publications: The New York Times; Christian Science Monitor; Southwest Art; Art of the West; American Artist; Western Art Collector; Artists Magazine; Fine Art International; Art News; The Art of Watercolour Magazine; Fine Art Connoisseur Magazine; The Outwin American Portraiture Today, National Portrait Gallery; Financial Times; Forbes; PBS Series "The Living Canvas."



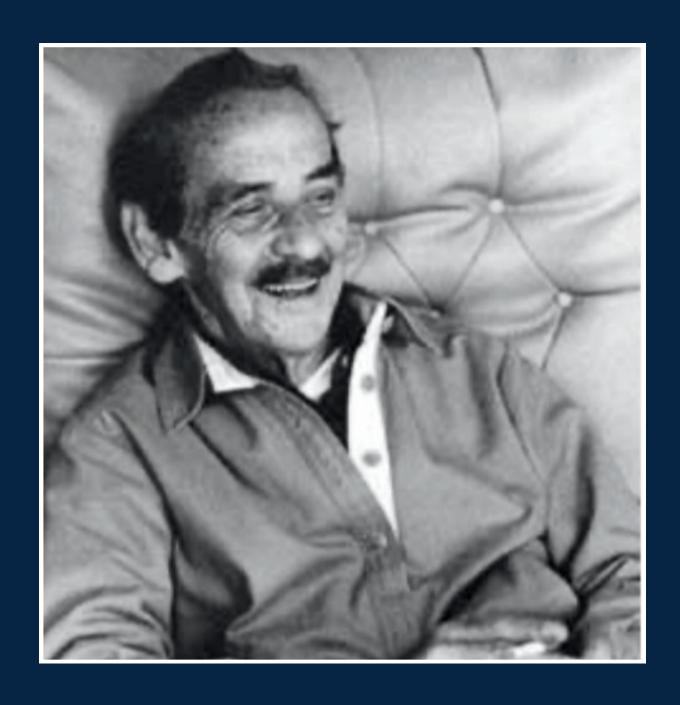
BING

ACRYLIC ON CHARCOAL 30 X40



GYPSY

ACRYLIC ON CHARCOAL 33 X 24



# EDUARDO KINGMAN 1918-1997

People from the United States first became acquainted with Kingman's art in 1939, when he assisted <u>Camilo Egas</u> with the paintings and decorations for the Ecuadorian Pavilion at the <u>New York World's Fair</u>. Eduardo Kingman's Art work is also a part of the permanent collection at the MOMA Art Museum, Brooklyn art museum, the Whitney Museum and the Metropolitan Museum in N.Y.

For a period of twenty years, Eduardo Kingman held the post of principal professor at Quito's Escuela de Bellas Artes (School of Fine Arts) as well as Director of the Museo de Arte Colonial de Quito.[1] In 1940, Kingman founded the Caspicara Gallery in Quito. At this time and later his original prints and paintings were exhibited internationally in such cities as Paris, Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Mexico City, Caracas and Bogotá. Near the end of his career, Kingman was honored with a one-man exhibition of his art at the United Nations, New York City.

The unifying theme of Kingman's <u>paintings</u>, <u>lithographies</u> and <u>woodcuts</u> in expressing the social realities of Ecuador's indigenous peoples. He was known as "the painter of hands."[2]

Kingman was also active as a writer and social activist.

He died in Quito in 1998.[1] Two of his paintings were stolen from the Posada de las Artes Kingman Museum in 2003 but were safely recovered.



PRAYING HANDS

OIL ON CANVAS 30 X 40 INCHES



# **ERNIE BARNES 1938-2009**

### **ART CAREER**

Barnes credits his college instructor Ed Wilson for laying the foundation for his development as an artist. Wilson was a sculptor who instructed Barnes to paint from his own life experiences. "He made me conscious of the fact that the artist who is useful to America is one who studies his own life and records it through the medium of art, manners and customs of his own experiences."

All his life, Barnes was ambivalent about his football experience. In interviews and in personal appearances, Barnes said he hated the violence and the physical torment of the sport. However, his years as an athlete gave him unique, in-depth observations. "(Wilson) told me to pay attention to what my body felt like in movement. Within that elongation, there's a feeling, an attitude and expression. I hate to think had I not played sports what my work would look like."

Barnes sold his first painting Slow Dance at age 21 in 1959 for \$90 to Boston Celtic Sam Jones. It was subsequently lost in a fire at Jones' home.

Numerous artists have been influenced by Barnes' art and unique style, prompting much confusion and copyright infringement. Framing

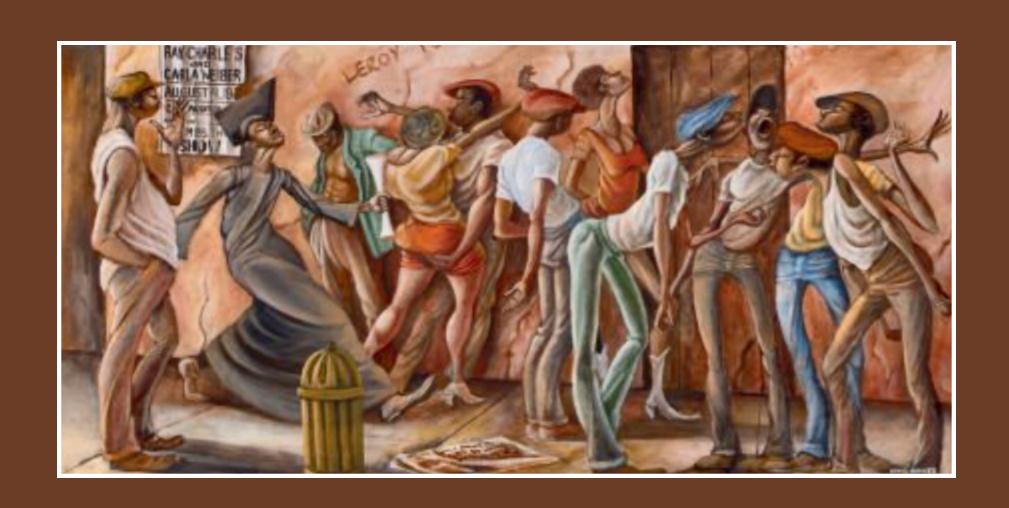
Ernie Barnes framed his paintings with distressed wood in homage to his father. In his 1995 autobiography, artist Ernie Barnes wrote of his father: "... with so little education, he had worked so hard for us. His legacy to me was his effort, and that was plenty. He knew absolutely nothing about art."

Weeks before Ernie Barnes' first solo art exhibition in 1966, he was at the family home in Durham, North Carolina as his father lay in the hospital after suffering a stroke. He noticed the usually well-maintained white picket fence had gone untended since his father's illness. Days later, Ernest E. Barnes, Sr. passed away. "I placed a painting against the fence and stood away and had a look. I was startled at the marriage between the old wood fence and the painting. It was perfect. In tribute, Daddy's fence would hug all my paintings in a prestigious New York gallery. That would have made him smile."

Eyes closed

A consistent and distinct feature in Barnes' work are the closed eyes of his subjects. In a television interview, Barnes said, "It was in 1971 when I conceived the idea of The Beauty of the Ghetto as an exhibition. And I showed it to some people who were Black to get a reaction. And from one (person) it was very negative. And when I began to express my points of view (to this) professional man, he resisted the notion. And as a result of his comments and his attitude I began to see, observe, how blind we are to one another's humanity. Blinded by a lot of things that have, perhaps, initiated feelings in that light. We don't see into the depths of our interconnection. The gifts, the strength and potential within other human beings. We stop at color quite often. So one of the things we have to be aware of is who we are in order to have the capacity to like others. But when you cannot visualize the offerings of another human being you're obviously not looking at the human being with open eyes. We look upon each other and decide immediately: This person is Black, so he must be... This person lives in poverty, so he must be..."

Jewish Community Influence



# THE GRADUATE ABOVE IT ALL

OIL ON CANVAS 24X48 INCHES



# STREET HUDDLE

OIL ON CANVAS 36X42

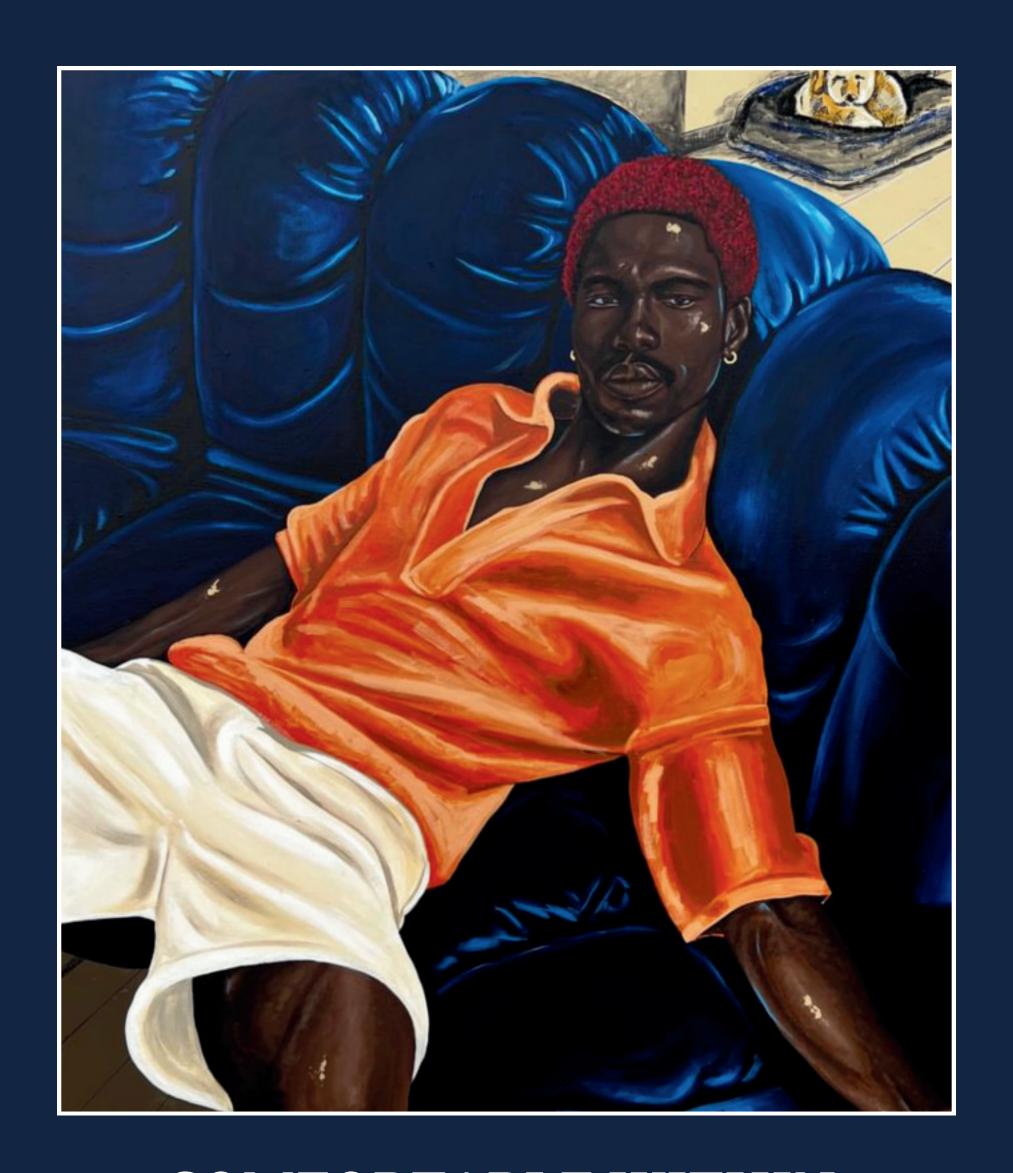


# EYITAYO ALAGBE 1997 -

Inborn and lifelong distinctive artist, Eyitayo Alagbe is an indigene of Ogbomoso, Oyo State, Nigeria and had his childhood days in his native land, Now living and working in Ibadan Nigeria.

Inbuilt-talent, a lifelong practice, modern education and a one-year Student Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES) at Stevcent Art Gallery, Ogbomoso all combined to produce a refined Eyitayo Alagbe, who is a Fine and Applied Arts, Nigeria Certificate in Education (NCE) holder from the revered Emmanuel Alayande College of Education, Oyo, as a painting and graphics specialist in 2019.

Eyitayo, who has been an artist since childhood, has now been practicing as a professional for a handful of years, and the multi-media painter is currently studying for a Degree in Fine and Applied Arts at the esteemed Adeyemi University of Education Ondo (Affiliated to OAU).



# COMFORTABLE WITHIN

MEDIUM: - ACRYLIC, PASTELS AND INK ON CANVAS

SIZE:- 152 X 121 CM

2023



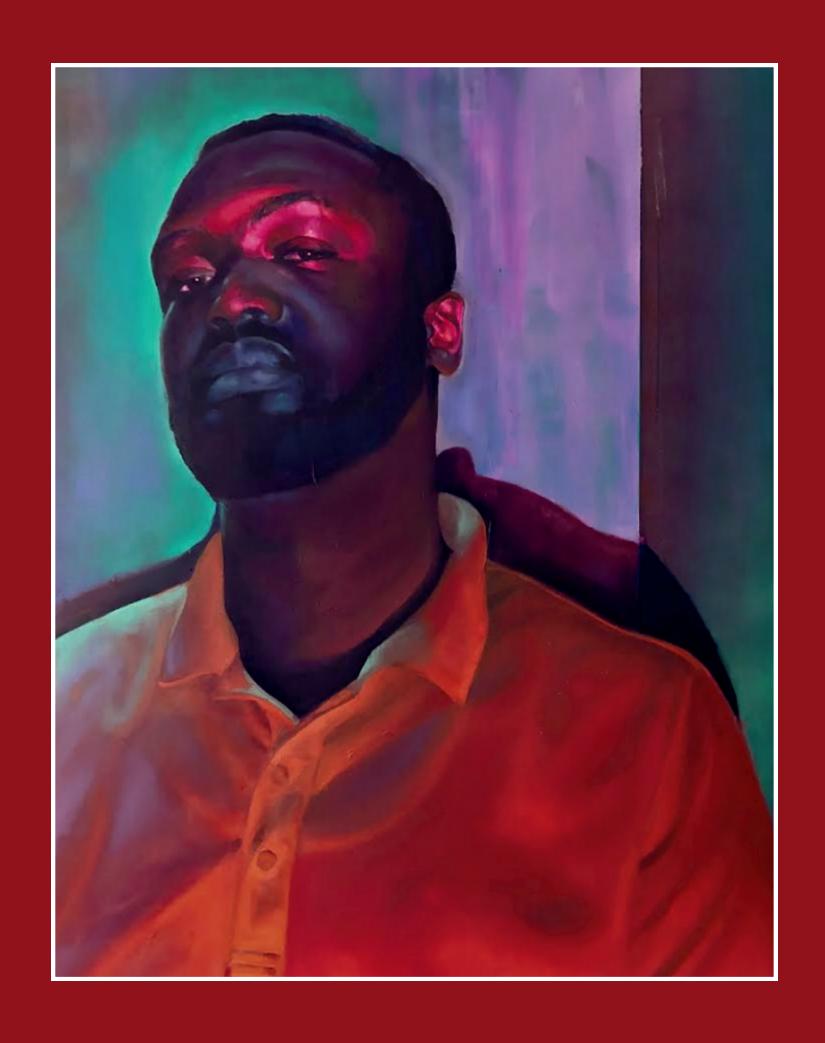
"AFTER A LONG DAY"

MEDIUM: - ACRYLIC, PASTELS AND INK ON CANVAS SIZE:-48/60 INCHES 2023



# IJANIA CORTEZ 1990 -

Ijania Cortez (b. 1990, Detroit, MI) is a fine artist based in Detroit. A self-taught talent, her work primarily centers on painting, with an expanded practice that includes murals and mixed media pieces. Cortez is recognized for her vibrant use of color in portraits that exclusively depict Black men from innercity communities. Inspired by her modest upbringing in 1990s Detroit and deep connection to its residents, her art seeks to foster dialogue between painting and viewer. Cortez's practice features neon colors to highlight the modern era, presenting her subjects as natural and central within contrasting, often unnatural settings—a nod to the constructed conditions of urban life. Her work explores themes of beauty, vulnerability in masculinity, and the resilience to thrive amidst adversity. In July 2017, Cortez debuted her first solo exhibition, A Summer Nativity, showcasing her unique approach to storytelling through visual art.



AIRED REGARDS

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS 48X36



# JEREMY BIGGERS 1981 -

Jeremy Biggers is an award-winning creator who has made a name for himself as a painter, muralist, film-maker. He was born and raised in Dallas, Texas, where he attended Booker T Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. It was during this time that he discovered his passion for painting and developed a love for photography, film-making and graphic design, which he later focused on in college.

Since then, Biggers has become known as "Dallas' hardest working multi-hyphenate" (D Magazine). His work has also been showcased in galleries and exhibitions throughout the country.

Biggers' artistic vision and versatility have led to partnerships with some of the biggest brands in the world, including IBM, Nike, Adidas, Jordan Brand, McDonalds, Meta, Major League Baseball, Paramount Pictures, Dallas Cowboys, Dallas Mavericks, and Fossil.

Whether he's working on a canvas, on a wall, or behind a camera, Jeremy Biggers continues to push the boundaries of what it means to be an artist. His passion for his craft and his dedication to his community have made him one of the most respected and admired creators working today.

### ARTIST STATEMENT

Jeremy Biggers draws inspiration from his personal experiences and the way they shape his perspective of the world. His artwork explores themes of identity, particularly in relation to his experience as a Black man in America. Through his unique visual language, he employs his signature "hyper-red" color to convey a sense of aspiration and a rejection of complacency.

The dots that are a recurring element in Biggers' work represent his mother and the ladybugs that visited him after her passing. These symbols hold a deep personal significance for the artist and add an additional layer of meaning to his pieces.

Through his art, Biggers seeks to establish a connection with the viewer, encouraging sincere conversation and facilitating the discovery of new perspectives. His hope is that his work will resonate with the viewer, inspiring them to explore their own identity and gain a deeper understanding of the world around them. Jeremy Biggers' artwork is a testament to the power of personal experiences and the ability of art to spark meaningful dialogue and promote personal growth.



DEFIANT 020

OIL ON STRETCHED CANVAS 36X36 2024



COMBUSTIBLE 009

OIL ON STRETCHED CANVAS 30X30 2024



# KIM WIGGINS 1959 -

Kim Wiggins is a modernist painter from New Mexico. His distinct style and modern vision have made him one of the most recognizable artists now working in the American West. He is acknowledged as a creative forerunner behind the current New West or Modern West Movement and is a prominent speaker in the art industry encouraging innovation in Western art. He grew up on a ranch and was discovered in 1972 by an art dealer from Scottsdale. He was mentored early on by the iconic artists Alexandre Hogue and Henriette Wyeth. By 1983 he was the youngest member of the Society of American Impressionists (SAI), exhibiting alongside George Carlson, Everett Raymond Kinstler, and Sandy Scott.

Wiggins has won numerous awards and accolades including the 2022 Briscoe Museum Purchase Award, the 2020 Gold Medal for Best Narrative at the Autry Museum, the 2018 Briscoe Museum's Patrons' Choice Award, the 2014 New Mexico Historical Society's Heritage Award, and the Jackie Autry Special Purchase at the 2005 Masters of the American West. Ten paintings documenting the history of California are housed at Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles, often the centerpiece for backstage interviews such as the Grammy Awards. Wiggins was recently honored by the NAACP with an extensive commission documenting various aspects of Black History. These four major works were unveiled on Juneteenth 2023 at the Dayton Art Institute. The artist recently completed a large-scale solo show, The Unexpected West, with Legacy Gallery in Scottsdale, AZ, which sold out on opening night November 9, 2024.



THE SPIRITUALIST

OIL ON CANVAS 40X30 2024



# MASON ARCHIE 1959 -

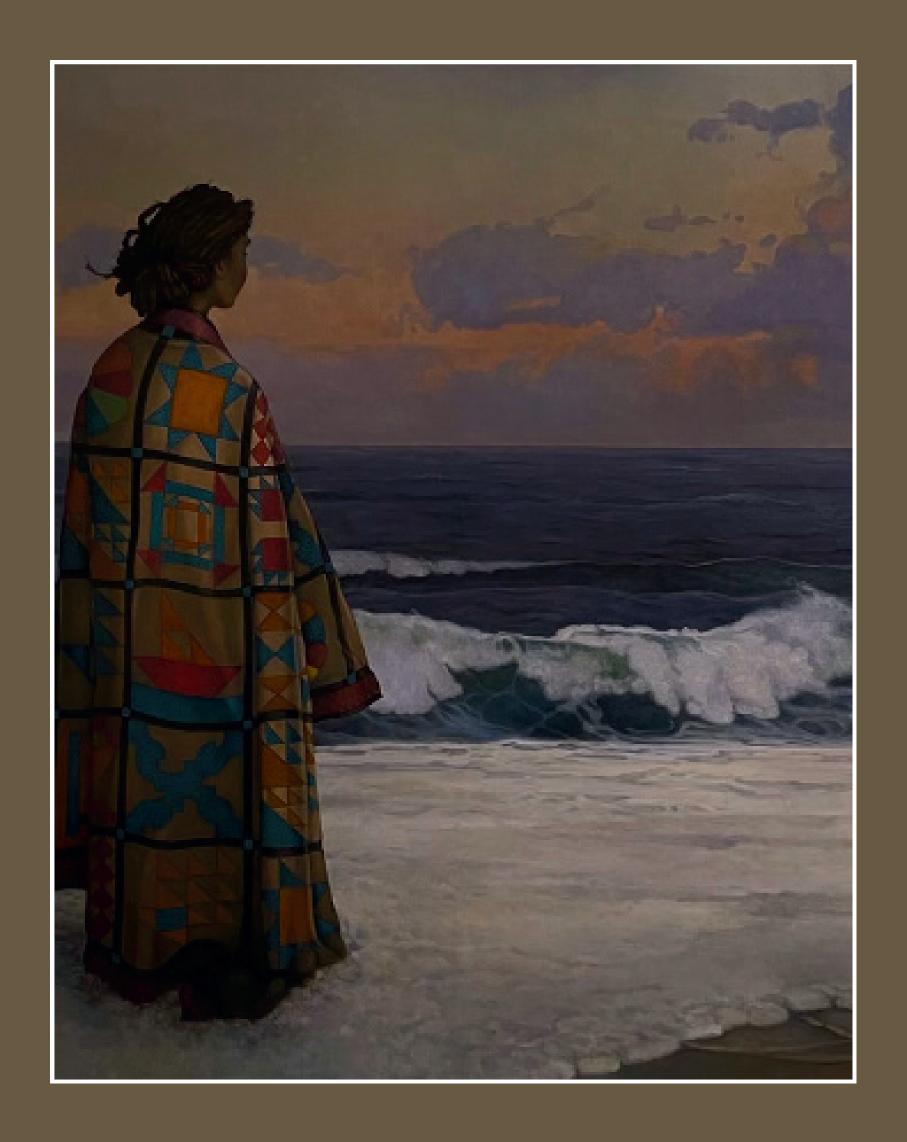
Mason Archie, originally from Dayton, Ohio, now proudly calls Indianapolis, Indiana, his home. His artistic journey unfolded, serving over 15 years as the Art Director and pictorial artist for Lamar Outdoor Advertising where he cultivated his skills as a pictorial artist and later founded Vital Sign, a commercial sign company. Notably, he became a subcontract for Lamar.

In 2005, Mason transitioned to full-time fine artist, quickly gaining recognition for

his mastery of traditional realism. Using quality materials and drawing on techniques learned from studying the old masters, he became a luminary in the art world. He exhibited at esteemed venues such as The Schuster Art Center, The Indianapolis Museum of Art at Newfields, The Indiana State Museum, The Haan Museum, The Charles H. Wright Museum, The David C. Driskell Center, The National African American Museum Cultural Center, The Indianapolis Art Center, The Chicago Museum of Science and Industry, and Herron Galleries.

Among his numerous accolades, Mason was featured in The International Review of African American Art, American Art Collector, American Lifestyle Magazine, Black Art in America, and The American Art Review. Mason is the recipient of the 2007 Creative Renewal Fellowship from The Art Council of Indianapolis/Lilly Endowment and the 2020 DeHaan Artist of Distinction Award. His consistent recognition in prestigious competitions, including a perennial award winner from 2007 – 2009 and 2023 in the Hoosier Salon's Annual Juried Exhibit, Artist of Distinction Award in the Indiana Artist Club Members Exhibit (both are two of the oldest competitions in the country), and his most recent the 2023 Haan Museum "Generations" Invitational Best of Show Award and 2024 Hoosier Art Salon, Clowes Collaborative Best of Show Award.

Mason's works are in corporate and institutional collections, including The Indiana State Museum, The Richmond Art Museum, The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American Art, Nationwide Corporation, Wells Fargo, Lilly Endowment, Elanco (a Division of Eli Lilly), Eskenazi Health, and Community South Hospital. His artwork is also in private collections across the country.



GUIDE ME HOME

OIL ON CANVAS 60X48



# WALK THIS WAY

OIL ON CANVAS 48X24



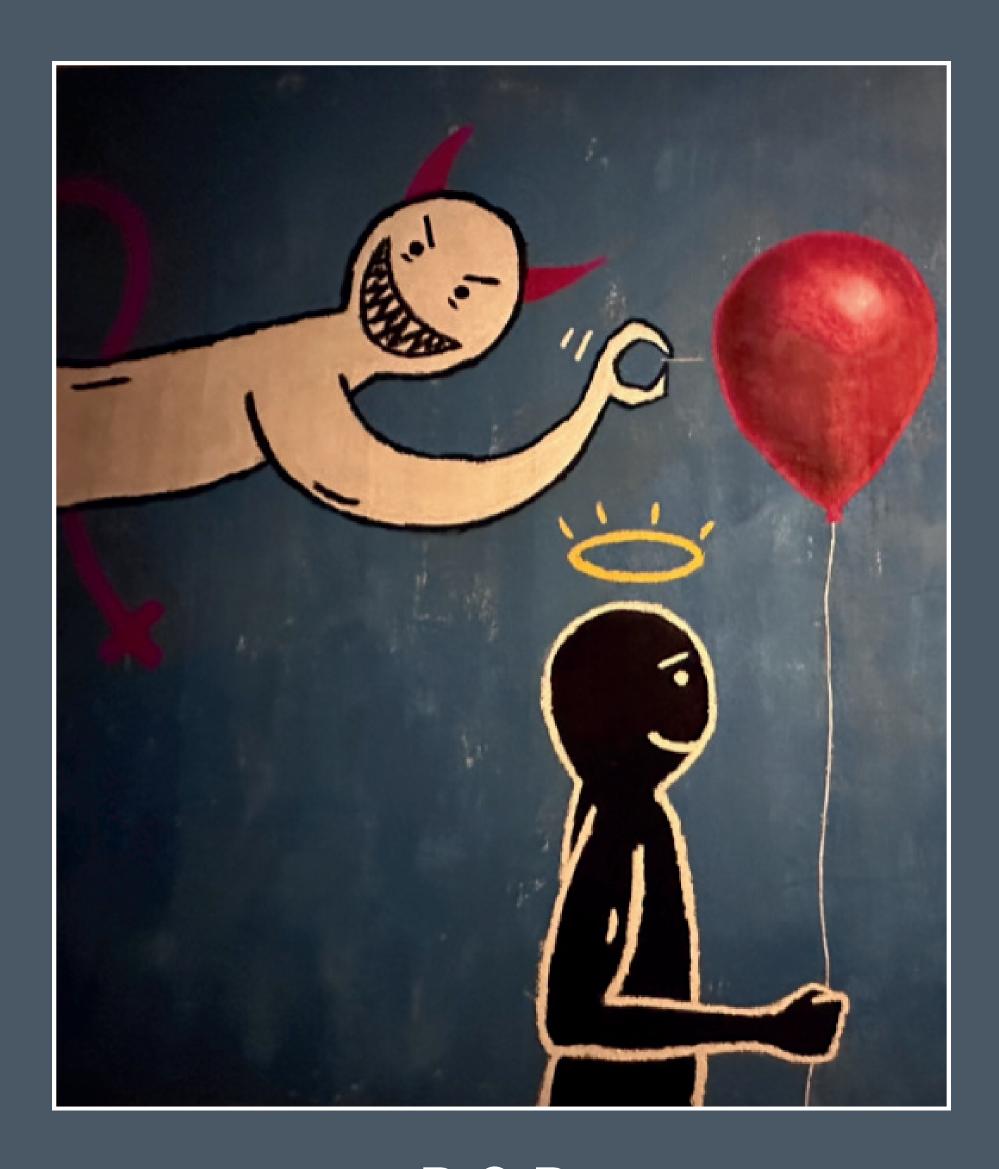
# NEHEMIAH EDWARDS 1990-

Nehemiah R. Edwards, also known by his moniker, Nemo, is a contemporary artist based in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Having studied electrical engineering at the University of Wisconsin - Madison, Nehemiah is self-taught in painting and digital art.

With a unique expressionistic style, Nehemiah's playful iconography of angel and demon characters showcases the complex relationship between our morality and vices. His works are imbued with a sense of whimsy and humor, inviting viewers to reflect on their own inner struggles and the human condition. His ultimate goal is to educate and assist others in knowing what it means to experience true Love and to find inner peace — despite one's circumstances.

Nehemiah's works have been featured in numerous exhibitions, including at Saint Kate - The Arts Hotel and Trout Museum of Art, and has collaborated on projects with major institutions such as the John Michael Kohler Arts Center (JMKAC), Aurora Health Care, and the City of Milwaukee. He was also selected as a grant recipient for the gener8tor x Sherman Phoenix spring 2023 cohort, as well as the inaugural emerging artist program at JMKAC.

Nehemiah has gained a strong following of collectors and admirers, and his dedication to his craft and passion for uplifting others through art make him a rising star in the contemporary art world.



P.O.P

OIL ON CANVAS 58X58 INCHES



WILL CHANGE

OIL ON CANVAS 58X58 INCHES



#### REGINALD BAYLOR 1966-

When he was a youth, Reginald Baylor earned the distinction of being 'the artist in the family,' and lent his talents to help promote the family's produce business by painting signage and other items related to the business.

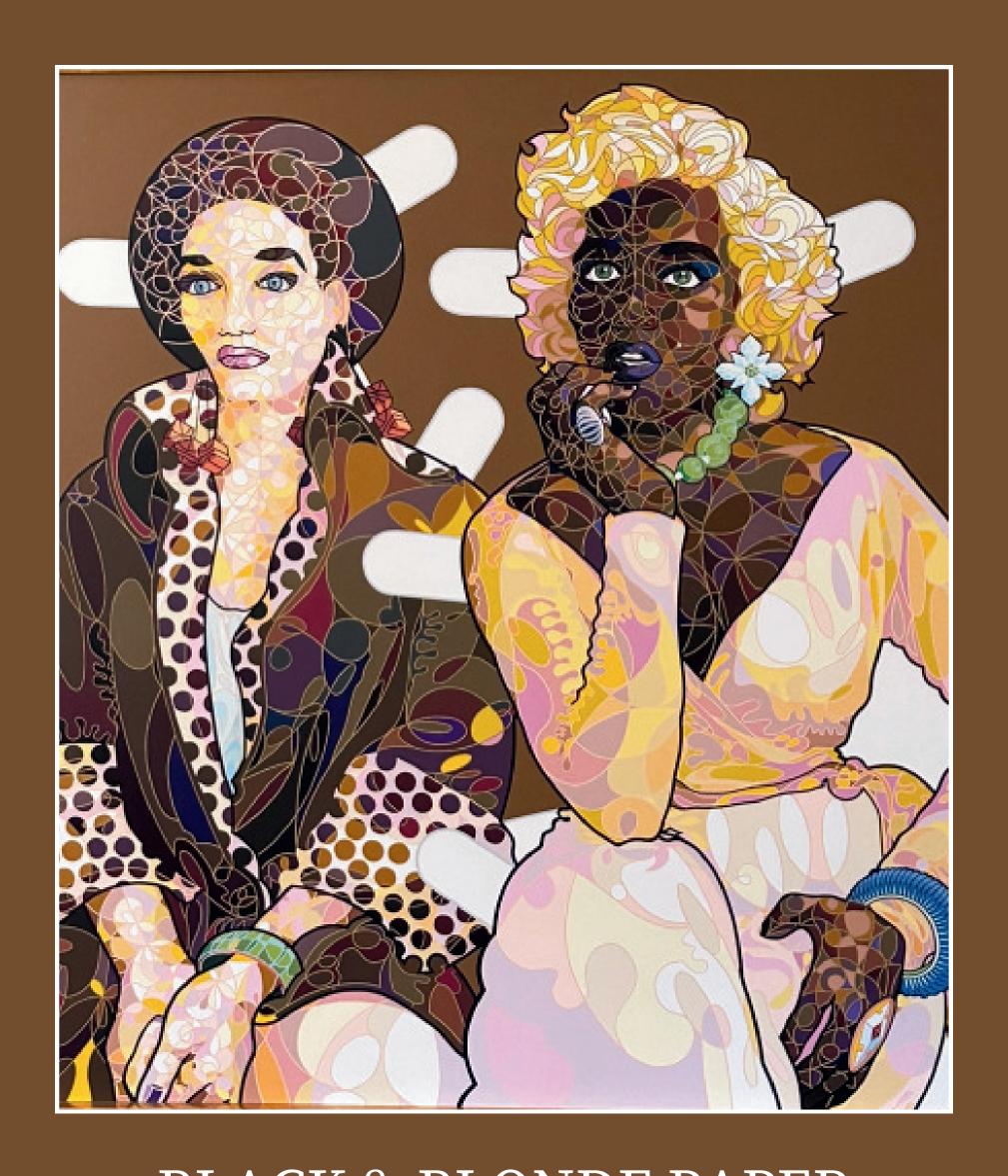
Growing up in Milwaukee on 41st and Hampton, Reginald attended Lutheran parochial schools, where teachers encouraged him in his artwork. He also credits his parents for recognizing and supporting his talent and passion. When Reginald was in seventh grade, his family moved to Mequon, where he attended public schools and graduated from Homestead High School. After graduation he attended UW-Oshkosh, majoring in fine arts, with an emphasis on sculpture. As a backup plan to ensure he would not become a starving artist, Reginald switched his major to art education with the intent of becoming an art teacher. Three credits shy of earning a degree, he left college in 1988. He remained in Oshkosh for a few years before moving to California. There he met his wife, Jill, and worked at the Laguna Beach Art Museum and Newport Art Museum, helping to install exhibits. The experience was critical to his own artistry, and he moved from sculpture to painting in acrylics.

In 1995, he connected with Suzanne Zada, a Beverly Hills, California art dealer, who continues to represent him today. In 1995, Reginald moved his family to Chicago, where he was employed as an owner-operator for Mason Dixon Trucking. "It was my own truck and obviously was a secure job so I could provide for my family. Since I was my own businessman, I could continue working part-time on my art. By the time I quit driving the truck, I had about 20 paintings in my inventory. With Suzanne selling my paintings back in California, I started believing that my art could sustain my family, but since the cost of living was so high in California, I returned to Milwaukee," he said.

After relocating to Milwaukee in 1998, Reginald began his full time career creating and exhibiting his artwork from his studio in Milwaukee's Third Ward. In 2009 he even served as artist-in-residence at the Pfister Hotel. The residency afforded Reginald an opportunity to learn more about the business aspects of being an artist, such as marketing and planning.

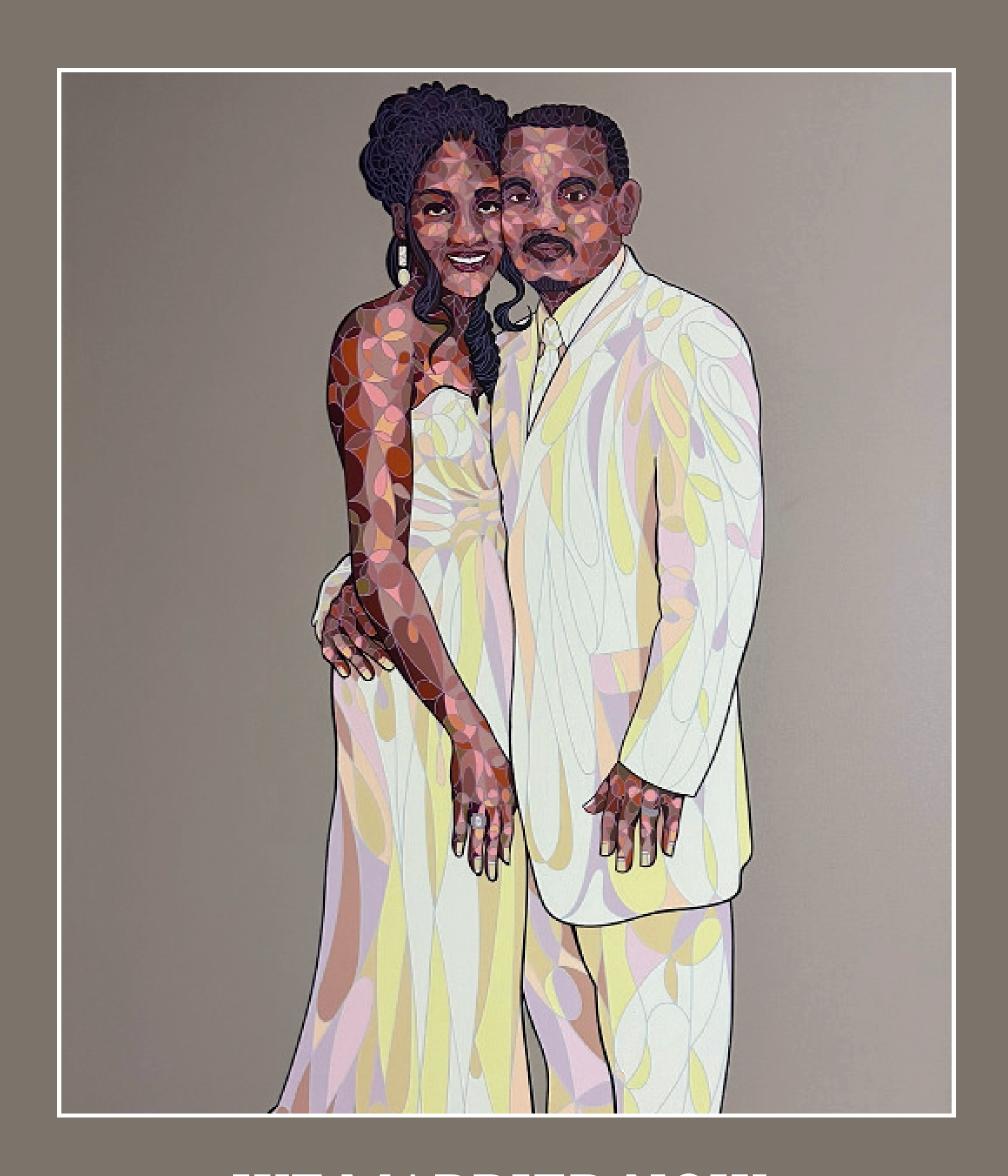
"My mom, Helen Baylor, was always one of my biggest fans. She was also part of the African American Art Alliance (AAAA). She introduced me to Sande Robinson, an avid art collector, member of the board of trustees of the Milwaukee Art Museum (MAM) and president of the AAAA. Sande, in turn, introduced me to Curtis L. Carter, professor of aesthetics at Marquette and chief curator of the Haggerty Museum of Art. That was my biggest break into the Milwaukee art community," he said.

Today, Reginald Baylor Studio is located in Walker's Point. The studio's tagline is "Manufacturing Creativity," which concisely describes the business' mission.



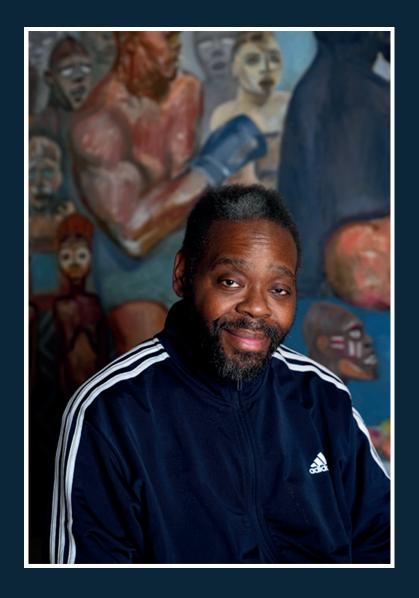
# BLACK & BLONDE PAPER DOLLS

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS 60X56 INCHES



WE MARRIED NOW

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS 72X48 INCHES



#### RICHARD LEWIS 1966 -

Richard Lewis is a Detroit-born artist whose lifelong exploration of portraiture and African American art has significantly shaped his career. Born in 1966, Lewis discovered his passion fordrawing at the age of four. By 10, under the encouragement of his godmother to study and sketch his family, he developed a keen interest in capturing faces. A graduate of Cass Technical High School (Class of 1985), Lewis went on to earn his B.F.A. from the College for Creative Studies and later obtained his Master's degree from the YaleSchool of Art. Returning to Detroit after his studies, he balanced work as a cab driver with teaching African American art history, reinforcing his connection to the local arts community. In 1995, Lewis embarked on a residency at The Studio Museum in Harlem, followed by another residency at the Henry Street Settlement the following year. In 1997, he began working at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. He returned to Detroit in 2002, where he has continued to nurture his artistic practice. In 2011, Lewis was awarded a prestigious Kresge Foundation Fellowship, recognizing his dedication and contribution to the arts. He remains committed to his craft to this day



### NIGHT TIME BARBEQUE

OIL ON CANVAS 2021



#### SAMUEL SOWETY 1997-

Samuel Nii Sowatey Yemoh Born in 1997 Resides in LA, Accra, Ghana

I am a self-taught artist currently based in the town of LA, specializing in contemporary portraiture. Following high school, I embarked on a journey to merge realistic with expressionism employing a unique technique of painting with broomsticks on the body and detail the clothing of my models with brushes. My preferred medium is oils, as they complement my style seamlessly. My inspiration stems from celebrating black culture, infusing elements of fashion and lifestyle into my artistic narrative.

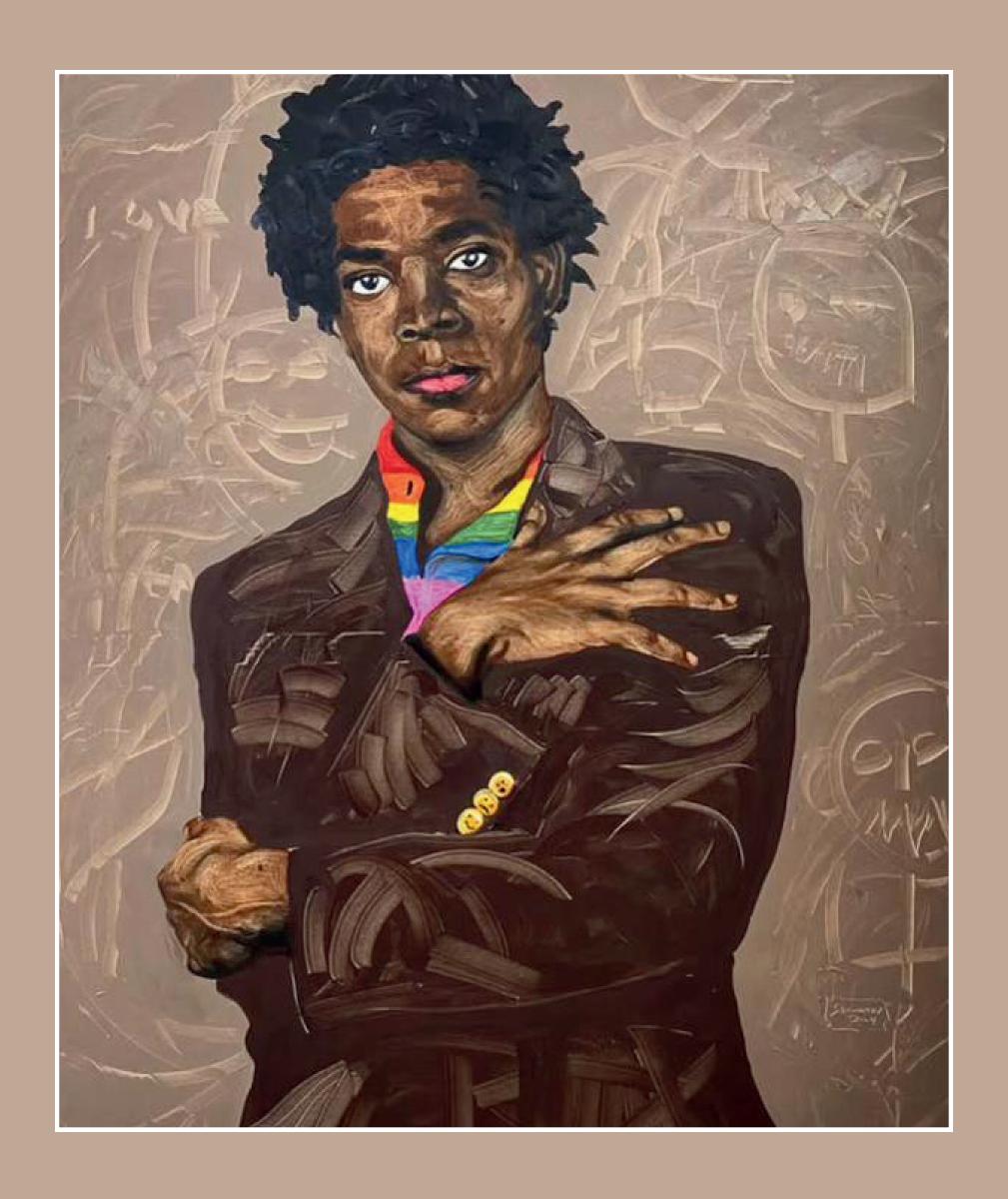
Beyond my artistic endeavors, I possess a robust foundation in art history and theory. My academic pursuits have furnished me with a nuanced comprehension of the historical and cultural underpinnings that influence art. This knowledge empowers me to engage in enriching dialogues and critically evaluate the works of fellow artists, nurturing an environment conducive to creative evolution.

My vision is to meld fashion and



#### RED WINTER

PAINTING OIL ON CANVAS 78 X 73



#### DUALITY

PAINTING OIL ON CANVAS 86 X 61 INCHES



#### SHARON SPRUNG 1953 -

My paintings are a carefully observed negotiation, manipulated layer upon layer in order to create a work of art as equivalent as possible to the complexity of real life. They are an attempt to control the almost uncontrollable substance that is oil paint, and the equally untamable expression of the human condition.

Pushing around puddles of this almost living substance, I am endlessly defining and redefining the craft of oil painting to fabricate an animated, breathing image grounded in the recognizable and familiar. Since I am purposefully involved with the contemporary world, I always seek to merge it with a surface that is at once abstractly patterned and textured, and that combines a meticulous respect for realism with the power of the personal image to speak a universal language. I want the subject and its environment to collide through the use of echo and repetition to form a united composition. We are constantly bombarded visually and I hope to infuse my work with a way of engaging the viewer that is both evocatively silent and powerfully commanding.

The artists I have been most influenced by are quite diverse: Caravaggio, Velazquez, Egon Schiele and Kathe Kollwitz. Their paintings share both a profound respect and reverence for the individual with the power and the wisdom to explore those themes that haunt us: man's strength, resilience and sensuality, together with the possession of an almost shocking clarity in this pursuit. I believe in the transformative powers of painting: that the luminosity of pigment and medium is as manifest as the surface of the soul.



PAINTING EMERGENCE

OIL ON PANEL 36X40 INCHES



#### TIM OKUMURA 1968-

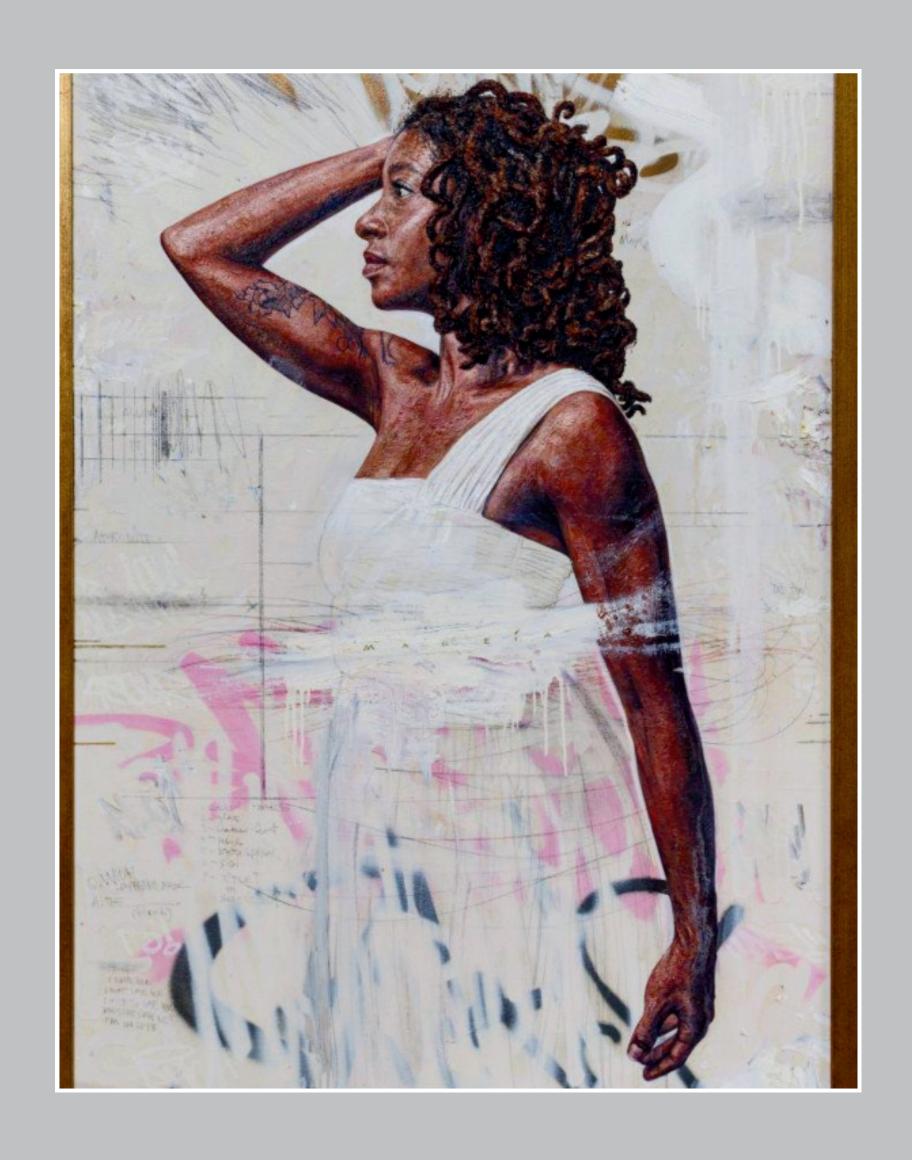
Tim Okamura investigates identity, the urban environment, metaphor and cultural iconography through painting. By combining an essentially "realist" approach to the figure with collage, spray paint and mixed media, he juxtaposes the rawness and urgency of street art with academic ideals to create a visual language that acknowledges a traditional form of story-telling through portraiture, while infusing the work with resonant contemporary motifs.

Born in Edmonton (Canada), Okamura earned a BFA with Distinction at the Alberta College of Art and Design in Calgary before moving to New York City to attend the School of Visual Arts in 1991. After graduating with an MFA in Illustration as Visual Journalism in 1993, Okamura moved to Brooklyn, where he continues to live and work.

A recipient of the 2004 Fellowship in Painting from the New York Foundation for the Arts, Tim Okamura was short-listed by the Royal Surveyor of the Queen's Picture Collection for a commissioned portrait of the Queen of England in 2006 and has been selected nine times to appear in the prestigious BP Portrait Award Exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery in London.

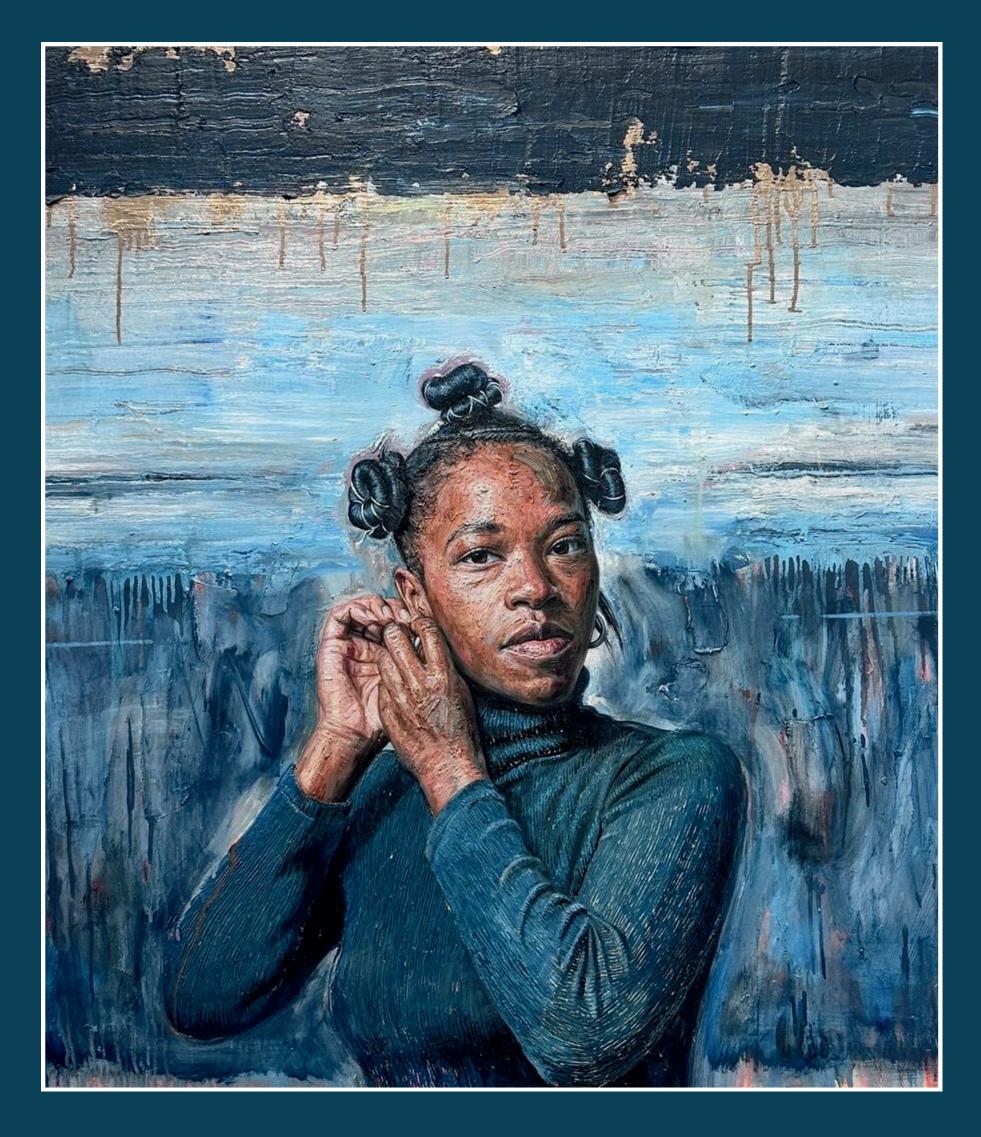
In 2013, the University of North Carolina hosted a retrospective exhibition of his work that focused on nearly a decade of production. Okamura's work was also featured at the Art Director's Club in New York the same year, followed by a solo show at National Arts Club alongside the works of Romare Bearden in 2014. He received an invitation to The White House in 2015 to honor artists whose work addresses issues of social justice and received a letter of commendation from the Vice President of the United States, Joe Biden. His work was included in a traveling exhibition by the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery in 2016 and most recently several of Okamura's works were featured prominently in the "Still I Rise" exhibition at the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art in 2020.

Tim Okamura has exhibited extensively in galleries throughout the world, including the United States, Canada, Italy, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan, Ecuador and Turkey and is part of both private and public collections, such as the permanent collections of the Davis Museum at Wellesley College, the Jiménez Colón Museum, The Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History at the University of North Carolina, The Alberta Foundation for the Arts, the Toronto Congress Center and Standard Chartered Bank in London.



#### APHRODITE

OIL ON CANVAS 68X40



UPON REFLECTION

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS 48X48



#### TYREEK MORRISON 1993 -

Tyreek Morrison (b. 1993) was inspired by his creative parents, Frank and Connie Morrison, and grew up surrounded by art. This environment sparked his curiosity and passion for the visual arts, shaping his identity. Through his work, Tyreek tells stories, often evoking nostalgic memories for viewers. His art continues to evolve, reflecting his journey and the deep connection between personal experience and creative expression



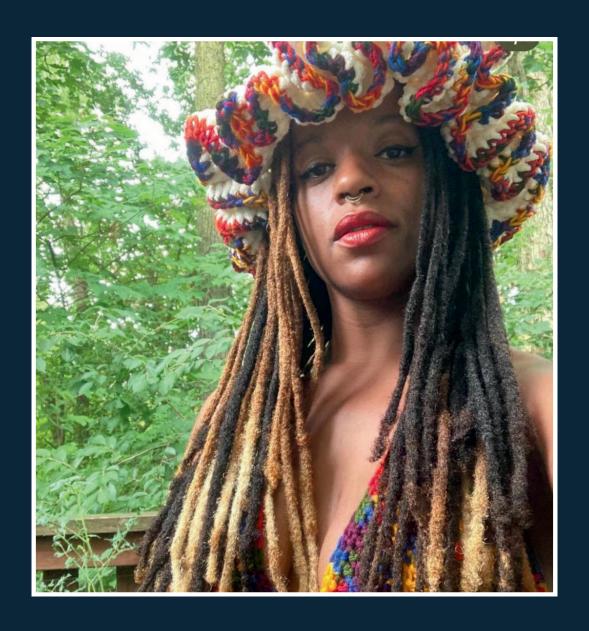
THE KING IS HERE

ACRYLIC & PAPER COLLAGE ON CANVAS 36 X 36



MY WAY

ACRYLIC & PAPER COLLAGE ON CANVAS
36 X 36



#### ERIN SMITH 1985 -

Erin M. Smith Glenn is an associate professor of art as well as an alum of Central State University, which is currently 1 of only 16 HBCUs nationwide with a fully accredited Fine Arts program. One of her recent and most notable accomplishments was being invited by the President of the CSU National Alumni Association to deliver the keynote speech for the 137th annual Charter Day celebration in March 2024. She holds a terminal degree of a Masters in Fine Arts from the University of Cincinnati with a concentration in 2D studio art, working in a variety of media and mixed media. Since 2009, the same year her daughter was born as well as the same year she earned her respective M.F.A., Erin has exhibited works in Ohio, Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, Vermont, Texas, Louisiana, and Illinois, including an internationally renowned exhibit in Norfolk, Virginia, as well as numerous solo exhibitions. In 2022, she was awarded Best in Show for her 4x8 foot painting of her daughterin the "New Woman" art exhibit hosted collaboratively by the Pendleton Arts Center and the Clifton Cultural Arts Center, Cincinnati OH. Upon completion of the new Clifton Cultural Arts Center building in early 2024, a gallery in honor of Elizabeth Nourse, a Cincinnati-native and the first woman to gain international fame through her artwork (1859-1938), will be housed within the new CCAC. The Elizabeth Nourse gallery will be dedicated primarily to women artists, which is profound considering only 11% of art by women is established in galleries and museums nationwide. As the inaugural artist of the new CCAC, the public was formally invited to attend the opening reception on March 9th, 2024. In an effort to increase the representation and visibility of Black women in more spaces that were historically reserved for non-Black women artists, Erin is excited to have had 1 of 89 works of art on display in "Riveting", an exhibition of women artists worldwide from the esteemed collection of Sara V. Waddell that will be exhibited from Juneteenth to September 8th, 2024.



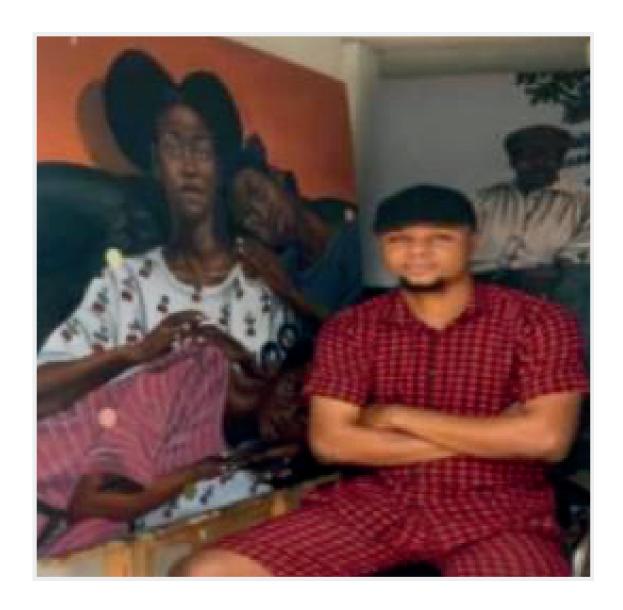
#### SWANGING

OIL ON ACRYLIC ON CANVAS 30X40



#### BUS STOP BLUES

OIL ON ACRYLIC ON CANVAS 30X40



#### DANIEL AYOMIDE EMMANUEL 1999-

Daniel Ayomide Emmanuel (b. 1999, Delta State) lives and works in the Ancient City of Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria.

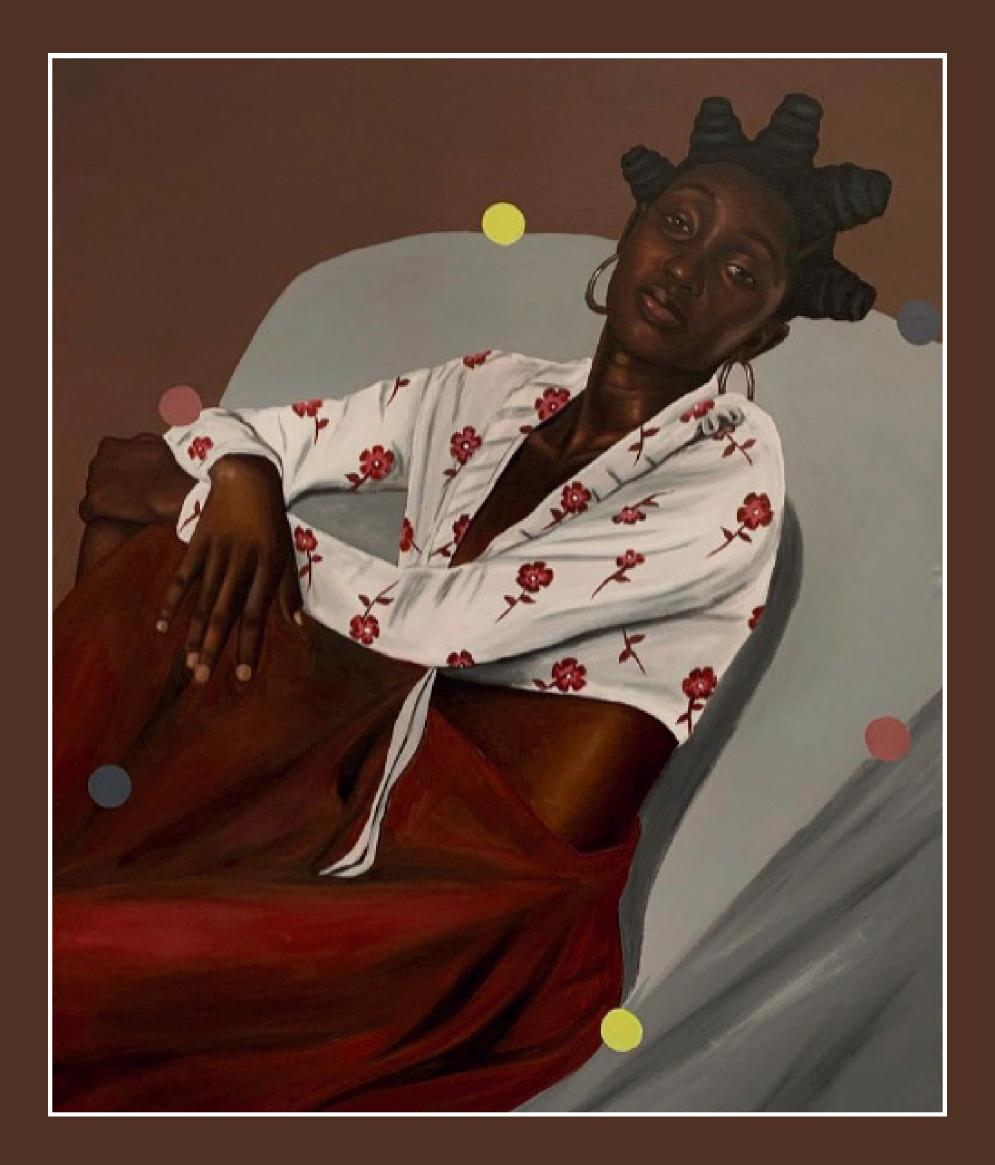
With a lifelong dedication to the arts, he has developed a distinctive and compelling body of work that has garnered attention and recognition both locally and internationally. Inspired by the World's nuances and the intricate dance of emotions, Daniel employs a diverse range of mediums, including oil and Acrylic painting style of art on canvas. His creations are marked by a captivating blend of realism and musical aspect of human life, often delving into the intricate layers of human psyche. Over the years, Daniel has honed his craft through formal education, self-study, and the invaluable experience of participating in various exhibitions and artist collaborations. His work has been celebrated for its ability to elicit a profound emotional response from viewer, inviting them to explore the complexities of the black race existence and the universal theme that bind us all. In addition to this, Daniel is not just a visual experience; it is an invitation to contemplate connects and unique perspective and the depth of his artistic expression continue to captivate audience and inspire fellow artist.

You can explore Daniel portfolio and follow his creative journey on Instagram @danielemmanuel.a\_ Daniel's work are featured in collaborations across Nigeria, USA, Europe and North America. He attends the Polytechnic of Ibadan, where he obtained a National Diploma in Mass Communication and continued his artistic development. He welcomes opportunities for collaboration, exhibitions and artistic endeavors that share his passion for creativity and the exploration of the African human experience



BEAUTIFULLY BLACK

OIL AND ACRYLIC ON CANVAS 36X36



ALONENESS 2

OIL AND ACRYLIC ON CANVAS 36X48 2024.

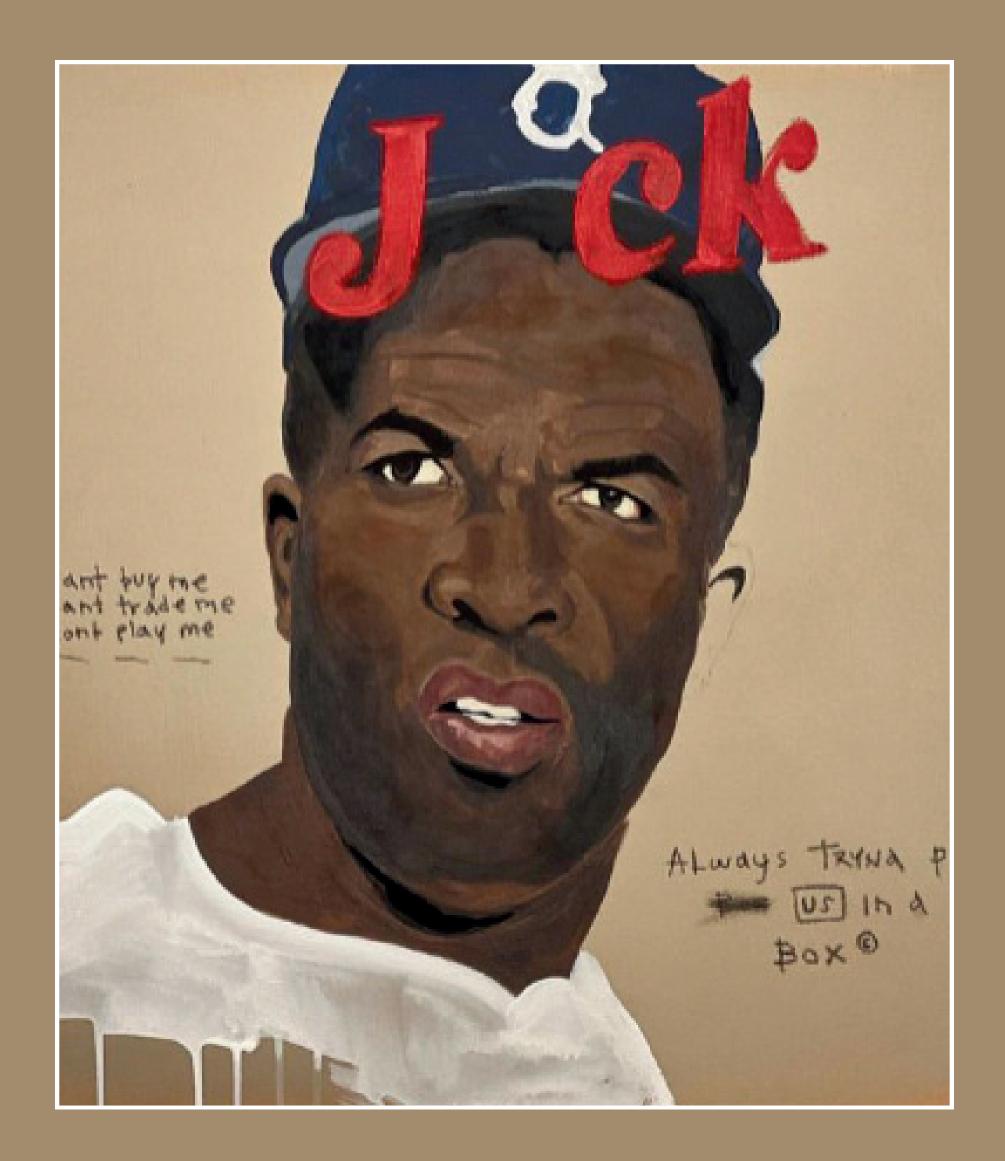


#### ROBERT (BMOORE) MOORE 1983-

b. Robert Moore (b. 1983, Des Moines, Iowa) is a self-taught multidisciplinary artist who is heavily influenced by socio-political events, cultural criticism, and collective identity related to the African American experience. Though he began drawing as a child, Moore fully leaned into a dedicated studio practice as an adult to facilitate healing and rehabilitation.

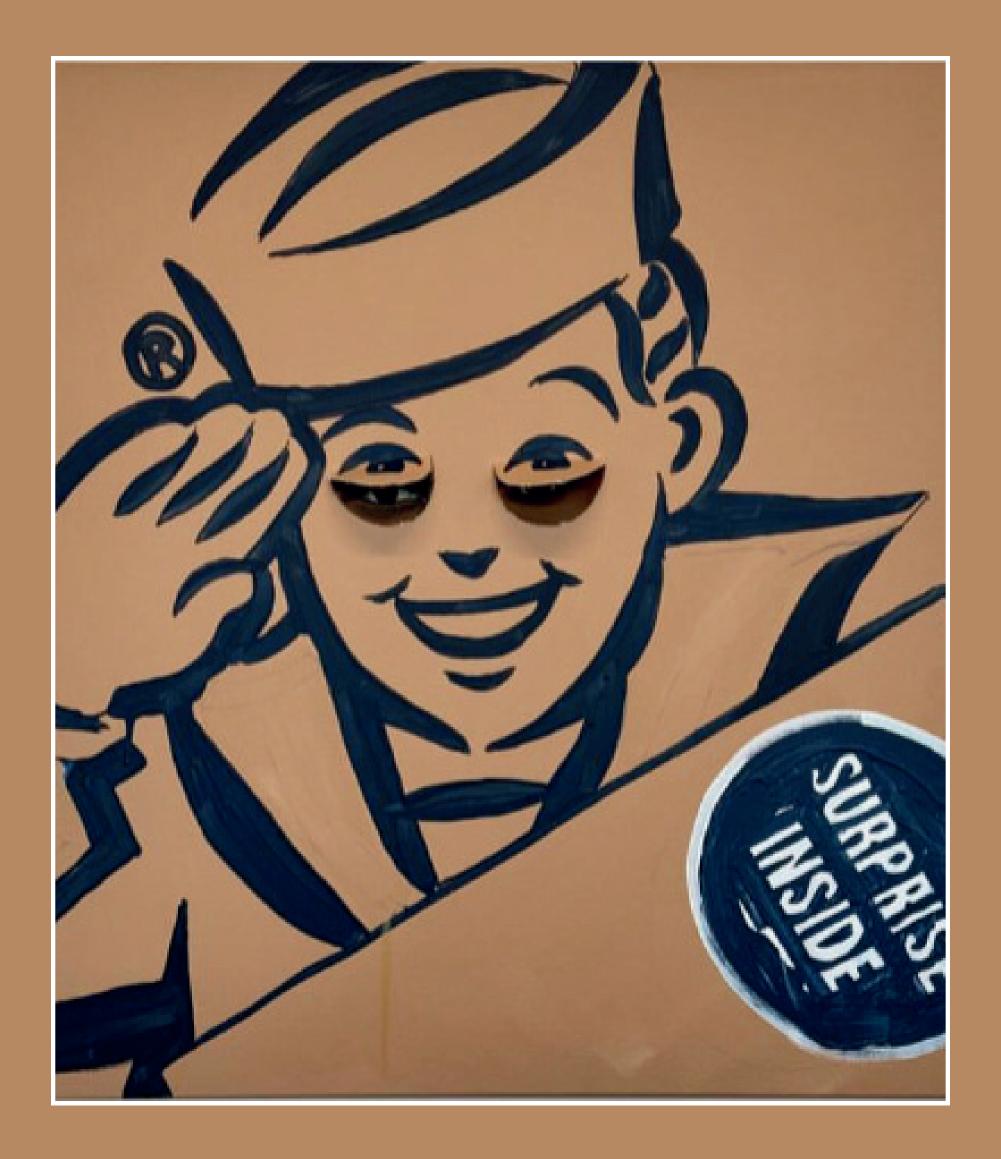
He is proud to be an independent artist who has cultivated a loyal following around the world. His first solo exhibition Out the Mud debuted at ThinkSpace in Los Angeles in 2023. Recent group exhibitions include Operation Varsity Blues at Allouche Gallery in New York and Masterpiece II at Band of Vices in Los Angeles. His work belongs in esteemed private collections such as Dr. Joy Simmons, CFP Ayesha Selden, Dr. Michael Glassner, Wright Collection, DJ D-Nice, musician Lil Yachty and the permanent collection of the Louisiana Museum of Art and History. He has been featured in press outlets including Ebony Magazine, Design Milk and Complex. Robert truly believes art should be felt and not just seen. The hope is that we are all felt and seen.

Various notable international collections, both public and private, collections ranging from notable established collections to green collections, including but not limited to MOAH Lancaster (Lancaster Museum of Art History), The Des Moines Art Center (permanent and institutional collections): Butts Family Collection, Selden Collection, Joy Simmons Collection, The Wright Collection, The Glassner Collection, D-Nice, Taye Diggs, Gayle King, Taraji Henson, Edward Little Collection, Ingrid Best, and many more.....



HANK AARON

OIL ON CANVAS 24X30 INCHES



# SATCHEL PAIGE (BACK)

OIL ON CANVAS 24X30 INCHES



DOUBLE HEADED GOAT

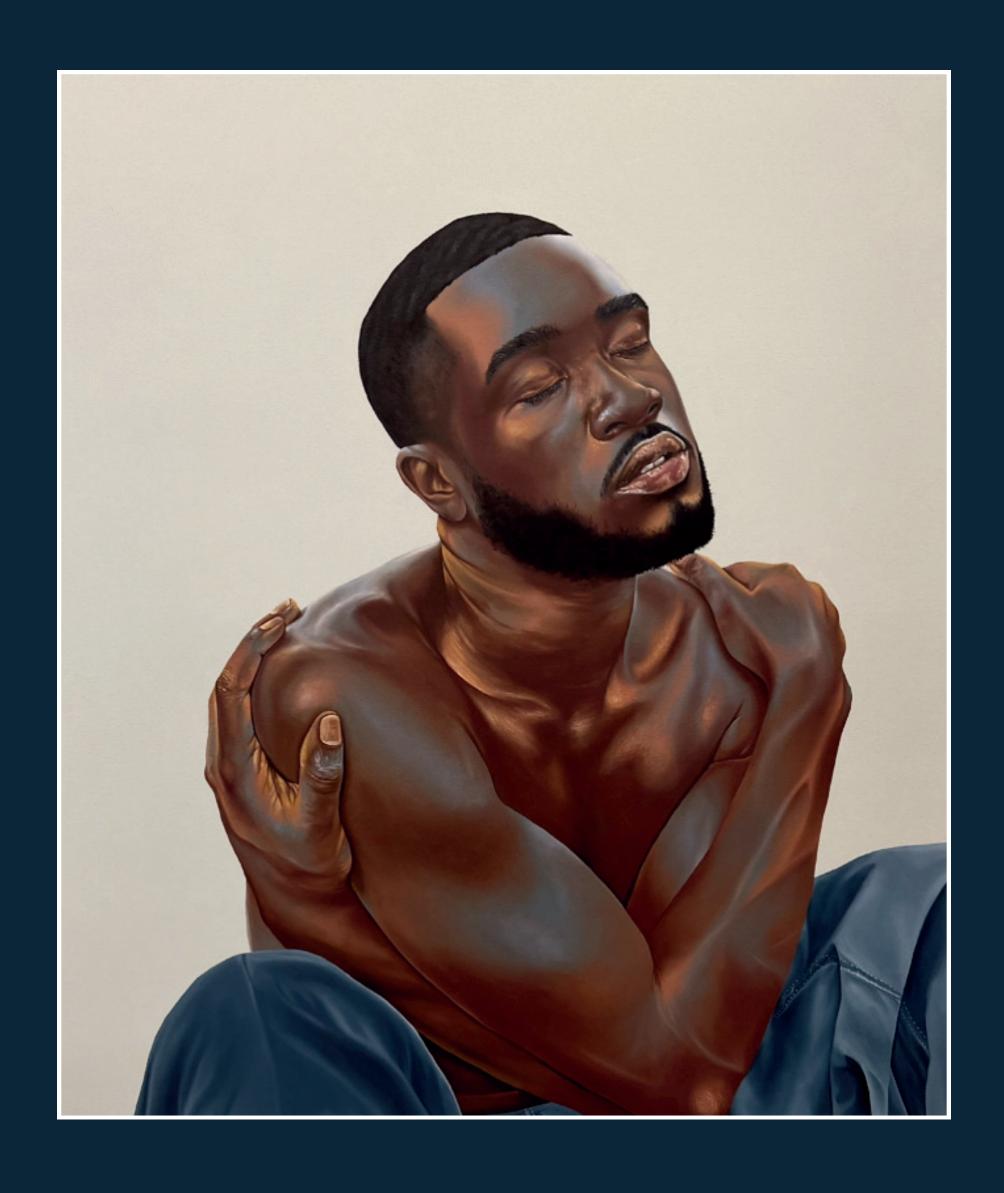
OIL ON CANVAS 30X40



#### ROBERT PETERSON 1981-

Robert Peterson (b. 1981) is a contemporary artist specializing in figurative painting with a concentration on portraiture. Peterson is quickly rising as one of this country's most celebrated artists. He has exhibited his colorful works in some of this nation's hottest art markets and around the world. He aims to create beautiful works of art that reflect a softer side of black people yet still shows their strength and resilience, something that he believes is not seen and exhibited enough throughout galleries and museums.

Robert believes that all visual artist go through various stages in their career over time where they will explore not only different mediums and subjects but also themselves. It has always been important to his development as an artist to go through these stages of exploring himself and different ways of creating because they have pushed him to come out on the other side a better artist and person than he was. Initially the paintings that Robert created were based solely off of stock images of celebrities that leasily found on the internet. As he grew as an artist so did his desire to become more creative and so Robert found himself photographing men, women and children that he knew. Since 2020 his paintings have focused on the black experience as he knows it through his personal life which is projected onto the work. Robert Peterson resides in Lawton, OK, with his wife of over 20 years, Marina, and together they have three children, Caleb,



#### TO LOVE THYSELF

OIL ON CANVAS 40X36 INCHES



SMALL TOWN GIRL

OIL ON CANVAS 40X36 INCHES



#### DALIA REYES

Co-curator Dalia Reyes is an interdisciplinary artist and cultural curator from Southwest Detroit. She holds a BA in Fine Arts Studies from the College for Creative Studies and brings over 20 years of experience across Detroit's arts and culture sector, including work in nonprofit organizations, galleries, museums, and fellowship programs. Known for her cosmic, meditative artwork that explores metaphysical themes and surreal imagery, Dalia has exhibited and curated both locally and internationally, including in Mexico. Her curatorial work emphasizes cultural narratives, often highlighting underrepresented voices and fostering crosscultural dialogue. A dedicated community arts leader, she has initiated programs that connect art with underserved communities, developed youth art programs, and supported artist residencies, reflecting her commitment to creativity, accessibility, and cultural enrichment in the arts.



# OLIVER RAGSDALE JR.

With his extensive knowledge and years of hands-on experience, Oliver Ragsdale Jr. is a trusted leader in the field of arts administration and management. As President of The Arts League of Michigan, Inc., one of the largest minority arts organizations in the state of Michigan, Ragsdale has an admirable record as an innovator, tastemaker, and community builder within the worlds of visual and performing arts. President since 1991, Ragsdale serves as the Chief Executive and Program Director (until 2016) of the Arts League and its public facing institution, The Carr Center, located in the downtown cultural district of Detroit. As such, he oversees a multi-faceted and broad-based system of core programs that develop, present, preserve and promote African and African American cultural arts.

"I've managed two symphony orchestras, a dance company, a theater company, and been involved in taking a show to Broadway. And then I came to work in Detroit, and everything changed," says Ragsdale. He was named president of the Arts League of Michigan at its inception in 1991.

Today, The Carr Center is a vital part of the fabric of the City of Detroit, not only as a presenter of arts and performance, but as a center of arts education. Having reached its 32nd anniversary, Ragsdale notes that The Carr Center is poised to continue its mission despite disruptions due to changes in locations and the COVID-19 pandemic. Its legacy of groundbreaking and successful programs speaks for itself.

"I think the high points of my career are making opportunities available for others," says Ragsdale. "Whether it's helping to make the trip to Cuba with our visual artists happen, or taking the jazz musicians to Africa, or creating the cultural experience with Russia, or seeing people on the stage when we did 'Black Nativity;' at Music Hall in Detroit for the first time. All of those things are key."

Oliver Ragsdale, Jr., is married to Brenda Y. Terrell, Ph.D., a speech pathologist and Principal of a business management-consulting firm. He splits his time between Detroit and his home in Cleveland, Ohio.



Since its founding in 1991, the Arts League of Michigan, now doing business as The Carr Center, has provided strong multi-disciplinary arts programming for metropolitan Detroit. It's digital programming, begun in 2014 and escalated in 2020-22 because of the pandemic, carries its programming and its messages around the globe. Our mission is to champion Black cultural arts traditions.

The Carr Center addresses its mission by presenting world-class African Diasporic, including African American, programming, and unique arts educational experiences to audiences in Detroit and around the world. The Carr Center leverages the essence of the African Diasporic cultural experience to inspire, entertain, challenge, and educate. The Carr Center has three core programs: Carr Center Presents, Carr Center Arts Academy and Carr Center Artist Hub. Carr Center Presents brings performing and visual arts and film to metro-Detroit. In addition to live in-person presentations, the Carr Center has the CVCglobal, a digital presentation space. The Academy offers training in visual art, music, dance, and musical theater, and professional development programs for early career artists. The Artist Hub provides support for community-based artists/arts organizations to create and present their work. The Carr Center's aim is a focus on Black excellence in the arts. We do this through both producing and presenting work; developing artists; and disseminating artistic content.

As stated in our current strategic plan (completed in 2023), our vision is to build a vibrant future where The Carr Center is known for Black creative excellence that is accessible to all - local Detroiters and, through the touch of a finger or a voice command, national and global audiences everywhere.

Our statement of values begins with quality artistic programming. We define quality as work that shows a level of technical skill and evidences the ability to communicate more than surface value. It is work that can attract and be ascertained by the novice or casual observer, but also speaks to the informed and seasoned observer. Quality art rises above novelty and popularity, communicating complexity to a diverse audience. It allows for each observer to capture meaning from the music, the painting, the film, the dance or whatever discipline, but also allows the observer to create personal meaning. Quality art inspires, entertains, educates and challenges.

The Carr Center seeks to maintain internal consistency within and across its produced and presented programs. Given that the Carr Center presents/produces work of emerging, mid-career and seasoned artists, our artistic director communicates an artistic vision that is pursued through our internal team, our resident artists, as well as those who are invited to curate programs for the Carr. Each is charged to present/produce quality programs.

The Carr Center holds as a value everyone having access to arts, together with how this access helps to further develop creative potential, and for youth, enhances academic performance. Working toward more equitable practices in the arts is nothing new for the Carr Center. However, recent programming amplifies this agenda, addressing the concerns of millennials, Generation Z, and some marginalized communities through multi-disciplinary and social justice programming.

# ELIJAHM. —RASHAED



Elijah M. Rashaed is a real estate entrepreneur and owner of Horizon Development LLC, a commercial real estate and development company supplying families in the Midwest with affordable housing.

Elijah Rashaed and his wife were honored with the 2024 Preservation Dayton Award for their contributions to the redevelopment of properties in the Dayton, Ohio area.

Horizon Development LLC has helped thousands of families find affordable housing and created opportunities for families to secure permanent housing. Before starting a successful career in real estate Elijah founded one of the largest urban wear retail stores in the Midwest, Viaggio, with locations in Milwaukee, Chicago, Minneapolis, and Atlanta. DNR Magazine was quoted saying "Viaggio brings urban elegance to shoppers in the Midwest" along with featured publications in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and Milwaukee Magazine. Elijah has been decorated with several awards as well including the "#1 Housing & Affordable Rental Property" award presented by CYD and "Quest for Success award presented by the Milwaukee Minority Business Development Center. Elijah Rashaed is the Head Art Curator for the Dayton Branch of the NAACP.

Elijah Rashaed is committed to bridging the gap for artists of color by helping them gain visibility and recognition within corporate connections, institutions, and museums. His efforts focus on supporting minority artists in developing their presence and getting their work seen by a broader audience. He aims to foster greater opportunities for underrepresented artists in the art world.

Elijah fashaed



#### DR. DERRICK L. FOWARD

"Your community servant"

Dr. Derrick Lee Foward is a NAACP Image Award Winning Activist and a Dayton, Ohio native. He graduated from Central State University in 1990 with a B.S. Degree in Management and Marketing and was inducted into the Alumni Achievement Hall of Fame in 2016. He graduated from International Apostolic University of Grace and Truth in 2002 with a Master Degree in Administration and Organization and received his Doctorate Degree in 2018. He has been a member of Christ Temple Apostolic Faith Church for over 50 years and serves on the official board.

Dr. Foward is a noted American social activist and leader in the U.S. civil rights movement. He is the 34h (and youngest) President of the Dayton Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and has served in that capacity for eighteen years while simultaneously serving in his sixteenth year as Vice President of the Ohio Conference NAACP. Dr. Foward also serves on the NAACP National Life Membership Committee and has served as the Chair of the NAACP National Credentials Committee for many years.

Under the distinguished leadership of Dr. Foward, the Dayton Branch NAACP has investigated 3,059 complaints of discrimination, registered 6,122 people to vote, educated 31,723 citizens during proactive civil rights community meetings, provided \$120,538 to fund five youth programs, implemented Easter Ham and Thanksgiving Turkey food distribution programs, provided \$88,465 in scholarship funds, raised \$3.3 million for the organization's civil rights work and has a budget surplus of \$269,167. He has personally raised \$317,140 in memberships since joining the organization on March 13, 2002 and have secured 432 fully-paid life members.

After the death of George Floyd at the knee of Minneapolis Police Officer Derek Chauvin, Dr. Foward organized and led several community organizations to create an 8-Point Strategy on Criminal Justice Reform and Police Accountability in which over 20 law enforcement agencies throughout Montgomery County implemented within their respective jurisdictions. He has been involved in high-profile civil rights cases to include: Kylen English falling over a bridge while in Dayton Police custody; Beavercreek Police shooting of John Crawford III at Wal-Mart; Dayton Police yanking Clifford Owensby out of his car by his braids; and Butler Twp. Police Officer brutally assaulting Laticka Hancock over missing cheese on her Big Mac sandwich. Dr. Foward considers 2023 to be the pinnacle of his civil rights career when he proposed to his wife, Tiwona, while being honored at the 54\*h NAACP Image Awards for Activist of the Year.

#### CONTINUED...

#### DR. DERRICK LEE FOWARD

Professionally, Dr. Foward retired from Speedway LLC (now 7-Eleven, Inc.) with more than 28 years of service. He held many leadership positions while at Speedway and retired on October 15, 2021. Dr. Foward also established business relationships between Speedway, Central State University and Wilberforce University, resulting in job and scholarship opportunities for students. Out of 17,000 employees, Speedway honored him with the Living Our Values "Volunteer of the Year" Award in 2012. Dr. Foward founded Move Foward Enterprise LLC on November 21, 2021.

Other awards and achievements that Dr. Foward has been the recipient of includes but is not limited to the Top Ten African American Male Award (2009), Heart of Gold Award (2009), Rupert Richardson Memorial Leadership Award (2012), Thalheimer Award (2012 - 2019; 2022-2024), Access to Justice Community Advocacy Award (2015), Central State University Dayton Alumni Chapter Inaugural Class of Luminaries Award (2015), Gospel Superfest Community Service Award (2018), Key to the City of Dayton (2023), Greater Dayton Chapter, Blacks in Government Community Service Award (2019 & 2024), Toastmasters International District 40 Communication and Leadership Award (2024), and was honored as a Dayton Skyscraper (2024) for the contributions he continues to make to enrich and advance the quality of life throughout the Dayton Miami Valley Region.

Dr. Foward is married to the gracious First Lady Tiwona L. Foward, a teacher in the Dayton Public School District.

Together, they have three sons, two daughters, three grandchildren, one great-grandchild and three God-children.

Quoted from Dr. Foward from his parents: "A good name is better to be chosen than silver and gold. Do everything in honesty, empathy, passion, and impeccable integrity." — The late Elder Dr. Alphonsa Foward, Sr: (Father)

"If you continue to keep God first, you will accomplish His will, purpose, and destiny that He has planned for your life." — Overseer Dr. Gloria J. Foward (Mother)

Herrick L. Jonard



#### REV. WENDELL ANTHONY

Reverend Dr. Wendell Anthony is a native of St. Louis, Missouri. He was educated in the Detroit Public School system. He graduated from Wayne State University with a B.A. in Political Science and Marygrove College with an M.A. in Pastoral Ministry. He attended the University of Detroit for advanced study in Black Theology. Rev. Anthony is a Certified Social Worker with the State of Michigan. On May 12, 2007, Rev. Anthony was the keynote speaker for the Graduation Class of Marygrove College at which time the Board of Trustees conferred upon Rev. Anthony the degree of Honorary Doctor of Arts. In 2022, Wayne State University conferred upon Rev. Anthony the degree of Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa.

He became the Pastor of Fellowship Chapel in December 1986 following the passing of Reverend James E. Wadsworth, Jr. Through the grace of God and the labor of his ministry, the church has experienced the greatest growth in its 55-year history. Through its James E. Wadsworth, Jr. Community Center, Fellowship Chapel has a full-time outreach ministry with programs ranging from health and wellness, youth mentoring and development and job training. Rev. Anthony is the developer of the suthu Institute (Coming into Manhood Rites of Passage Program) for boys ages 6-18, dealing with African American male responsibility. It is one of the oldest mentoring programs of its kind in the country. He also initiated its female counterpart, the Intonjane Institute (Coming into Womanhood Rites of Passage Program) for girls ages 6-18.

Currently, Rev. Dr. Wendell Anthony is a member of the NAACP National Board of Directors. In addition, he is serving his 15th term as President of the Detroit Branch NAACP, a position he has held for 28 years. The Detroit Branch NAACP is the largest branch in the country. It hosts the largest sit-down dinner in the nation, bringing at least 10,000 persons to gather every year to celebrate and commemorate the struggle for social justice, freedom, and equality. He is the founder of the Freedom Institute for Economic, Social Justice, and People Empowerment, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, which also sponsors the annual Freedom Weekend in the city of Detroit. He is also the founder of the Fannie Lou Hamer Political Action Committee, a grassroots community-oriented organization that supports issues and candidates often overlooked by those in the traditional political arena.

#### CONTINUED...

#### REV. WENDELL ANTHONY

Reverend Anthony is the originator of the Take Your Souls to the Polls voter registration and mobilization program. This was initiated to bring about greater youth involvement in the electoral process. He is also the recipient of numerous awards and recognition, locally and nationally. Among them are the Samuel Dewitt Proctor Conference How Beautiful Are Thy Feet Award and the 2021 NAACP Image Award for Activist of the Year. During the pandemic of 2020, Reverend Anthony led and coordinated the Connected Futures Program with business and corporate leaders. This program raised \$23 million to provide laptop and Wi-Fi connectivity for 51,000 students, grades K-12, in the Detroit Public Schools Community District. It serves as a model for the nation.

On June 5, 2005, Reverend Anthony led his congregation, community and business leaders, government officials, supporters, and well-wishers in a procession to the new Fellowship Chapel called The Village, for its grand opening and inaugural worship service. The Village contains the new church and soon-to-be-developed 140 units of multi-family homes and senior citizen residencies. This is a \$60 million-dollar project which will result in the building of a new community.

In September 2005, Rev. Anthony married Monica G. Anthony. They are the proud parents of three adult daughters (Tolani, Maia, and Theresa) and in 2011 a new addition was added, young Ms. Wendelaya Adiah Anthony.

Mendell Anthony

# EVERYDAY PEGPLE

**Annie Lee** Damiliere Kanyinsola **Eddy Ochieng** Floyd Strickland **Frank Morrison** Gil Ashby Henry James James Pate **Kevin West** Kevin Williams Kip Omolade Konboye E. Eugene Leonard Maiden Lisa Mathews **Mario Moore Nate Austin** Odeyemi Oluwaseun O'niel Scott **Precious Amba** Raji M. Babatunde **Roderick Vines** Ronald Jackson Sabrina Nelson Stanley Squirewell Tiffanie Anderson

THE CARR CENTER 15. E Kirby Street, Detroit, MI 49202

## EVERYDAY PEOPLE

**Alexi Torres** 

Andenuga John Opeyem

**Aaron Hazel** 

**Dean Mitchell** 

Eduardo Kingman

**Ernie Barnes** 

Eyitayo Alagbe

**Ijania Cortez** 

Jeremy Biggers

Kim Wiggins

**Mason Archie** 

Nehemiah Edwards

**Reginald Baylor** 

**Richard Lewis** 

Samuel Sowety

**Sharon Sprung** 

Tim Okumura

**Tyreek Morrison** 

**Erin Smith** 

Daniel Ayomide Emmanuel

**Robert Bmoore Moore** 

**Robert Peterson** 

THE CARR CENTER 15. E Kirby Street, Detroit, MI 49202

# EVERYDAY PECPLE

What makes us extraordinary is hidden in the ordinary moments of life. Everyday People takes readers on a journey through the vibrant world of contemporary portraiture—where artists capture the essence of identity, culture, and the human experience.

Featuring the works and life stories of renowned painters like Ernie Barnes, Annie Lee, Dean Mitchell, Kevin Wak Williams, Robert Peterson, Ronald Jackson and many many more, this exhibition explores art's ability to celebrate individuality, challenge perceptions, and spark meaningful convesation and connections. With every brushstroke, these artists document the beauty and complexity of real life, elevating everyday people to symbols of resilience and strength.

A heartfelt thank you to the Dayton NAACP and Detroit NAACP for taking an active interest in this project, and for continuing to champion the culture, opinions, and voices that inspire us all. Your support ensures that art remains a powerful tool for unity, empowerment, and social change.

I want to thank, NAACP Image Award Winning Activist,
Dr. Derrick L. Foward, President of the Dayton NAACP, and
NAACP Image Award Winning Activist,
Rev. Dr. Wendell Anthony, President of the Detroit NAACP,
for your dedication and impactful leadership.

"ORDINARY MOMENTS, IMMORTALIZED IN ART."