

CIERRA BRITTON GALLERY



Above: Kennedy Carter, *Soon As I Get Home*, 2018. Archival photo paper.

Body & Soul

Opening Thursday, November 10, 2022
Exhibition closes on November 25, 2022

Cierra Britton Gallery is thrilled to announce *Body & Soul*, a group exhibition of Black womxn photographers.

Body & Soul exhibits a collection of photographs depicting the reclamation of the Black body, culture, and space. The artists featured in this exhibit capture moments of reclamation through portraiture, investigation of space, and personal storytelling through photojournalism.

Rising above the long and problematic history of Black bodies being seen predominately through the white male gaze in visual culture, each of these artists have radically established their presence in contemporary photography by telling personal and communal stories through their lens.

Body & Soul features six artists including **Amandla Baraka, Kennedy Carter, Myesha Evon Gardner, Satchel Lee, Flo Ngala, and Ms. z tye.**

Amandla Baraka

Amandla Baraka is a self-taught Director and Photographer with strong roots in Newark, New Jersey. She developed her creativity under the influence of poetry giants and revolution. Her radical empathy is the driving force behind all of her work, challenging people to open their mind's eye to the beauty in sonder. The revolution in experiencing feelings and compassion for other people.

Now temporarily based in Los Angeles — Her experiences influence her contemplative images, holding space for empathy and humanity.

Kennedi Carter

A Durham, North Carolina native by way of Dallas Texas, Kennedy Carter is a photographer with a primary focus on Black subjects. Her work highlights the aesthetics & sociopolitical aspects of Black life as well as the overlooked beauties of the Black experience: skin, texture, trauma, peace, love and community. Her work aims to reinvent notions of creativity and confidence in the realm of Blackness.

Myesha Evon Gardner

Myesha Evon Gardner is a Brooklyn, New York-based photographer and art director originally from Cleveland, Ohio.

Cultural and social examinations by the way of personal experience guides her lens, which aims to expand a historically narrow societal presentation of underrepresented people and cultures. She directly challenges the limitations of such narratives through ongoing explorations depicting themes of legacy, love, and labor, offering an intimate view on the pride, joy, and self-determination of her family members and larger community.

Gardner holds a BFA degree in photography and graphic design from Parsons School of Design in New York City.

Satchel Lee

Satchel Lee is a filmmaker and photographer whose work is best described in portraiture. Using herself and others as subjects and collaborators, Lee is interested in preserving moments in time, (re)examining memories, and asking questions around identity.

Flo Ngala

Flo Ngala is a New York-based photographer with a passion for authentic image-making and photojournalism.

Born to a West African family in New York's notoriously vibrant Harlem neighborhood, Ngala spent her teenage years as a competitive figure skater, which later led to her first NYT assignment and cover: "When I Skate It Just Feels Free" in 2019, portraying the next generation of Black female figure skaters. Ngala's innate love for creativity and her culture has always been a theme within her work.

From impactful campaigns for Nike and Facebook, to uniquely constructed self-portraits, she continuously maintains integrity and humanity in her subjects while creating what she calls "powerful moments with people". This manifests itself 'also in her own personal photography of Gucci Mane and Cardi B - intimate portraits and travels with the two musicians first initiated her rise as a young talent in the photography and music space.

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Ms. z tye

Ms. z tye is a Brooklyn-based artist who is interested in physical investigations, including but not limited to: movement, voice, and theatre. z explores concepts through ancestral praise. She is intrigued with somatic relations and how they associate with emotional connectivity. These works are intended to serve as queer offerings to LGBTQIA-POC communities. z continues to research the kinesthetic body with instinctual energy to fulfill their curiosity.