



CHARCOAL: Strokes of Vitality

curated by Kianah Jay

 Richard Levy Gallery

CHARCOAL: *Strokes of Vitality* is a group exhibition of works by Black artists working in New Mexico today. Curated by Kianah Jay, this show aims to expand Black spaces of celebration within the fine art community. This is essential in healing the wounds of structural racism and advocating for marginalized peoples in a measurable way. Each artist plays an important role in their respective communities and are invaluable key figures in the New Mexico arts community.



CHARCOAL

Strokes of Vitality

Paula Wilson

Carrizozo, NM

Paula Wilson is a multimedia artist who uses paint, collage, film, installation, and printmaking as explorations of myth, race, gender, sexuality, and the natural world.

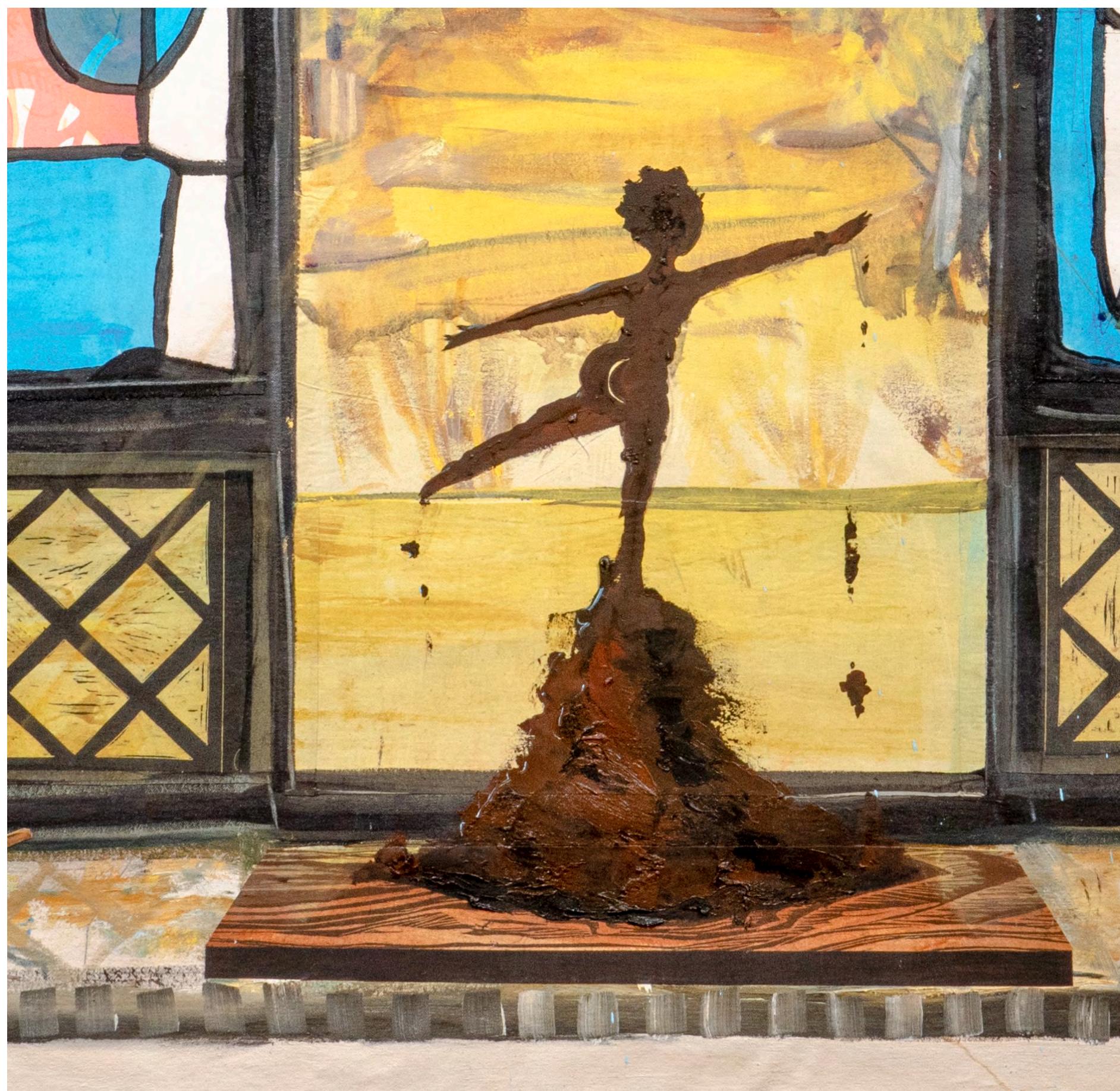


Paula Wilson
Reflected, 2020
oil, acrylic, woodblock print,
digital print, lithographic print
on muslin and canvas
71 x 50 inches
180.3 x 127 cm
\$14,000





□ Paula Wilson, *From the Ground Up*, 2020, woodblock print, acrylic, oil on muslin and canvas
62 x 72 inches, 157.5 x 182.9 cm, \$14,500



Paula Wilson
From the Ground Up
details





□ Paula Wilson
In the Desert: Mooning, 2016
collagraph on muslin from two plates,
handprinted collage on muslin and inkjet
collage on silk on canvas and wood
69.5 x 43.75 inches
176.5 x 111.1 cm
10/10
\$4,900



□ signature detail

Nikeshia Breeze

Taos, NM

The charcoal drawings are recreations of rare daguerreotypes of Black subjects. The artist rendered these images in human scale as a way to impart honor and recognition to Black ancestors.

In doing so, Breeze aspires to heal trauma along ancestral lines by reimagining the past to cleanse the present and redesign the future.



□ Nikesha Breeze
1860, 2020
raw charcoal and
graphite on cracked
gesso panel
60 x 48 inches
152.4 x 121.9 cm
\$10,800







Nikesha Breeze

1861, 2020

raw charcoal and graphite on cracked
gesso panel

60 x 48 inches

152.4 x 121.9 cm

\$10,800





□ Nikesha Breeze

A Land Effigy of Black and Indigenous kinship

2020

Hand sewn indigo dress, wild desert flowers, sage, lavender, bone, antler, red willow, and blue corn

66 x 48 x 48 inches

167.6 x 121.9 x 121.9 cm

Site specific commission

The Effigies hold the spirits of the freedom lands and the plants of healing, alongside the plantation crops and stolen indigenous ancestral medicines. They serve as guardians of Black, Indigenous, and Earth bodies.

Noé Barnett

Albuquerque, NM

Noé Barnett is an emerging painter and important muralist in the Albuquerque community. He uses his work to build bridges between polarized communities and works with light as both a subject and a medium. The four paintings in this exhibition are from the series *Life*. Each painting includes the visible light spectrum to represent the truth found in all possibilities while understanding and exposing polarities that lead to separateness.

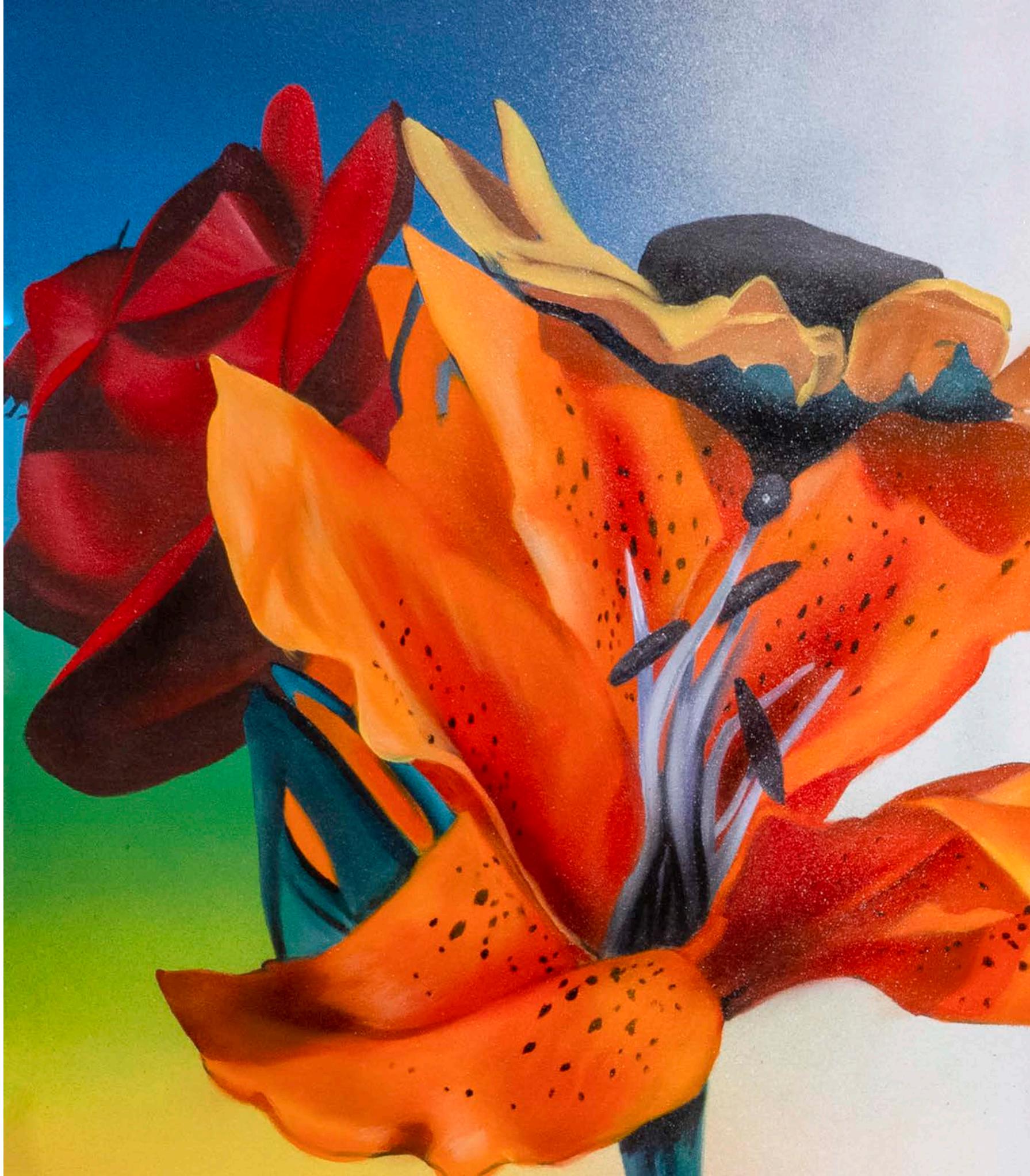


Noé Barnett





□ Noé Barnett
Give Life
2020
oil, aerosol, charcoal
56 x 44 inches
142.2 x 111.8 cm
\$4,500



□ Noé Barnett
Give Life
details

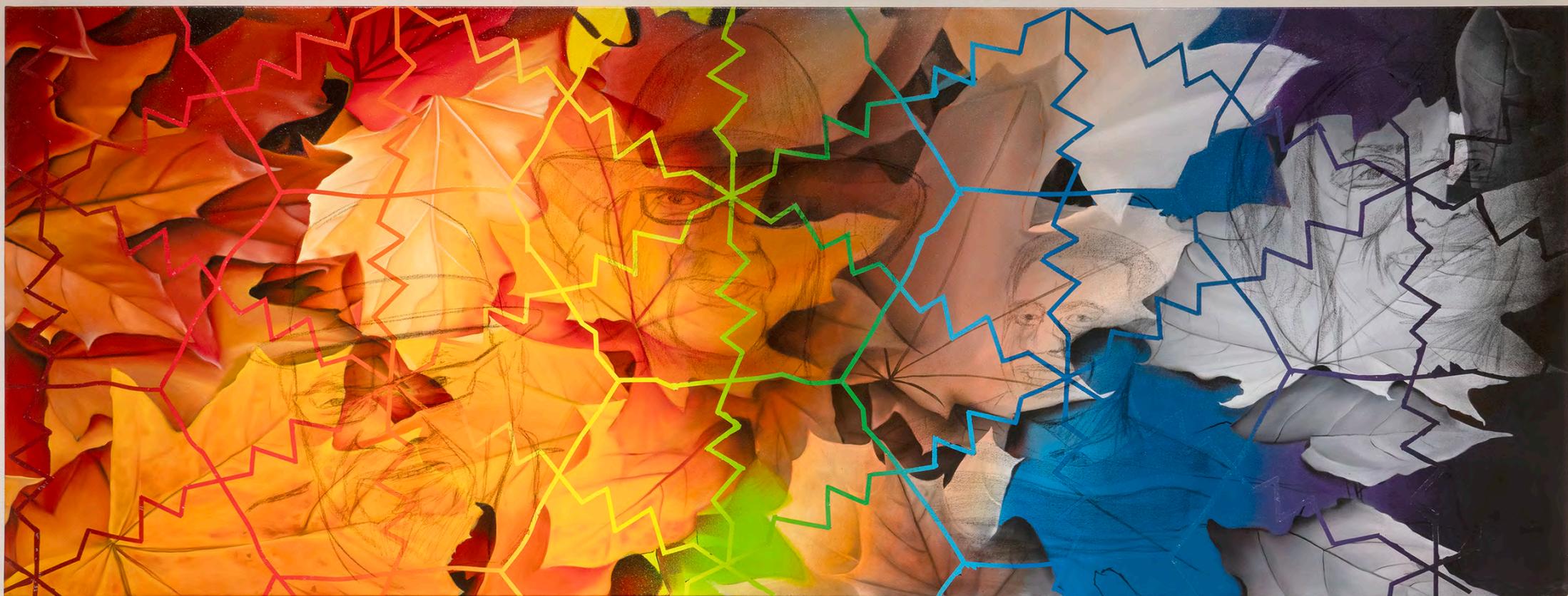




□ Noé Barnett
Pray for Life
2020
oil, aerosol, charcoal,
glass microbeads
68 x 58 inches
172.7 x 147.3 cm
\$5,500



□ detail



□ Noé Barnett
Leave Life, 2020
oil, aerosol, charcoal
34 x 84 inches
86.4 x 213.4 cmm
\$5,000





Noé Barnett, *Circle of Life*, 2020, oil, aerosol, charcoal, glass microbeads, 48 x 54 inches, 121.9 x 137.2 cm, \$4,000



Karsten Creightney

Albuquerque, NM

Karsten Creightney uses paint and collage to examine mythologies of written history and to reconstruct problematic narratives through a Black lens. Creightney makes art as an inquiry by reassembling, reorganizing, and repurposing existing materials to present truths and new possibilities that arise from the remnants of the past.



Karsten Creightney





□ Karsten Creightney, *12th and Resilience*, 2019, lithograph, 25 x 35 inches: print, 63.5 x 88.9 cm, Edition of 38, \$1,000 unframed, \$1,200 framed



□ Karsten Creightney, *West Rio Puerco*, 2020, collage, acrylic, oil and wax on canvas
40 x 46 inches: panel, 101.6 x 116.8 cm, \$5,000



□ Karsten Creightney, *Street Magician*, 2020, collage, acrylic, oil, and wax on linen, 48 x 72 inches, 121.9 x 182.9 cm, \$7,000



Kianah Jay

Albuquerque, NM / Los Angeles, CA

Kianah Jay's vibrant paintings depict the boundless feminine form. Originally a dancer, she blends her intuitive body knowledge with explosive color palettes, indigenous rhythms, and historical context. Jay performs under the name of TwoLips and is the curator of this exhibition.



Kianah Jay





□ Kianah Jay, *We Told You So*, 2020, acrylic on canvas , 36 x 60 inches: panel, 91.4 x 152.4 cm, \$3,600



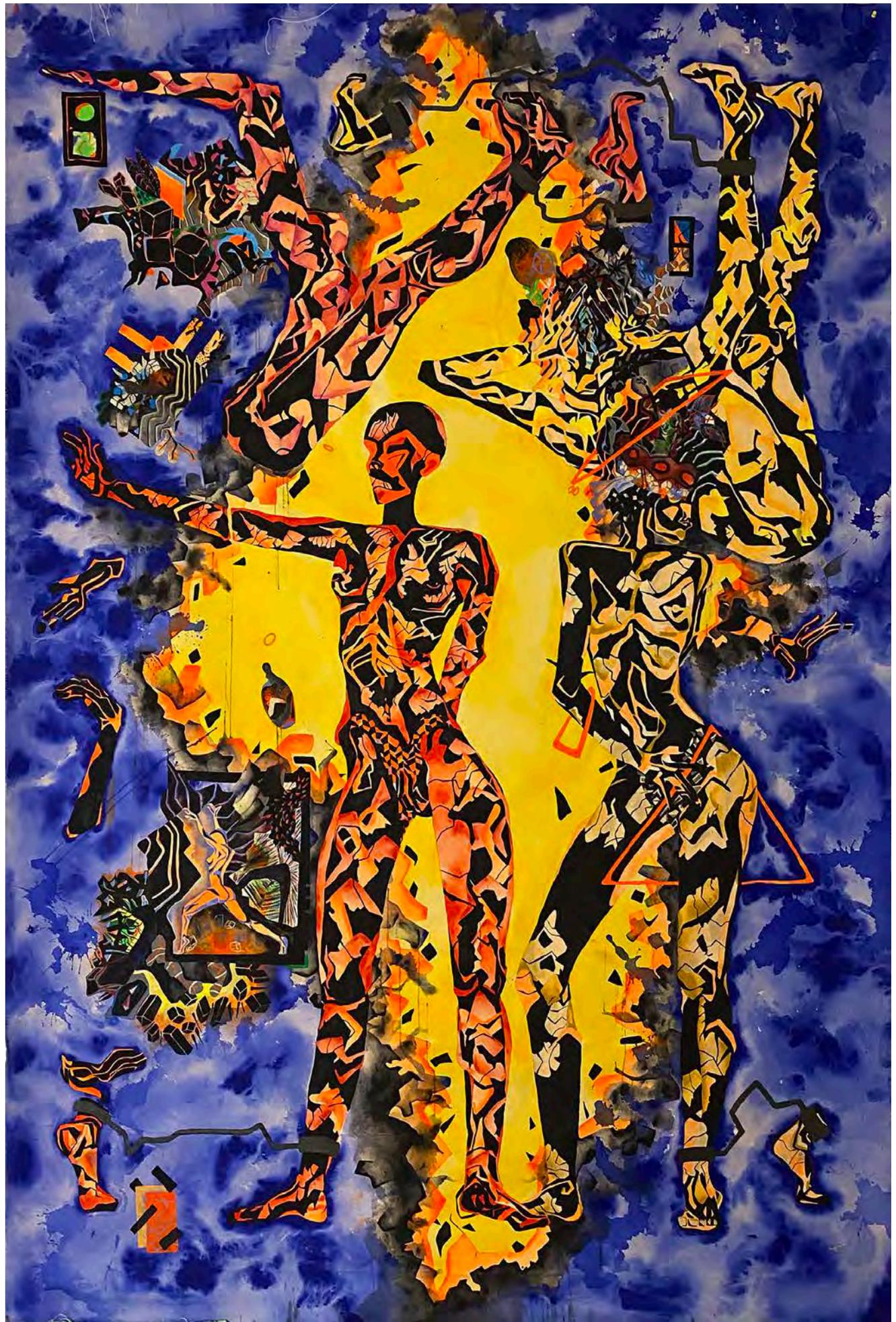


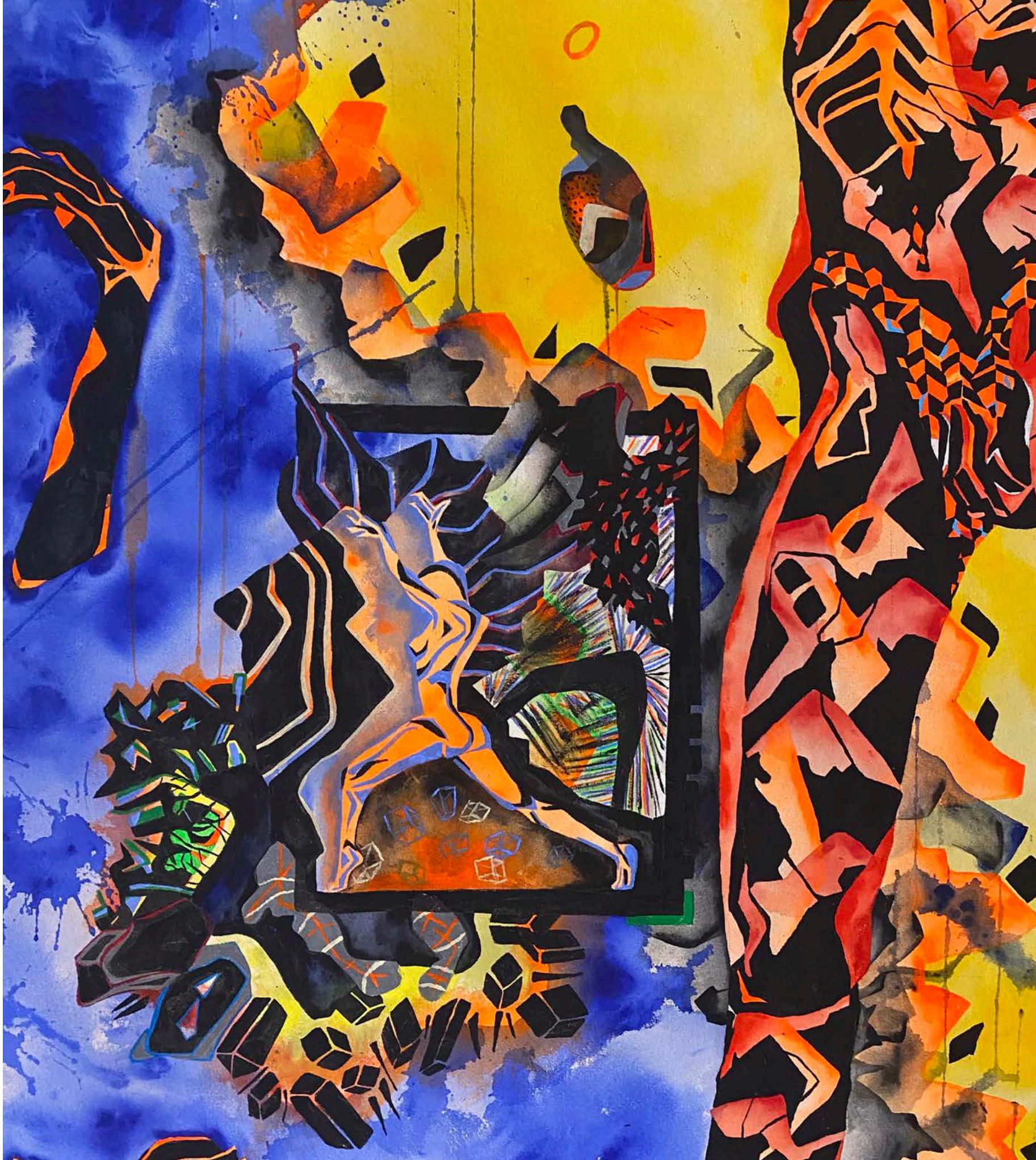
□ Kianah Jay
We Told You So
details





Kianah Jay
Significance of Four, 2020
acrylic on canvas
108 x 72 inches: panel
274.3 x 182.9 cm
\$5,000







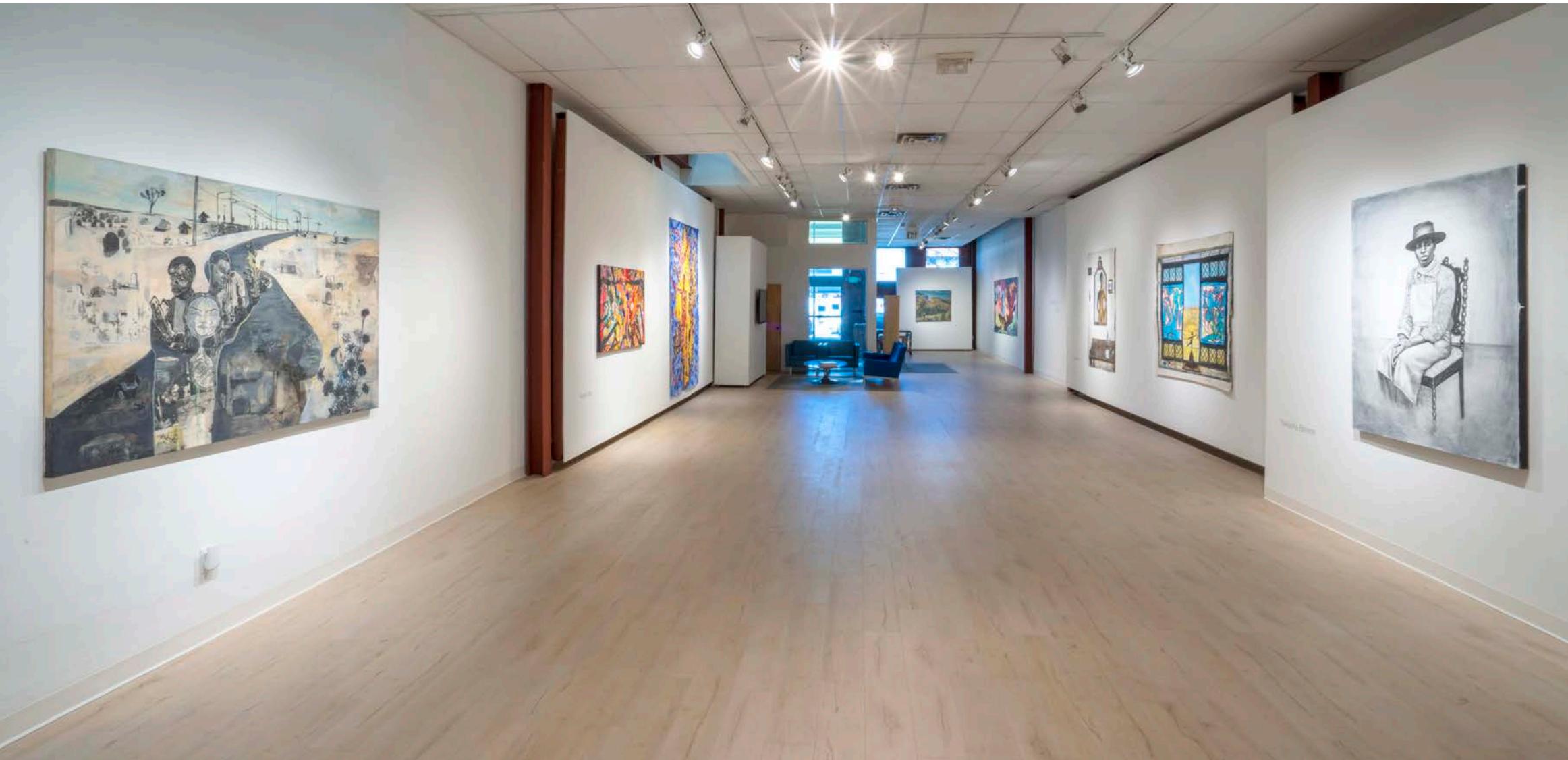
□ Kianah Jay
Significance of Four
details

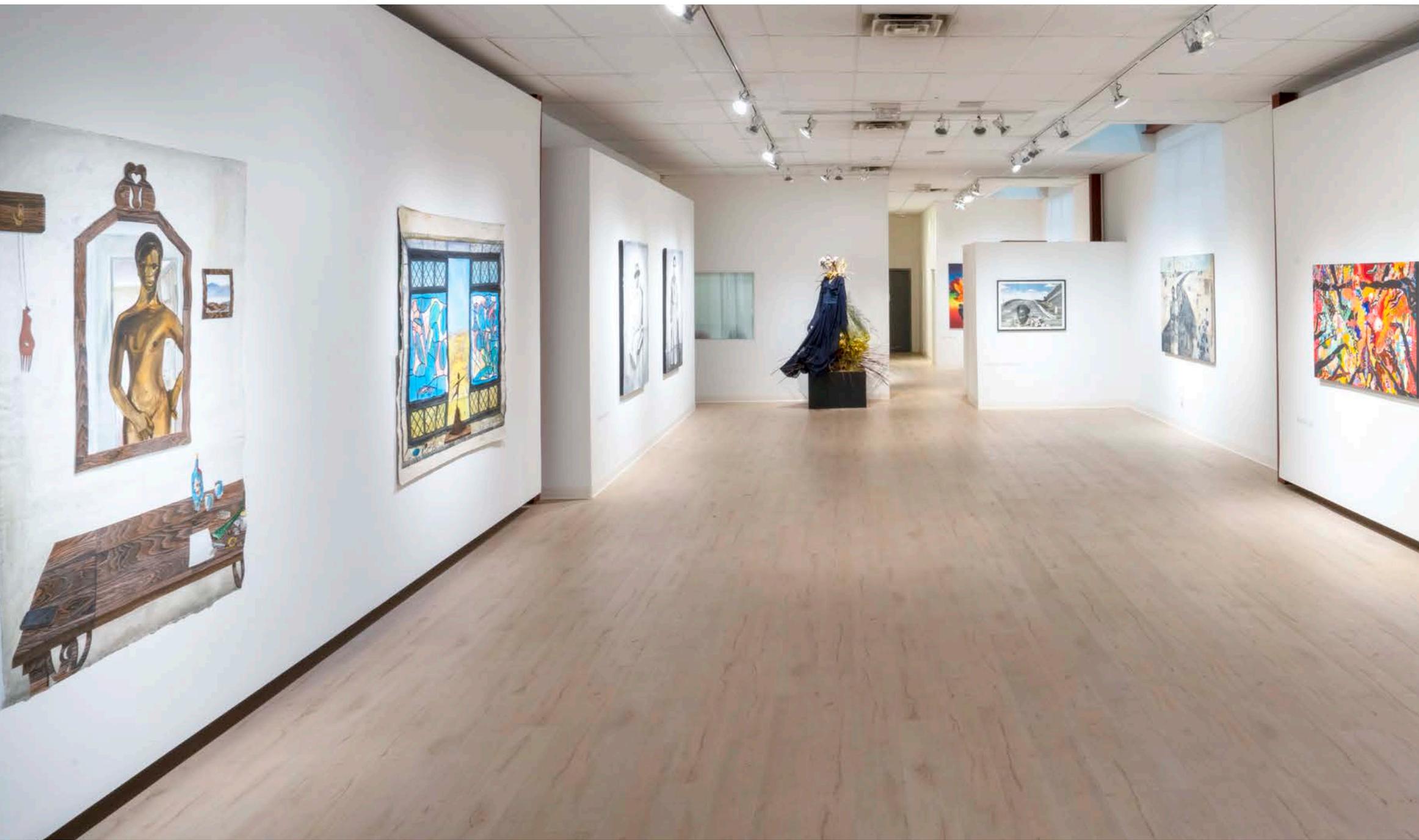




□ Kianah Jay, *Friends*, 2020, acrylic on unstretched canvas, 120 x 60 inches, 304.8 x 152.4 cm, \$5,500







“CHARCOAL surveys the landscape of blackness and resilience in the Land of Enchantment. Like Charcoal, the power of Black expression is heightened by the pressure blackness endures as it navigates the high-impact experiences on the body and psyche. Black culture is American culture is global culture. Celebrating a multigenerational group of artists, the exhibition depicts a healing universe in which the Black experience and lens are at the forefront.”

- Kianah Jay, curator

CHARCOAL

Strokes of Vitality



Richard
Levy
Gallery

Watch the Film