

# Petzel

## DEREK FORDJOUR

Born in 1974, Memphis, Tennessee  
Lives and works in New York, New York

### EDUCATION

- 2016 MFA, Hunter College, New York
- 2002 Ed.M., Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts
- 2001 BA, Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia  
Pratt Institute College of Art and Design

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *SCORE*, Petzel Gallery, New York
- 2022 *Magic, Mystery & Legerdemain*, David Kordansky Gallery, Los Angeles
- 2021 *The Bunker Artspace*, West Palm Beach  
*Gestalt*, Pond Society, Shanghai, China
- 2020 *SELF MUST DIE*, Petzel Gallery, New York  
*SHELTER*, Contemporary Art Museum of St. Louis
- 2019 *The House Always Wins*, Josh Lilley Gallery, London  
*JRRNNYS*, Night Gallery, Los Angeles  
*Stains on a Decade*, Josh Lilley Gallery, London
- 2018 *Derek Fordjour: Camelot Study*, BAM, Brooklyn  
*Zona Maco*, Mexico City  
*Ritual*, Nina Johnson Gallery, Miami
- 2017 *PARADE*, Sugar Hill Museum, New York
- 2016 *Agency & Regulation*, LUCE Gallery, Turin  
*Derek Fordjour: Eight Paintings*, Papillion Art, Los Angeles
- 2015 *UPPER ROOM*, Robert Blumenthal Gallery, New York  
*Meritocracy*, Jack Bell Gallery, London
- 2014 *The BIG GAME*, Storefront Ten Eyck Gallery, Brooklyn
- 2013 *Sciame Artist's Salon Series Exhibition*, Sciame Corporate Gallery, New York  
*Built Environments: Inaugurations with Felandus Thames*, Columbia University Russ Barrie

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Pavillion, New York

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 *Soliloquies*, Petzel Gallery, New York  
*Stop and Stare*, UTA Artists Space, Atlanta  
*Drum and Flag*, Tilton Gallery, New York
- 2023 *Black American Portraits*, Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, Memphis  
*Windrush: Portraits of a Pioneering Generation*, National Portrait Gallery, London  
*Multiplicity: Blackness in Contemporary American Collage*, Frist Art Museum, Nashville  
*Celebrating David Kordansky Gallery's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*, David Kordansky, Los Angeles  
*Brand New Ancients*, Misk Art Institute, Riyadh
- 2022 *Dark Light: Realism in the Age of Post-Truths*, Aishti Foundation, Lebanon  
Brainlab AG, Munich, Germany  
*Sexy Beast*, Benefit for Planned Parenthood Los Angeles, Night Gallery, Los Angeles  
*In Our Time: Selections from the Singer Collection*, the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, Scottsdale  
*In These Truths*, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo  
*Through Our Eyes—Resonance and Illusion in Contemporary Portraits*, Centre of International Contemporary Art, Vancouver
- 2021 *The Worlds We Make: Selections from the ICA Collection*, ICA Boston  
*But No Elephants!*, Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art and Storytelling, New York
- 2020 *100 Drawings from Now*, Drawing Center, New York  
*Open Air*, LUCE Gallery, Turin  
*Majour Force*, Night Gallery, Los Angeles  
*Uptown 2020*, Wallach Art Gallery at Columbia University, New York
- 2019 *Plumb Line: Charles White and the Contemporary*, California African-American Museum, Los Angeles  
Art Birmingham, The High Art Museum in Atlanta, Atlanta  
Art Birmingham, The Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham  
*Transmission*, Zidoun Bossuyt, Luxembourg
- 2018 *Fun House*, Josh Lilley Gallery, London  
*Invincible Summer*, Galerie Mikael Andersen, Copenhagen  
*Cliche*, Almine Rech Gallery, New York  
*Everyday Muse*, ltd Gallery, Los Angeles  
*Reclamation!*, The Taubman Museum, Roanoke  
*Sidelined*, Galerie Lelong, New York
- 2017 *Reinventing the Figure*, Galleria Monica de Cardenas, Zuoz  
*Diamonds, Rings and Courts*, Geoffrey Yeh Art Gallery, St. John's University, New York

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- All That Glitters*, Rachel Uffner Gallery, New York  
*Selections*, Elizabeth Dee Gallery, New York
- 2016 *Human Condition*, The former L.A. Metropolitan Medical Center, Los Angeles  
*The Barn Show*, Johannes Vogt Gallery East, East Hampton  
*First We Take Manhattan*, Ethan Cohen Gallery, New York  
*Island States*, Tops Gallery, Memphis  
*March Madness*, Fort Gansevoort, New York
- 2015 *I Like it Like This*, Sothebys S2 Gallery, New York  
*And There is an End*, Roberts & Tilton Gallery, Los Angeles  
*Mixed Doubles*, Sometimes Gallery, New York  
*No Such Place*, Edward Tyler Nahem Gallery, New York
- 2014 *OPEN*, Papillion Gallery, Los Angeles
- 2013 *Corpus Americus*, Driscoll Babcock Gallery, New York  
*Tickenibova and Winter*, New York  
Atlanta University Center Alumni Exhibition, Atlanta University Center, Atlanta

## RESIDENCIES AND AWARDS

- 2020 Alex Katz Chair in Painting, The Cooper Union, New York
- 2018 NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellow in Painting, New York  
Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation Fellow, New York  
Artis Artist in Residence, Tel Aviv
- 2017 Sharpe-Walentas Studio Program, Brooklyn  
C-12 Emerging Artist Award, Hunter College, New York
- 2016 Artist-in-Residence, Sugar Hill Museum, New York

## LECTURES AND TEACHING

- 2024 Anderson Ranch Arts Center, Artist Lecture, Snowmass Village  
Arts Leadership, Morehouse College, Artist Lecture, Atlanta
- 2020 Contemporary Art Museum of St. Louis, Artist Talk, St. Louis  
Core Critic, Yale University School of Art, New York  
Whitney Museum, Via Americana: A Symposium, New York  
New York Studio School, Evening Lecture Series, New York  
Tennessee Art Education Association Conference, Keynote Speaker, Memphis
- 2019 Royal College of Art, Visting Artist Lecture, London  
New York University, Visiting Artist Lecture, New York  
Purchase College, Visiting Artist Lecture, Purchase

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- Brooks Museum, Visiting Artist Lecture, Memphis  
Fisk University, Visiting Artist, Nashvill  
Yale University School of Art Lecture, New Haven
- 2018 Bezael Academy of Art and Design, Visiting Critic, Jerusalem  
The Cooper Union, Alex Katz Visiting Artist, New York
- 2017 Yale University MFA, Visiting Critic, New Haven  
Rhode Island School of Design BFA, Visiting Critic, Providence  
SUNY Purchase College, Visiting Critic, White Plains  
Hunter College, Hunter Mellon Arts Fellowship Workshop Panel, New York  
FIT, ARTSpeak Panel Discussion, New York
- 2016 School of Visual Arts MFA, Visiting Critic, New York

## COMMISSIONS AND PUBLIC PROJECTS

- 2023 *Fordjour x 2023 TSU Mural Exhibit*, presented by the First Art Museum, Nashville
- 2022 *Sonic Boom*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles
- 2018 *Half Mast*, public installation at the Whitney Museum, New York  
*Parade*, MTA Arts & Design Permanent Installation – 145<sup>th</sup> Street 3 Train Line, New York

## BIBLIOGRPAHY

- 2024 D’Souza, Aruna. “Six Artists Reflect on the Legacy of the Harlem Reniassance.” *The New York Times*, February 18.  
“Full Details Announced of the Frieze Los Angeles 2024 Program.” *Frieze*, February 9.  
Valentine, Victoria L. “Latest News in Black Art: New Executive Director at Atlanta Contemporary, Kehinde Wiley Painting Makes Cameo in Heist Film, Derek Fordjour Covers Whitewall Magazine.” *Culture Type*, January 15.
- 2023 “15 Favorite Memphis Stories for 2023.” *Memphis Magazine*, December 25.  
Renkl, Margaret. “Piecing Together a Black Identity, and a Whole Black World.” *The New York Times*, December 11.  
Traverse, Anna. “An Afternoon with Barbara & Pitt Hyde.” *Memphis Magazine*, December 4.  
Jefferson, Dec. “NGV Triennial 2023 review: plenty of showstoppers – and cheek – in another blockbuster show.” *The Guardian*, December 2.  
Noah, Trevor. “For Artist Derek Fordjour, What Happens in the Studio Stays in the

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- Studio.” *Interview*, November 16.
- Valentine, Victoria L. “Auction Results: Robert Colescott Painting Hits \$3.9M at Christie’s 21<sup>st</sup> Century Evening Sale, New Record Set by Young British Painter Jadé Fadojutimi.” *Culture Type*, November 15.
- “This Week in Culture: November 13 – 19.” *Cultured*, November 13, 2023.
- Wally, Maxine and Andrea Whittle. “All the Must-See Art Shows of 2023 (So Far).” *W Magazine*, November 13, 2023.
- Morici, Abigail. “Five Things To Do In Memphis This Weekend.” *Memphis Magazine*, November 9.
- “Houston’s Cultural Vanguard: MFAH Unveils ‘Multiplicity: Blackness in Contemporary American Collage.’” *Rain*, November 4.
- Carter, Lee. “What I Buy and Why: Philanthropist Pete Scantland Goes Running With Artists and Dreams of Camping Out at the Met.” *Artnet News*, October 30.
- Morici, Abigail. “From Hatred to Hope.” *Memphis Magazine*, October 18.
- Irwin, Michael. “Royal Windrush Portraits Show at National Portraits Gallery.” *Ocula*, October 17.
- Hunter, Laura Hutson. “Fall Guide 2023: The Frist’s ‘Multiplicity’ Is a Groundbreaking Exhibition.” *Nashville Scene*, September 7.
- Orlando, Joyce. “Why this new Frist Art Museum exhibit made the New York Time list of must-see exhibits this fall.” *The Tennessean*, September 6.
- Estiler, Keith. “MANJU Journal Celebrates the Works of Over 80 Ghanaian Artists in New Book.” *Hypebeast*, August 22.
- “What I Buy and Why: Gallerist Jush Lilley on Collecting Playful Works But Keeping Them Out of Reach of Little Hands.” *Artnet News*, August 22.
- Urist, Jacoba. “5 Must-See Shows In Los Angeles Before Summer’s End.” *Cultured*, August 3.
- Barrie, Lita. “David Kordansky Gallery Celebrates a 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a Quintessential Californian Art Show.” *Whitehot*, August.
- Tieholz, Tom. “California Dreaming: David Kordansky At 20.” *Forbes*, July 15.
- Ziembra, Christine N., “Best Things To Do This Weekend In Los Angeles And SoCal: July 7-9.” *LAist*, July 6.
- “Honoring a patron painter and charitable NBA coach at St. Jude Spirit of the Dream.” *Daily Independent*, June 28.
- Jacob, Lina “Windrush: Portraits of a Generation: Leeds sitter to be featured in a new BBC documentary led by King Charles III as part of 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Windrush.” *The Yorkshire Post*, June 23.
- Shacklock, Emma. “King Charles’ poignant commission on display weeks ahead of first official visit to this royal residence in 2023.” *Woman & Home*, June 23.
- “Portraits of the Windrush Generation Commissioned by His Majesty King Charles III go on Display at the Palace of Holyroodhouse.” *Artdependence*, June 23.
- Wallis, Sara. “Faces of Windrush generation immortalized by portraits as King Charles lauds ‘pioneers.’” *Mirror*, June 22.
- “Windrush Portraits to go on display at Palace of Holyroodhouse.” *Advisor*, June 22.
- Stephen, Phyllis. “Windrush Generation celebrated in portraits at the palace.” *The Edinburgh Reporter*, June 22.

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- "Windrush generation celebrated in a series of 10 portraits – in pictures." *The Guardian*, June 22.
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- "King says celebration of Windrush arrivals crucial ahead of portrait documentary." *The Irish News*, June 6.
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- "SFMOMA acquires its first NFT, a work by tech art pioneer Lynn Hershman Leeson." *The Art Newspaper*, January 17.
- 2022 "Solo Presentations at Frieze Seoul 2022." *Frieze*, August 25.
- Kennin, Lydian. "Mayor Lee Harris honors 25 high school student artists after first Summer Fellowship Program." *Action News 5*, August 22.
- Westall, Mark. "Frieze Unveil Full Highlights of Frieze Seoul." *FAD Magazine*, August 22.
- Fisher, Justine. "Seth Rogen and Eckhaus Latta Fundraise for Planned Parenthood." *Paper* August 4.
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- Bradley, Adam. "The Historically Black College Reconsiders the Studio Art Program." *The New York Times Style Magazine*, July 8.
- "Resilience and Remembrance in Newly Displayed Paintings." *9/11 Memorial & Museum*, June 23.
- Keh, Andrew. "The Art World Loves Basketballs. And Hoops and Jerseys and Backboards." *The New York Times*, June 13.
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- Anderson, Gayle and Kobe Siy. "MOCA building art: Derek Fordjour." *KTLA*, April 26.

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- Diehl, Travis. "Derek Fordjour's Magic Is on Display in Los Angeles." *Cultured*, April 11.
- Kazakina, Katya. "The Curse of BOGO? Why Forcing Collectors Hungry for Hot New Art to Buy One and Give One (to a Museum) May Be a Very Bad Idea." *Artnet News* April 8.
- "Derek Fordjour's Magic, Mystery & Legerdemain @ David Kordansky Gallery in Los Angeles." *Autre*, April 6.
- Zara, Janelle. "We give them permission to deceive us: the power and privilege of the magician." *The Guardian*, April 4.
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- McKade, Jodie. "The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Announce the 2022 National Medalists." *Reader's Entertainment Magazine*, March 30.
- Prizzo, Evan. "Magic, Mystery & Legerdemain: Derek Fordjour Explores Black Herman and the Power of the Mystical." *Juxtapoz*, March 30.
- Li, Stefanie. "The Artful Life: 5 Things *Galerie* Editors Love This Week." *Galerie*, March 29.
- "Fungible: Arts Calendar March 24 – 30." *Jnews*, March 24.
- "Weekly What To Do: Everything @ 626 Mini All At Once, Oh, Oscar Sunday." *Things To Do In LA*, March 23.
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- "Derek Fordjour's 'Strawman' Covers Spring Issue of Juxtapoz Magazine." *Culture Type*, March 3.
- "Applications open for Contemporary Arts Memphis' Summer Fellowship Program." *ABC24 Memphis*, February 22.
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- "Albright-Knox presents 'In These Truths.'" *Artdaily*, February 20.
- "Summer Fellowship Program for Memphis Student Artists." *Storyboard Memphis*, January 5.
- Benson, Louise. "People Fill The Paintings of Our Latest Liquitex Residency Artist." *Elephant*, January 28.
- "5 Striking Images at the Brooklyn Museum Right Now." *Medium*, January 27.
- Lai, Cherry. "How Art Could Be A Safe Form of Investment." *Echelon*, Jan. 7.
- Moncrease, Brittani. "Summer program helps high school artists in Memphis create professional careers in art." *10News*, January 7.
- 2021 Ratcliff, Darryl. "Black Bodies, White Spaces' Features Some Of The Most Important Living Black Artists." *GarlandJournal*, December 30.
- Durón, Maximiliano. "The Best Art Books of 2021." *ARTNews*, December 17.
- Ober, Cara, and Michael Anthony Farley. "High Fiber Mixed Media Maximalism: Art Basel Miami Beach 2021." *BmoreArt*, December 10.

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- Forjour, Derek and C.J. Bartunek. "A Celebration of Life (with an interview by C.J. Bartunek)." *The Georgia Review*, Fall.
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- Valentine, Victoria L. "On View: 'Present Generations: Creating the Scantland Collection of the Columbus Museum of Art,' in Columbus, Ohio." *Culture Type*, June 28.
- Lesser, Casey. "A Major Gift from the Scantland Family Brings Leading Emerging Artist's Works to the Columbus Museum of Art," *Artsy*, June 15.
- Triella, Joe. "Derek Fordjour Captures the Eye – and the Moment." *CUNY Podcasts*, February 16.
- Valentine, Victoria L. "Derek Fordjour Has Joined David Kordansky Gallery, His Explorations of Race and Identity Invoke Culture of Sports, Symbolism of Teams." *Culture Type*, February 1.
- Smith, TK. "Derek Fordjour: SHELTER." *Art Papers* February.
- Alpert, Avram. "Derek Fordjour's *SELF MUST DIE*." *ASAP Journal*, January 21.
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- 2020 "Artists and Curators Choose Their Standout Artists of 2020." *Elephant*, December 16.
- Shaw, Helen. "The 10 Best Theater Moments of 2020." *Vulture*, December 23.
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- Mitter, Siddhartha. "Derek Fordjour, From Anguish to Transcendence." *New York Times*, November 19.
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- Douglas, Sarah. "Collecting in Quarantine: L.A.-Based Michael Ovitz Talks About Buying Art Sight Unseen." *ARTnews*, October 16.
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- Dyson, Torkwase. "Acrobatics Over Beats: A Conversation Between Torkwase Dyson & Derek Fordjour." *Autre Magazine*, Fall/Winter.
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- Fenske, Sarah. "'After Shelter' Gathers St. Louisans' Pandemic Reflections for StoryCorps." *St. Louis Public Radio*, July 22.
- Henderson, Jane. "Contemporary Art Museum asks visitors: Has pandemic changed how we experience art?" *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, July 9.
- Germain, Jacqui. "Derek Fordjour Honors Disenfranchised Communities in His Vibrant, Layered Work." *Artsy*, June 3.
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- Radley, Jack. "Derek Fordjour Considers the Precariousness of Shelter." *Hyperallergic*, April 6.
- Bowley, Graham. "A fight Over Money, Loyalty and Who Gets Credit for an Artist's Rise." *The New York Times*, March 29.
- Goodman, Wendy. "My Studio in the Bronx." *New York Magazine*, February 17.
- Piejko, Jennifer. "Critics Pick: Derek Fordjour: Shelter." *Artforum*, January.
- Henderson, Jane. "Eye-catching 2020 exhibitions show art from French painters to modern sculptors." *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, January 2.
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- "The Artists to Know Right Now." *Artsy*, September 16.
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- Rees, Lucy. "Derek Fordjour." *Galerie*, March 3.
- Piejko, Jennifer. "Artist Derek Fordjour Revels in The Game Toppling Expectations as He Goes." *Cultured*, February 15.
- Miranda, Carolina A. "Datebook: Paintings of sport and art inspired by convenience stores and confession." *Los Angeles Times*, January 31.
- Crow, Kelly. "I Don't Want to Be a Blip? : An Artist on the Rise Adjusts to the Spotlight." *The Wall Street Journal*, January 30.
- 2018 Neuendorf, Henri "8 Art Advisors Tell Us Which Artists You Should Be Watching (and Buying) in 2019." *Artnet News*, December 10.
- Valentine, Victoria L. "Historic Bequest: Late Arts Patron Peggy Cooper Cafritz Gifted 650 + Works of Art to the Studio Museum in Harlem and Duke Ellington School of Arts." *Culture Type*, October 10.
- "Price Check! Here's What Sold – and for How Much – at Frieze London and Frieze Masters 2018." *Artnet News*, October 9.

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- "6 Innovators Shaping the Culture of NYC." *Gotham*, October 1.
- "Top Art Shows in New York." *Blouin Artinfo*, September 21.
- "'Fun House' at Josh Lilley Gallery, London." *Blouin Artinfo*, July 4.
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- Rodney, Seph. "Wandering the Artists Studios of Dumbo." *Hyperallergic*, May 4.
- Katz, Brooke Porter. "Best of Zona Maco 2018." *Surface*, February 11.
- Sussman, Anna Louie. "What Sold at Zona Maco." *Artsy*, February 11.
- Rodney, Seph. "The Political Truths That Ground Our Athletic Heroes." *Hyperallergic*, February 8.
- Williams, Maxwell. "Art Los Angeles Contemporary fair perks up, but is it enough?" *The Art Newspaper*, January 31.
- 2017 "Sidelined." *Blouin Artinfo*, December 29.
- Cascone, Sarah. "How Artist Derek Fordjour Turned Cardboard and Newspaper Into a Carnival Funhouse." *Artnet*, December 18.
- Rodney, Seph. "A Dreamy Carnival at the Children's Museum in Harlem." *Hyperallergic*, November 22.
- Evans, Kelley D. "The Portrait of an Artist: Derek Fordjour's Immersive Wonderland Dedicated to Children." *The Undeclared* October. 6.
- Terrebonne, Jacqueline., "Derek Fordjour's Immersive Wonderland Dedicated to Children." *Galerie Magazine*, August 2.
- Walsh, Brienne. "The Jay-Z of the Art World Discusses His Upcoming Show In Harlem." *Forbes*, July 16.
- Caposella, Francesca. "Sports Are a Metaphor for Inequality in These Colorful Paintings." *Vice*, June 21.
- 2016 Zonca, Giulia. "L'artista che rappa con i colori: 'Lo sport è lo specchio della vita.'" *La Stampa*, October 12.
- Cohen, David. "Armory Pick of the Day: Derek Fordjour at Volta." *Art Critical*, March 3.
- Pagel, David. "And There is an End..." *Los Angeles Times*, March 21.
- Miranda, Carolina. "Derek Fordjour: Eight Paintings." *Los Angeles Times*, February. 4.
- 2015 Carter, Holland. "From Derek Fordjour, A Sense of Abandoned Ritual" *The New York Times*, November 19.
- 2014 Goodman, Jonathan. "Derek Fordjour: The Big Game." *The Brooklyn Rail*, October 7.
- Wright, Peter "Souleo". "Artist Derek Fordjour has a Lesson for the Sports World." *Ebony*, September 29.
- Wright, Pete "Souleo." "On the 'A' w/Souleo: The Sports World Could Learn From Derek Fordjour's Artworks." *Huffington Post*, September 24.
- "40 Amazing Black Artists to Watch in 2014." *theGrio*. January 3.

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## CATALOGUES AND PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 *Dark Light: Realism in the Age of Post-Truths. Selections from the Tony and Elham Salamé Collection Aïshti Foundation.* Edited by Massimiliano Gioni. Milan: Skira, 2022, pp. 268 - 271 (ill.).
- 2018 Gilman, Claire, Manon Slome, Derek Fordjour, and Black Chalk. *Fordjour.* New York: Black Chalk.

## PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Aïshti Foundation, Beirut, Lebanon  
Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia  
Beth Rudin DeWoody Collection, Palm Beach, Florida  
Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, New York  
Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, Ohio  
Craig Hall, Hall Group Collection, Dallas, Texas  
Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, Texas  
Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, California  
JP Morgan Chase Collection, New York, New York  
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California  
Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Illinois  
Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, California  
Nasher Museum of Art, Durham, North Carolina  
Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Pérez Art Museum Miami, Miami, Florida  
Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, Arizona  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, California  
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, New York  
The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York  
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York  
Yuz Museum, Shanghai, China