

# GAGOSIAN

## Derrick Adams Biography

Born in 1970, Baltimore.  
Lives and works in New York.

### ***Education:***

2003 MFA, Columbia University, New York.  
1996 BFA, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY.

### ***Residencies:***

2019 Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, Captiva, FL.  
2010 The Fountainhead Residency, Miami.  
2003 Sharpe-Walentas Studio Program (f/k/a: Marie Walsh Sharpe Art Foundation), New York.  
2002 Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Skowhegan, ME.

### ***Selected Solo Exhibitions and Performances:***

2026 *Derrick Adams*. Billboard, Venice Biennale.  
*Derrick Adams: View Master*. Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston. Traveling to: Queens Museum, New York, 2027.

2025 *Derrick Adams: Situation Comedy*. Gagosian, Davies Street, London.

2024 *Derrick Adams: Fresh Paint*. Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill, NY.  
*Derrick Adams: The Strip*. Gagosian at APMA Cabinet, Seoul.  
*Derrick Adams: Future People . . . Take Off*. PES FUTURES, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: The Holdout II*. Express Newark, Newark, NJ.

2023 *Derrick Adams: Dewdrop Inn*. Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore.

2023 *Derrick Adams: RECESS*. Gagosian Shop, London.  
*Derrick Adams: Come as You Are*. Gagosian, Beverly Hills, CA.  
*Derrick Adams: I Can Show You Better Than I Can Tell You*. The FLAG Art Foundation, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: "... and friends."* Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago.

2022 *Derrick Adams: Sweet Spot*. LGDR HK, Hong Kong.

2021 *Derrick Adams: LOOKS*. Cleveland Art Museum, Cleveland.  
*Derrick Adams: Style Variations*. Salon 94, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: The Last Resort*. Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago.  
*Derrick Adams: Sanctuary*. The Momentary, Bentonville, AR.

2020 *Derrick Adams: Buoyant*. Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, FL.  
*Derrick Adams: Buoyant*. Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, NY.  
*Derrick Adams: Transformers*. Luxembourg & Dayan, London.

## GAGOSIAN

- Derrick Adams: Patrick Kelly, The Journey.* SCAD FASH, Museum of Fashion + Film, Atlanta.
- 2019 *Where I'm From — Derrick Adams.* Baltimore City Hall Gallery, Baltimore.  
*Derrick Adams: The Ins and Outs: Figures in the Urban Landscape.* Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago.  
*Derrick Adams: Beauty World.* Vigo Gallery, *Focus* at Frieze, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: New Icons.* Mary Boone Gallery, New York.
- 2018 *Derrick Adams: Interior Life.* Luxembourg & Dayan, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: People Person.* Galerie Anne de Villepoix, Paris.  
*Derrick Adams: Transmission.* Museum of Contemporary Art, Denver.  
*Derrick Adams: Sanctuary.* Museum of Arts and Design, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: The Journey Continues.* New York Live Arts, Ford Foundation, New York.
- 2017 *Derrick Adams: Black White and Brown.* Primary, Miami.  
*Derrick Adams: Figures in the Urban Landscape.* Tilton Gallery, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: Repose.* UTA Artist Space, Los Angeles.  
*Derrick Adams: Future People.* Stony Island Arts Bank, Chicago.  
*Derrick Adams: Patrick Kelly, The Journey.* Studio Museum in Harlem: in Harlem series at Countee Cullen Library, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: Network.* California African American Museum, Los Angeles.  
*Derrick Adams: Deconstruction Worker Portraits.* Tilton Gallery at Independent Art Fair, New York.
- 2016 *Derrick Adams: Tell Me Something Good.* Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago.  
*Kabinett: Derrick Adams.* Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Art Basel, Miami Beach, FL.  
*Derrick Adams: Float.* Vigo Gallery, London.  
*Derrick Adams: Finding Derrick 6 to 8.* The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: ON.* Pioneer Works, Brooklyn, NY.  
*Derrick Adams: Culture Club.* Project for Empty Space, Newark, NJ.  
*Derrick Adams: Crossroad: A Social Sculpture.* Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, NE.
- 2015 *Derrick Adams: Black and White and In Color.* Galerie Anne de Villepoix, Paris.  
*Derrick Adams: Pablo Fanque's Circus Royal/SIDESHOW.* PERFORMA 15, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: The Holdout.* Aljira, A Center for Contemporary Art, Newark, NJ.  
*Derrick Adams: The Entertainer: Static / Distortion / Interference.* Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, AL.
- 2014 *Derrick Adams: LIVE and IN COLOR.* Jack Tilton Gallery, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: The Entertainer: Static / Distortion / Interference.* Logan Center, Chicago.  
*Derrick Adams. T Magazine* at Villa Necchi-Campiglio, Milan.  
*Derrick Adams: Borough.* Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago.
- 2013 *Derrick Adams: Aestheticized Reductions of Self-Representation.* Hales Gallery, London.  
*Derrick Adams: Once Upon a Time* (commissioned by the Calder Foundation). PERFORMA '13, Salon 94, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: The Institute of Me.* PERFORMA '13, Performa Hub, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: DISPLAY: Cloaked In The Proprieties Of The Culture Game.* 80WSE Gallery, New York University, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: Becoming One With Your Environment.* Galerie Anne De Villepoix, Paris.

## GAGOSIAN

- 2012 *Derrick Adams: The Channel.* BAM Next Wave Festival, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Brooklyn, NY.  
*Derrick Adams: Hillman U.: A Dream Deferred, A Dream Fulfilled.* Proposition Gallery, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: The World According to Derrick.* Mills Gallery, Boston Center for the Arts, Boston.  
*Derrick Adams: Communicating with Shadows.* Studio Museum in Harlem, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: Man As His Element.* Colburn Gallery, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT.  
*Derrick Adams: Deconstruction Worker.* Jack Tilton Gallery, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: Feed Them With A Long Spoon.* Third Streaming, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: Go Stand Next to the Mountain.* The Kitchen, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: Welcome to Monument City.* Collette Blanchard Gallery, New York.
- 2009 *Derrick Adams: Introduction to Bizarro Wiz.* Collette Blanchard Gallery, NADA, Miami Beach, FL.
- 2006 *Derrick Adams: Sometimes I Just Don't Feel Like Myself.* Momenta Arts, Brooklyn, NY.
- 2005 *Derrick Adams: Anew.* PERFORMA 05, Participant Inc, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: I'm Sorry, I'm Lost.* Marvelli Gallery, New York.  
*Derrick Adams: I'm Smoke; You're Mirror.* PARTICIPANT INC, New York.
- 2004 *Derrick Adams: Me and My Imaginary Friends.* Triple Candie, New York.
- 2003 *Derrick Adams: The Big Getaway.* Jack Tilton Gallery, New York.

### **Selected Group Exhibitions:**

- 2025 *APMA, Chapter Five: The World They Paint.* Amorepacific Museum of Art, Seoul.  
*Go Big Red.* Sheldon Museum of Art, Lincoln, NE.  
*Pool Party: The Pool in American Art.* Mennello Museum of American Art, Orlando, FL.  
*Color Outside the Lines, from the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation.* Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art at Washington State University, Pullman.  
*Breaking the Mold: Brooklyn Museum at 200.* Brooklyn Museum, New York.  
*Just Playin' Around.* Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art at Portland State University, Eugene, OR.  
*A to Sze: Collecting at MAM (2000-2025).* Montclair Art Museum, NJ.  
*Layers: The Art of Contemporary Collage.* Decker Gallery at Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore.
- 2024 *Pop Forever, Tom Wesselmann &...* Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris.  
*George Clinton: Cloaked in a Cloud, Disguised in the Sky.* Museum of Art, Savannah College of Art and Design, GA.  
*Line & Thread: Prints and Textiles from the 1600s to the Present.* Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, New York Public Library.  
*Couples Squared.* Southampton Arts Center, New York.  
*Deserve What You Dream.* NXTHVN, New Haven, CT.  
*Effetto Notte: Nuovo Realismo Americano.* Gallerie Nazionali di Arte Antica, Palazzo Barberini, Rome.  
*Strike Fast, Dance Lightly: Artists on Boxing.* Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, FL.  
*The Whole World Smiles with You.* Opera Gallery, London.

## GAGOSIAN

- Chromophilia: Coloring Outside the Lines, from the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation.* Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR.
- Andy Warhol's Long Shadow.* Gagosian, Hong Kong.
- Giants: Art from the Dean Collection of Swizz Beatz and Alicia Keys.* Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY. Traveled to: High Museum of Art, Atlanta; Minneapolis Institute of Art, 2025; Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, 2025.
- 2023 *Kindred Words: the Priscila and Alvin Hudgins Collection.* Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, NY.
- The Culture: Hip Hop and Contemporary Art in the 21st Century.* Saint Louis Art Museum.
- Black California Dreamin': Claiming Space at America's Leisure Frontier.* California African American Museum, Los Angeles
- Strike Fast, Dance Lightly: Artists on Boxing.* FLAG Art Foundation, New York.
- Beyond Granite: Pulling Together.* Curated by Monument Lab, National Mall, Washington D.C.
- Multiplicity: Blackness in Contemporary American Collage.* Frist Art Museum, Nashville, TN.
- 2022 *Order / Reorder: Experiments with Collections.* Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, NY.
- 2021 *Derrick Adams and Barbara Earl Thomas: Packaged Black.* Henry Art Gallery, Seattle.
- The Eyes Have It.* Lehman College Art Gallery, Bronx, NY.
- and I will wear you in my heart of heart.* FLAG Art Foundation, New York.
- TEXTURES: the history and art of Black hair.* Kent State University Museum, Kent, OH.
- Drawing 2020.* Barbara Gladstone Gallery, New York.
- Grace Before Jones: Camera, Disco, Studio.* Nottingham Contemporary, London.
- Mass Ornament: Pleasure, Play, and What Lies Beneath.* South Etna Montauk, Montauk, NY.
- Painting is Painting's Favorite Food: Art History as Muse.* South Etna Montauk, Montauk, NY.
- Jacob Lawrence: The American Struggle.* Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA.
- Collectouples.* New York Academy of Art, New York.
- Sounds Lasting and Leaving.* Luxembourg & Dayan, New York.
- 2019 *The Extreme Present* (presented by Larry Gagosian). Moore Building, Miami Design District, Miami Beach, FL.
- Mickalene Thomas: Better Nights.* Bass Museum, Miami Beach, FL.
- Painting Is Its Own Country.* Harvey B. Gantt Center, Charlotte, NC.
- Men of Change: Power. Triumph. Truth* (organized by Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Services). National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, Cincinnati.
- Figuring the Floral.* Wave Hill, Bronx, NY.
- Edward Hopper and the American Hotel.* Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA.
- Black Refractions: Highlights from The Studio Museum of Art.* The Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco.
- 2018 *Scripted Reality: The Life and Art of Television.* Museo Jumex, Mexico City.
- American Family.* Gordon Parks Foundation, Pleasantville, NY.
- Punch!.* Deitch Gallery, New York.
- MAD Collects: The Future of Craft, Part 1.* Museum of Arts and Design, New York.

## GAGOSIAN

- Talisman in the Age of Difference.* Stephen Friedman Gallery, London.  
*Go Figure.* Pizzuti Collection, Columbus.
- 2017 *Pop Stars! Popular Culture and Contemporary Art.* 21c Museum Hotel, Oklahoma City.  
*Jacob Lawrence: Lines of Influence.* SCAD, Savannah, GA.  
*Third Space: Shifting Conversations About Contemporary Art.* Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, AL.
- 2016 *Best Dressed Chicken in Town.* Art Basel Film, Miami Beach, FL.  
*40 Years, Part 2: Gender. Race. Identity.* Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago.  
*40 Years, Part 1: Minimal. Conceptual.* Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago.  
*Experiments in Print: Derrick Adams, Matthew Day Jackson, Dread Scott & Kate Shepherd.* The Print Center, Philadelphia.
- 2015 *Black Pulp.* Yale School of Art, 32 Edgewood Gallery, New Haven, CT.  
*Young, Gifted and Black.* Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa.  
*Us Is Them.* Pizzuti Collection, Columbus.
- 2014 *Radical Presence: Black Performance in Contemporary Art.* Walker Art Center, Minneapolis.
- 2013 *Outside the Lines: Black in the Abstract, Part II: Hard Edges/Soft Curves.*  
*Radical Presence.* Studio Museum in Harlem, New York.  
*The Shadows Took Shape.* Studio Museum in Harlem, New York.  
*Reading List: Artists' Selections from the MoMA Library Collection.* Museum of Modern Art, New York.  
*Reloading the Canon: African Traditions in Contemporary Art.* The James E. Lewis Museum of Art, Baltimore.
- 2012 *Radical Presence; Black Performance In Contemporary Art.* The Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston.  
*Sonando en Color, Havana Biennial.* Centro Experimental De Los Artes Visuales, Havana.  
*Next Generation: Selections by Artists in the 30 Americans Collection.* Contemporary Wing, Washington, DC.  
*Sunday Sessions.* MoMA PS1, Long Island City, NY.  
*The Entertainer: Static | Distortion | Interference.* MoMA PS1, Long Island City, NY.
- 2011 *The Bearden Project.* Studio Museum in Harlem, New York.
- 2006 *The Pulse of New Brooklyn.* MoCADA, Brooklyn, NY.
- 2005 *Greater New York 2005.* MoMA PS1, Long Island City, NY.
- 2004 *Open House: Working in Brooklyn.* Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY.
- 2003 *Veni Vidi Video.* Studio Museum in Harlem, New York.  
*Club in the Shadow.* Kenny Schachter Contemporary, New York.  
*Adams, Cerrillo, Perkins.* Massimo Audiello, New York.

### **Public Commissions:**

- 2024 *Moynihan Connector Billboard.* High Line, New York.
- 2023 *Art on The Mart.* The Mart, Chicago.  
*The City is My Refuge.* Art at Amtrak, Penn Station, New York.
- 2022 *Eye Candy.* IFPDA Print Fair, New York.  
*Lift As You Climb.* The Walls Off Washington, Kranzberg Arts Foundation, St. Louis.  
*Funtime Unicorns.* Rockefeller Center, New York.
- 2021 *On Site: Derrick Adams: Our Time Together.* Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee.

## GAGOSIAN

*Joyride I* and *Joyride II*. The Modern Window, Museum of Modern Art, New York.

- 2020 *How I Spend My Summer Break*. RxART, Pediatric Emergency Dept, NYC Health + Hospitals, Harlem, New York.
- 2019 *Around the Way*. Metropolitan Transportation Authority Arts & Design, LIRR Nostrand Ave Station, Brooklyn, NY.
- Fashion Accessories*. Fashion Outlets of Chicago, Rosemont, IL.
- 2018 *Fashion Show* and *Fashion Accessories*. Fashion Outlets of Chicago, Rosemont, IL.
- 2017 *Your Own Channel*. Mural Arts Philadelphia, Philadelphia.

### **Awards:**

- 2024 American Federation of Arts Cultural Leadership Award.
- 2018 Gordon Parks Foundation Fellowship, Pleasantville, NY.
- 2016 Joyce Alexander Wein Artist Prize, New York.
- 2014 S.J. Weiler Fund, New York.
- 2009 Louis Comfort Tiffany Award, New York.
- 2001–2003 Agnes Martin Fellowship.

### **Collections:**

21C Museum Hotel, Durham, NC  
Agnes Gund, New York  
Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin, OH  
Amorepacific Museum of Art, Seoul  
Baltimore Museum of Art  
Birmingham Museum of Art, AL  
de Young, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco  
Estee Lauder Collection, New York  
Fondation Gandur pour l'Art, Genève, Geneva  
Ford Foundation, New York  
Hall Art Foundation, Southport, CT  
Hessel Museum of Art, Bard College, Annandale-On-Hudson, NY  
Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, NY  
Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation, Eugene, OR  
JP Morgan Chase, New York  
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York  
Microsoft Art Collection, Redmond, WA  
Montclair Museum of Art, NJ  
Mott-Warsh Collection, Flint, MI  
Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, OH  
Portland Museum of Art, Portland, ME  
Prada Foundation, Milan  
Progressive Insurance, Mayfield, OH  
RISD Museum, Providence, RI  
Studio Museum in Harlem, New York  
University of Maryland, College Park

# GAGOSIAN

UBS Art Collection, New York  
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond  
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York