

Jenkins Johnson Gallery

Raelis Vasquez

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Established 1996. Member AIPAD and the San Francisco Art Dealers Association

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RAELIS VASQUEZ

Raelis Vasquez (b. 1995, Mao Valverde, Dominican Republic) draws on historical, political and personal narratives. His paintings are figurative compositions that conjure the complexity of the Afro-Latinx experience. The figures in Vasquez's work inhabit a state of vulnerability that often encourages the viewer to question their positions on class, race, and geography. He immigrated to the United States in 2002 from the Dominican Republic. Vasquez feels an overpowering responsibility (or calling) to the arts and towards his Black, Latinx, and immigrant communities. Vasquez's paintings are large-scale images that capture the historical and political narratives of his subjects while highlighting their emotional and personal narratives as well. The work ranges from traditional portraiture to contemporary genre scenes that represent people of color with multiple identities such as black, immigrant, mulatto, Afro-Latinx, and Latinx, all pressing against traditional concepts of what it means to be American.

Vasquez has exhibited in institutions such as the Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Art, Brooklyn, NY; El Museo del Barrio, NY; Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture, Charlotte, NC; and Urban Institute of Contemporary Art, MI. Vasquez received a Odyssey Travel Grant from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a Mare Residency at SunSpot Studios with MICA in Baltimore. He has a BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, in Painting and Drawing. He is a 2021 MFA graduate from Columbia University, emphasizing Painting and Drawing. He currently lives and works in New Jersey.



Raelis Vasquez, *And that ain't nothin*, 2021, signed verso, oil, acrylic, and sand on canvas, 84 x 60 in



Raelis Vasquez, *Canta y No Llores*, 2021, signed verso, oil, acrylic, and sand on canvas, 60 x 96 in



Raelis Vasquez
Canta y No Llores, 2021
oil, acrylic, and sand on canvas
60 x 96 inches
signed verso



Raelis Vasquez

And that ain't nothin, 2021
oil, acrylic, and sand on canvas
84 x 60 inches
signed verso

RAELIS VASQUEZ

BORN:

1995 Mao Valverde, Dominican Republic. Lives and works in New Jersey/New York City.

EDUCATION:

2019 Master of Fine Arts, with emphasis in Painting and Drawing, Columbia University, NY
2017 Monte Castello Painting and Studio Practice, Umbria, Italy
2016 with emphasis in Painting and Drawing, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
2013-2015 Associates in Liberal Arts, High Honors, Studio Arts, Art History, Middlesex County College, NJ

SELECT SOLO & TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS:

2020 *Como Nosotros Somos*, Two-Person Show, New Image Gallery, West Hollywood, CA
Celebrate Longevity, Two-Person Show, Superposition Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2019 *Both at Once*, Two-Person Show, Latchkey Gallery, NY, NY
Stateless, Two-Person Show, Baby Blue Gallery, Chicago, IL
2017 *It Takes All Kind*, Studio Oh!, Chicago, IL

SELECT GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

2021 Art Basel Miami Beach, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, Miami, FL
The Armory Show, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, New York, NY
Estamos Bien: La Trienal 20/21, El Museo Del Barrio, New York, NY
Frieze New York, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, New York, NY
2020 *Figurative Summer*, Jenkins Johnson Projects, Virtual Exhibition
One Way Ticket, Steve Turner Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
TB2P, CT Gallery, New York, NY
Parallel Realities & Unpopular Truths, Superposition Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
The Living Room Kitchen, The Andrew Freedman Home, Bronx, NY
2019 *Syn-co-pa-tion*, Ace Hotel/Tenth Magazine, Chicago, IL
Breaching the Margins, Urban Institute of Contemporary Arts, Grand Rapids, MI
Both At Once, Latchkey Gallery, New York, NY
Stateless, Baby Blue Gallery, Chicago, IL
Remnants of Things Left Behind, Band of Vices, Los Angeles, CA
Salon!, Rozsa Center for the Performing Art, Houghton, MI
Don't Be Scurred: Pathways to Liberation, Hairpin Arts Center, Chicago, IL
2018 *XL Catlin Art Prize*, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA
XL Catlin Art Prize, Linda Warren Projects, Chicago, IL
XL Catlin Art Prize, New York Academy of Art, New York, NY
The Latin American Contemporary Fine Art Competition, Agora Gallery, New York, NY
Interiors, Happy Gallery, Chicago, IL
The Art of Awareness, Fulton Street Market, Chicago, IL
A Remembrance of Beauty, Moody Fellowship Hall, Chicago, IL
SAIC BFA Show, SAIC Sullivan Galleries, Chicago, IL
Journey to America, Highland Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
Black Love Matters, William Hill Gallery, Chicago, IL
Buy Art Not Vices, NYCH Gallery, Chicago, IL
Rompiendo Barrera, Carlos and Dominguez Fine Arts Gallery, Chicago, IL
2017 *Black Love Matters*, SouthSide Arts Center, Chicago, IL
Mostradarte, The International Centre for the Arts, Monte Castello di Vibio, Umbria, Italy
Altering Realities, Fulton Street Collective, Chicago, IL

Taking Shape, Studio Oh! Chicago, IL

2016 *Understanding Time*, Ballroom Projects, Chicago, IL

ArtBash, Art Institute of Chicago. Chicago, IL

2015 *The Community Open House & Expo*, 50-Year Anniversary Exhibition

2014 *Perth Amboy Bi-Annual Exhibition*, Perth Amboy, NJ

Annual International Summer Exhibition, Highland Park, NJ