



EMERGENT & Spotlight: Olatunbosun Akinyelure

August 21-October 18



WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO THE
EXHIBITION COMMUNITY TEAM

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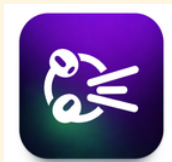
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About the Exhibition

EMERGENT

Emergent celebrates the next generation of Northeast Ohio artists, bringing together a diverse group of creators in the early stages of their artistic journey. Representing a wide range of educational backgrounds, lived experiences, and independent practices, the exhibition reflects the vitality of a region where creativity continues to grow.

Summary

- This exhibition features new Northeast Ohio artists from different backgrounds and experiences.

Working across textiles, glass, printmaking, painting, sculpture, and mixed media, the artists showcase a range of distinctly personal approaches. Romy Anderson explores relationships between color, Scout Bach examines identity and community, Ryan Clark invents imagined worlds, Layla Davis-Branner reflects on faith and personal history, Emma Gatzulis investigates memory, Annie O'Brien celebrates women excelling in traditionally male-dominated spaces, Gabs Rataiczak is inspired by family and skate culture, and Jazzee Rozier explores emotion, relationships, and survival.

Summary

- The artwork includes textiles, glass, printmaking, painting, sculpture, and mixed media, with each artist exploring different ideas and experiences.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, September 24 | 7:00pm

Ekphrastacy: Artists Speak + Poets Respond

Join our Heights Poet Laureate, Michelle R. Smith, along with guest poets for an evening of poetry inspired by the current exhibitions. The poets will offer their unique interpretations and responses to these themes through live performances. Additionally, the exhibiting artists will also share insights into their work. This popular event fills up quick so make sure to RSVP! A guest from The Heard Interpreting Services will join as the performing interpreter for American Sign Language.

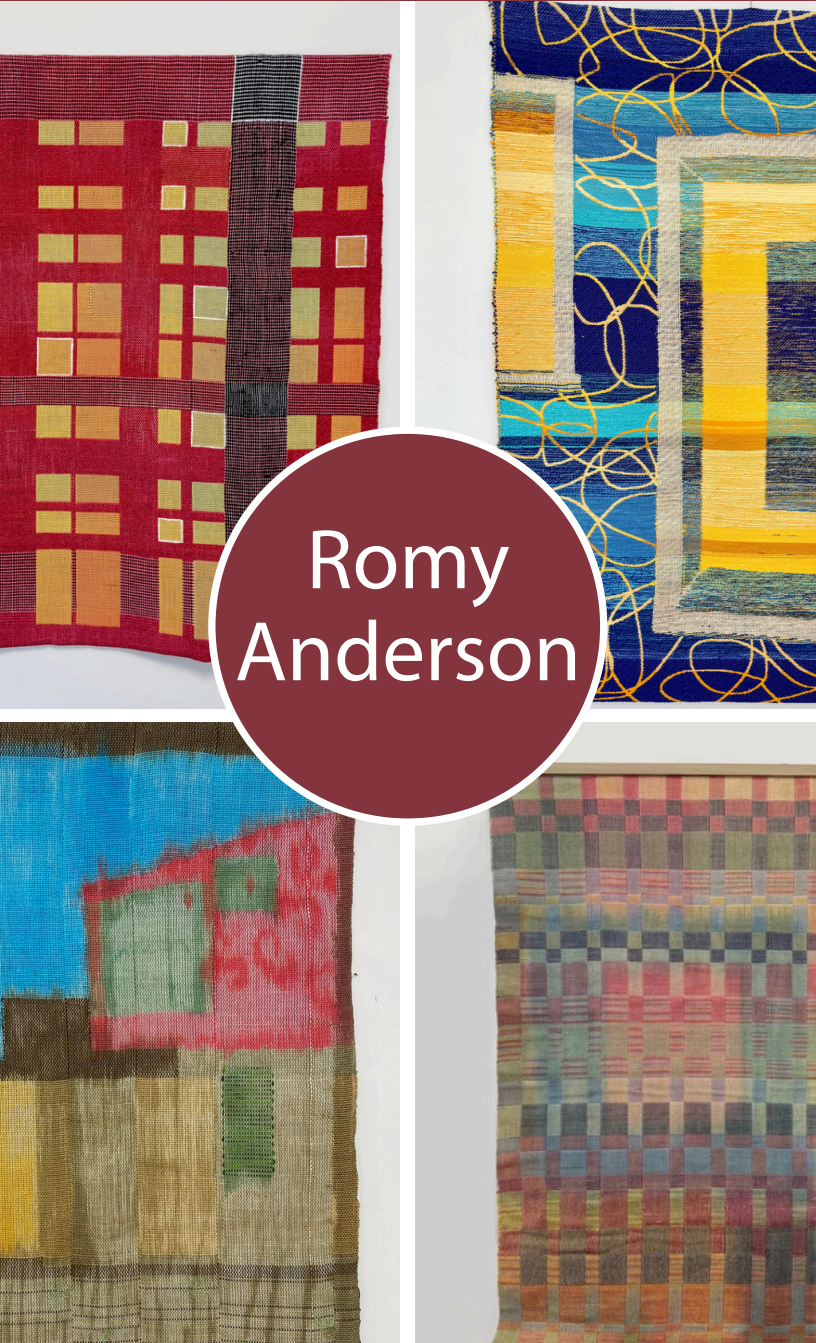
Friday, October 16 | 5:00pm

Last Look

Join us for a Last Look at the current exhibitions and celebrate the closing reception with the artists.

Visit heightsarts.org/events for RSVP and details

EMERGENT

The image is a collage of four textile artworks by Romy Anderson. The top-left piece features a red fabric with a grid of yellow and orange squares, separated by dark vertical and horizontal bands. The top-right piece shows a blue fabric with yellow and orange horizontal stripes and a white grid, overlaid with yellow scribbled lines. The bottom-left piece has a blue background with a red and green rectangular patch and a yellow and green striped section. The bottom-right piece is a dense, multi-colored checkerboard pattern. A central maroon circle with a white border contains the artist's name.

Romy
Anderson

AUGUST 21 - OCTOBER 18,
2026

Biography



"My artistic exploration revolves around the fundamental grid that the loom creates."

Romy Anderson is a textile artist based out of Northeast Ohio and attended Kent State University obtaining a BFA in Textiles.

Romy has always had a love for visual arts, math, and color. Weaving turned out to be the perfect combination of these passions. Specializing in double weave with painted warps, Romy delves into the fundamental grid created by the loom.

Summary

- Romy is a textile artist with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Kent State University.
- She combines her interests in art, math, and color through weaving.

Drawing from architecture and travel, her weavings explore the interaction of color while deconstructing the illusionistic aspect of spaces.

In addition to her personal practice, Romy is an Instructor, Residency and Program Manager at Praxis Fiber Workshop in Cleveland Ohio.

Summary

- Her pieces use geometric patterns inspired by architecture and places she had traveled.
- Romy is an instructor and the Residency and Program Manager at Praxis Fiber Workshop in Cleveland.

Statement

My artistic exploration revolves around the fundamental grid that the loom creates. A matrix where warp and weft converge, creating intricate patterns and textures. Guided by the constraints of the loom, my work finds its formation, embracing my love for organization, mathematics and creativity.

Summary

- Romy uses the woven grid created by the loom as a starting point for each artwork.
- She combines organization, math, and creativity through weaving.
- She creates patterns and textures by weaving threads together.

I am drawn to the relationship of color, the optical blending that is created through the connection of the warp and weft. The loom provides an opportunity for precision. I enjoy structure and pattern in my everyday life and the loom helps translate this interest. Drawing from architecture and travel, my weavings explore the interaction of color while deconstructing the illusionistic aspect of spaces.

Summary

- Her work explores how different colors interact when woven together.

The warp gives me a base and something to react to in the beginning process of weaving. In contrast, the dye process allows me to be unconstrained and free. I achieve vibrant colors through painted warp. Directly painting the dye on the warp threads before threading provides me with flexibility like painting on a blank canvas.

Summary

- Romy paints dye directly onto the breads before weaving.
- This process gives her more freedom to create bright colors and unique designs.



romyanderson.com



COMPLEX

Hand painted and hand dyed cotton yarn

38" x 38"

2025

\$900.00

A square woven textile is made with red, yellow, orange, black, gray, and white fibers. Red lines form a grid around yellow and orange rectangles in different sizes. Two wide vertical bands of black and gray stripes run from top to bottom. Three horizontal striped bands of red and black cross the piece near the middle, top, and bottom. A few of the squares are outlined in white. The edges are slightly uneven, and the woven texture is visible across the surface.



RINSED

Hand painted and hand dyed cotton yarn

36" x 45"

2025

\$1,000.00

A rectangular woven textile is made with muted red, pink, orange, yellow, green, blue, and gray fibers. Vertical and horizontal bands cross the surface, forming a grid of rectangles and squares in different sizes. The colors repeat across the piece, with some areas made of solid blocks and others made of narrow stripes. The textile hangs from wooden bars at the top and bottom, and the woven texture is visible across the surface.



BURANO

Hand dyed cotton yarn

24" x 24"

2025

\$800.00

A rectangular woven textile is made with blue, turquoise, yellow, and cream fibers. The blue background is covered with thin yellow lines that loop and overlap across the surface. In the center, a large cream rectangle surrounds a yellow rectangle with a tall blue rectangle in the middle. A second cream and yellow rectangle is partially visible along the left edge. The woven texture is visible throughout.



CLASS

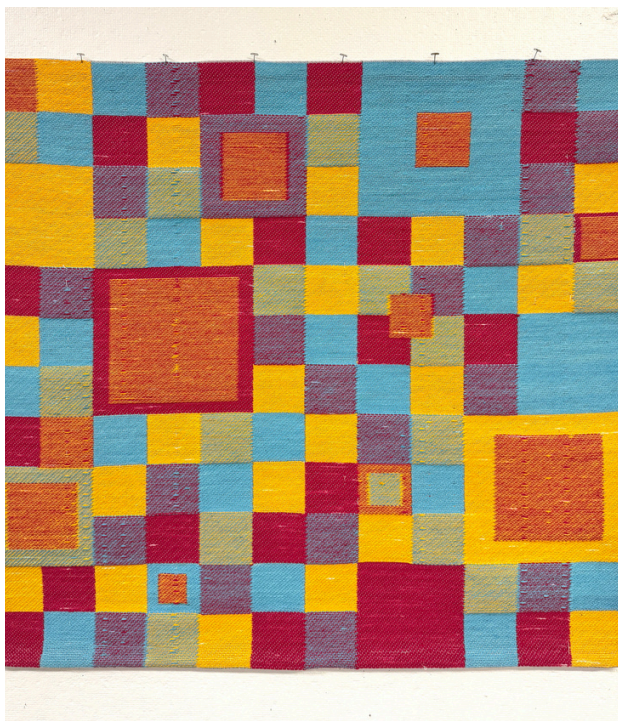
Hand painted and hand dyed cotton yarn

34" x 27"

2025

\$800.00

A rectangular woven textile made of blue, red, yellow, green, and brown fibers. Large blocks of color fill the surface, with a bright blue area across the upper left and a red area in the upper right. Yellow and brown rectangles fill the middle section, with several small green rectangles scattered throughout. The lower section is rectangles of striped brown and green in a long row. Brown woven bands run along the top, bottom, sides, and across the middle.



UNTITLED

Hand dyed cotton yarn

27" x 28"

2025

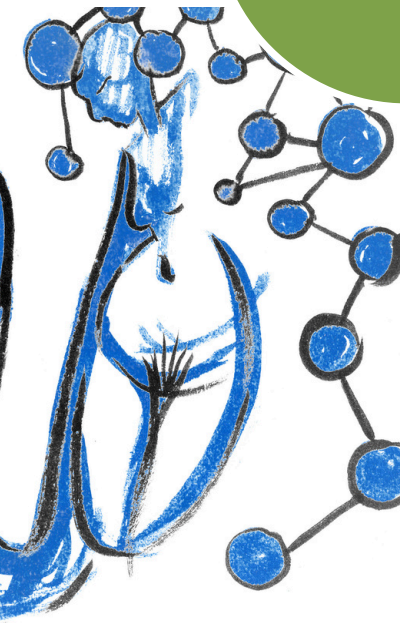
\$700.00

This woven wall hanging is composed of a grid of squares in light blue, yellow, red, and areas where the threads blend to create the appearance of purple, green, and orange. The repeating grid is interrupted by larger yellow, blue, and red squares, as well as larger and smaller orange-toned squares framed by contrasting colors that create focal points throughout the composition. Rows of raised stitched lines add subtle texture.

EMERGENT



Scout Bach



AUGUST 21 - OCTOBER 18,
2026

Biography



"Art has always been my companion, at times like a ghost. It has taken shape in ways that met me exactly where I was, filling gaps where people, language, or understanding were missing."

Scout Bach is a Cleveland-based artist, printmaker, and gallery worker whose practice is rooted in community, identity, and experimental print processes. They currently serve as Gallery Coordinator at Zygote Press, where they support exhibitions and public programming while continuing to develop their own studio work.

Summary

- Scout's artwork explores community, identity, and printmaking.
- They are the Gallery Coordinator at Zygote Press.

Bach's work has been exhibited widely across Northeast Ohio, including recent shows such as Dayglo at Waterloo Arts and Women in Print at FIG, as well as exhibitions at Zygote Press, Valley Art Center, and the LGBTQ+ Center in Cleveland. Their involvement in artist-run and community-centered spaces reflects an ongoing commitment to collaborative and accessible artmaking.

Summary

- Their artwork has been shown in galleries across Northeast Ohio.
- They enjoy creating art in community spaces and making art more accessible to others.

They have participated in several competitive fellowships, including residencies at Terravista Studios, Cleveland Print Room, and the School of The New York Times, where they expanded their interdisciplinary approach to visual culture and communication.

Summary

- They have completed several artist fellowship and residency programs.
- These experiences helped them explore new ideas and ways of making art.

Bach has been recognized as a highlighted artist at the MoCA Black Arts Showcase and featured in CAN Journal and Culture Jock. In addition to visual art, they were awarded a Scholastic Gold Key for poetry, reflecting a broader interest in language and narrative. They are currently pursuing a BA in Accounting at Cleveland State University, bringing an analytical perspective to their creative practice and engagement with arts organizations.

Summary

- Their work has been recognized by several arts organizations and publications.
- They are also a writer and have received an award for poetry.
- They are studying accounting at Cleveland State University.

Statement

Art has always been my companion, at times like a ghost. It has taken shape in ways that met me exactly where I was, filling gaps where people, language, or understanding were missing. In moments of loneliness, grief, and loss, art became a way to describe and count: the colors of my bed sheets, the look in my mother's eye, the presence of empty rooms.

Summary

- Art has helped Scout express feelings and experiences throughout their life.
- They use art to explore memories, emotions, and personal experiences.

My practice begins with repetition; dots, lines, marks that function as meditation. What started as stippling grew into language, then into image-making: drawings, prints, and sculptural forms that act as prayers. These works explore the tension between inner and external identity, particularly through portrayals of Black womanhood that center intimacy, strength, and selfhood.

Summary

- Their artwork begins with repeated dots, lines, and marks.
- They create drawings, prints, and sculptures that explore identity, strength, and personal experience.

I am interested in the philosophy of the self; what is felt versus what is seen, what is remembered versus what is real. My figures exist in that in-between space, holding contradictions while searching for clarity and care. Through printmaking and material exploration, I create pieces that are both personal and shareable, bridging illustration, design, and functional art.

Summary

- Their artwork explores the difference between how people see themselves and how others see them.
- They use printmaking and different materials to create artwork that shares personal experiences with others.

As I've grown, my work has expanded into imagining futures: worlds that are softer, more equitable, and more present. Worlds where memory is held gently, where bodies take up space, and where no one is made to feel small.

Ultimately, my work is an act of coping, witnessing, and rebuilding. It is a way of speaking when words fall short, and a way of making space for others to do the same.

Summary

- Their artwork imagines kinder and more welcoming futures.
- They create art to process experiences and help others feel seen and understood.



scoutbach.com



@scout.2224



ADDENDA

Thrown stoneware

12" x 18" x 18"

2026

\$1,300.00

A round-bodied vase with a wide opening at the top. Three sides of the vase is covered with a layered black scalloped shape to resemble hair. The front features a cream-color painted face with large black eyes, thick black eyebrows, a small nose, full black lips, and bright red circles on the cheeks.



LOVERS

Acrylic on canvas

20" x 16"

2025

\$650.00

A rectangular painting of bright red, orange, blue, purple, black, white, and yellow. Two large abstract faces fill most of the composition. The face on the left is painted with blue, purple, and red, with white and yellow lips. The face on the right is mostly orange and red, with a blue forehead, a white circular eye, and a white mouth. A black vertical shape with red and yellow rectangles runs between the two faces. Thick brushstrokes, painted lines, and layered colors cover the surface, creating a textured appearance.



I'M NOT TOO OLD TO PLAY

Mixed media on raw canvas

72" x 72"

2025

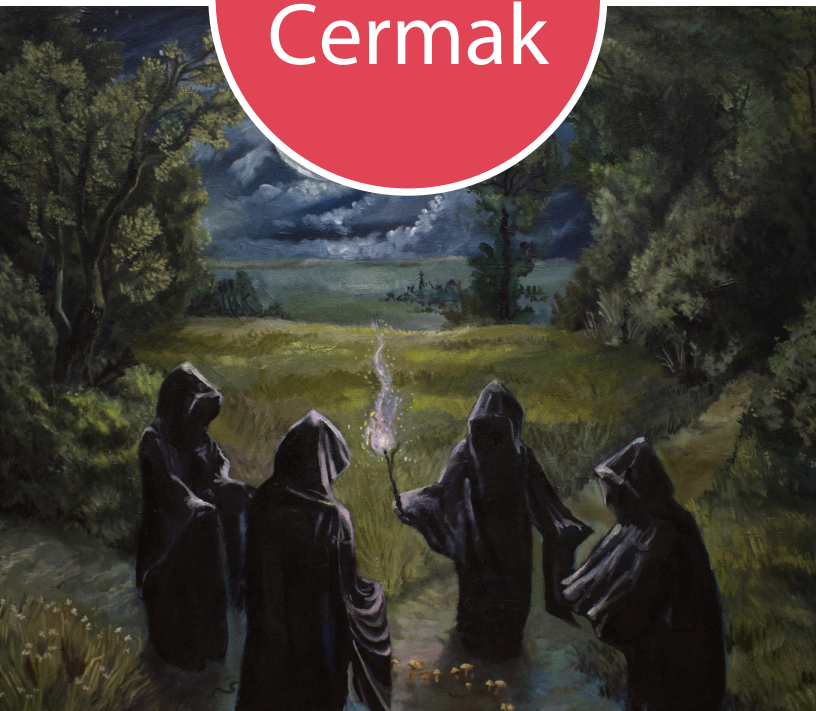
\$1,000.00

A large mixed media 2D piece combines black line drawings with loose areas of green, blue, red, white, orange, and purple. In the center is a white face outlined in black, holding a spray paint can. Along the bottom is a red tandem bicycle with two seats, and a dark green figure stands beside its back tire. The background is filled with layered brushstrokes, drips, dots, circles, and abstract shapes, leaving parts of the white canvas visible.

EMERGENT



Ryan
Cermak



AUGUST 21 - OCTOBER 18,
2026

Biography



"I am strongly influenced by whatever I am obsessing over at the moment. Currently D&D supplements and RPG's like Elden Ring have been a really big inspiration to my current work."

Ryan Cermak is a visual artist working and living in Cleveland, Ohio. He is an alumni of the Cleveland Institute of Art with a BFA in painting and printmaking.

Summary

- Ryan Cermak is a visual artist based in Cleveland, Ohio.
- He earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in painting and printmaking from the Cleveland Institute of Art.

Statement

Painting serves as a tool to invent and build new worlds. Through painting I create visual narratives that exist as fantasy yet remain embedded in reality. Inspiration for my work stems from the pulpy fantasy magazine Heavy Metal and trading card games such as Magic the Gathering. In addition, RPGs like The Legend of Zelda and Dark Souls also have a significant influence on my work. These games reference common tropes from age old myths and legends and repurpose them to relate to a modern audience. In a similar way that Link's Master Sword is an evolution of the legend of King Arthur and Excalibur, I see painting as a space to reinterpret the past and reevaluate the future. At the core of my work is the exploration of how ancient myths and legends continue to evolve and resonate with people today.

Summary

- Ryan uses painting to create imagined worlds and tell stories.
- His work is inspired by fantasy books, games, myths, and legends.
- He explores how old stories can be reimaged for today.



ryancermak6.wixsite.com/ryancermak



[@buckmcbadbat](https://www.instagram.com/buckmcbadbat)



BLACK TOAD

Oil on canvas

36" x 22"

2025

\$1,500.00

A painting shows a wetland above and below the water. Above the surface, a large black toad sits on a lily pad holding a glowing yellow orb in its mouth. Nearby, a blue heron holds a small frog in its beak, while a blue butterfly flies near a tree stump. Tall grasses, bare trees, and a cloudy sky surround the pond. Below the water, frogs, tadpoles, fish, a long spotted salamander, rocks, and underwater plants fill the scene. The glowing orb casts bright green and yellow light through the water.



THE LAST RAINBOW TROUT AND THE SEVENTH SEAL

Oil on canvas

28" x 36"

2022

NFS

A smiling person wearing a blue cap, red shirt, tan pants, and dark boots stands in a shallow river, holding a large fish upright beside them. The fish has a pink head, green and yellow body, blue fins, and the number "666" painted on its side. Above them, a ribbon banner reads, "I can show you the truth." Gray mountains and evergreen trees line the background beneath a blue sky with white clouds. The clear water reflects the figure and fish, with rocks and smaller fish visible below the surface.



THE HEAD OF ST. STRAWBERRY

Oil on canvas

20" x 30"

2023

\$1,500.00

A painting shows a large red strawberry resting on a silver tray held by a green hand rising from the bottom of the painting. The hand wears a pink sleeve. Behind the strawberry, large white clouds fill a bright blue sky. Below, a rocky landscape with mountains and a winding river stretches into the distance. The strawberry is much larger than the tray, hand, and landscape, creating a dreamlike scene.

EMERGENT



Layla
Davis-Branner



AUGUST 21 - OCTOBER 18,
2026

Biography



"My upbringing, influenced by a blend of Black Baptist and Christian traditions and beliefs, has shaped how I grapple with challenging subjects"

Layla Davis-Branner (b.2003) is a Black female sculptor residing in Northeast Ohio. Using a range of materials, Layla's work often reflects her fears and the complexity of the human experience. Graduating from the University of Akron (2025) with a BFA in Sculpture, Layla has exhibited work at the Akron Art Museum, Myers School of Art, Cleveland Institute of Art, Kink Contemporary, Avant Garden at Bounce Innovation Hub, Curated Storefront, Valley Arts Center, and the James A. Rhodes State Office Tower and the Valley Arts Center.

Summary

- Layla is a sculptor with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Sculpture from the University of Akron in 2025.
- Her work explores personal fears and the complexity of human experience.
- Her artwork has been exhibited at museums and galleries across Northeast Ohio.

Statement

My upbringing, influenced by a blend of Black Baptist and Christian traditions and beliefs, has shaped how I grapple with challenging subjects like intimacy, mortality and death to name a few. Unfortunately for me none of these subjects has a clear right or wrong answer. Through my work I examine the complexity of these subjects along with the general human experience in an attempt to silence my internal turmoil by turning my thoughts into physical manifestations. While I consider myself a sculptor, I do not have a set media. I believe in being able to move freely between materials and techniques so that my work is able evolve alongside my ideas and understanding of the world around me.

Summary

- Her artwork explores topics like relationships, life, and death.
- She creates sculptures and works with many different materials to express her ideas.
- She chooses the materials that best fit each artwork rather than selecting a set media.



UNTITLED

Plyurethan

8" x 8" x 2" (each)

2026

\$575.00

Nine square sculptures are arranged in a three-by-three grid. Each sculpture is made of rounded, bubble-like forms of different sizes clustered together into a square. They are painted in gradients of pink, orange, and yellow, with some featuring sprayed dots, grid patterns, or clusters of foam-like material. While each sculpture shares a similar overall form, the surface textures and color patterns vary.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Mixed Media

8" x 10" x 9.5"

2024

\$350.00

A sculpture resembling a two-tiered birthday cake sits on a square base. The top tier is tilted at an angle as if it is sliding off the other layer below it, with thick white wax-like drips spilling over the edge. Both tiers are decorated with piped frosting details in white and pink and are covered with colorful traditional birthday candles and star-shaped candles. Areas of dark green and black contrast with the pastel pink, white, and lavender surfaces, giving the sculpture a weathered, melting appearance.



THE BIGGER PICTURE

Mixed Media

13" x 17" x 14"

2026

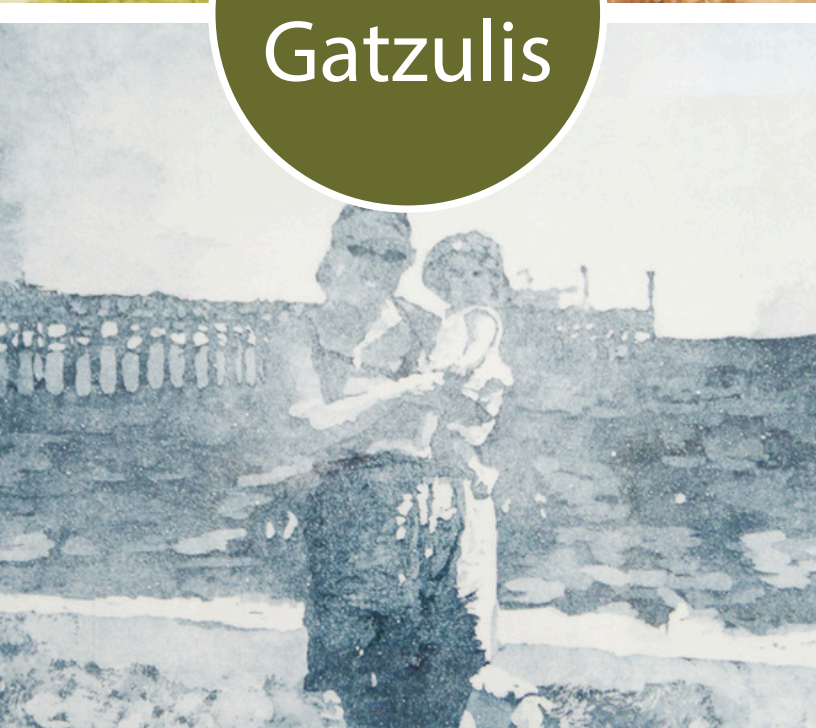
NFS

A mixed-media sculpture surrounds a framed black-and-white collage with thick layers of white wax-like material. The wax forms uneven towers, drips, and rounded mounds that partially cover the frame and spread across the base. Several melted candles remain visible among the wax. Through the opening in the center, the collage shows layered photographs, patterned paper, and cut-out text reading, "The space I long for no longer fits me."

EMERGENT



Emma
Gatzulis



AUGUST 21 - OCTOBER 18,
2026

Biography



"I gravitate toward themes of memory, grief, and the ways loss continues to shape our relationships to people, places, and ourselves."

Emma Gatzulis is an interdisciplinary printmaker from northeastern Ohio. She earned her BFA in Printmaking and Fine Art Photography from Kent State University in 2025, where she developed a practice rooted in material exploration and process driven inquiry.

Her work investigates the fragile and shifting nature of memory through the tactile qualities of printmaking techniques. By embracing repetition, layering, and physical manipulation, she mirrors the way memories are constructed, altered, and obscured over time. Her surfaces often carry traces of distortion that echo the imperfect act of remembering.

Summary

- Emma has a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Printmaking & Photography from Kent State University.
- Her work explores memory through printmaking, layering, and repeated patterns.

Statement

To me, being a working artist means maintaining a dedicated creative practice while actively contributing to and learning from a community of artists. As a printmaker, I value the collaborative nature of printmaking through sharing knowledge and supporting others through collective studio environments and exhibitions. Being a working artist is not only about creating work; it is about participating in a larger creative community, fostering connections, and using art as a way to engage and contribute with my community.

Summary

- She enjoys working with other artists and learning through shared studio spaces.
- She believes making art is also about building community and supporting others.

I gravitate toward themes of memory, grief, and the ways loss continues to shape our relationships to people, places, and ourselves. Through printmaking, I explore how memories persist as fragments and how acts of remembrance can become a way of processing absence.

I am drawn to the layered and repetitive nature of printmaking because it reflects the experience of grief itself. My work considers how personal histories are preserved, altered, and reimagined over time, creating space for reflection, connection, and healing.

Summary

- Emma's artwork explores memory, grief, and loss.
- She uses layers and repeated printmaking techniques to reflect how memories change over time.
- Her work encourages reflection and connection.

 @egatzart



DECEMBER 2011

Aquatint

10" x 10"

2025

\$250.00

A square print displayed in a light wood frame with a wide white mat. Printed in shades of brown, it shows four people standing together in front of the side of a train car. Two adults stand behind two children near the foreground. The train fills most of the background with horizontal lines running along its side. The image has soft edges, subtle tonal shading, and a textured appearance.



ME AND MOM, JULY 2003

Aquatint

11" x 14"

2025

\$300.00

A rectangular print is displayed in a light wood frame with a wide white mat. Printed in shades of blue, it shows an adult holding a young child on a beach. A long horizontal structure stretches across the background, splitting the sky from the water. The image has soft edges, subtle tonal shading, and a textured appearance.



ME AND MOM, APRIL 2003

Aquatint

8" x 10"

2025

\$200.00

A small rectangular print is displayed in a light wood frame with a wide white mat. Printed in shades of green, it shows an adult holding a young child standing together in water, visible from about the shoulders up, and both figures face forward. Faint figures and trees appear in the background. The image has soft edges, subtle tonal shading, and a textured appearance.

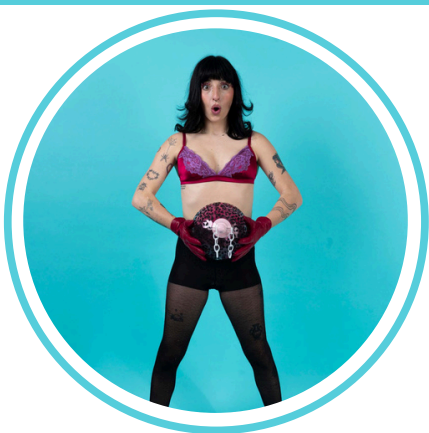
EMERGENT



Annie
O'Brien

AUGUST 21 - OCTOBER 18,
2026

Biography



*"Within my work,
I blur the lines
between prop,
performance, and
artifact."*

Annie O'Brien is a glass blower from Cleveland, Ohio. Her work celebrates themes around women excelling in male dominated spaces. O'Brien combines different glass techniques to represent skill where there is a connection to femininity and performance. She has completed her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in glass from the Cleveland Institute of Art, 2025. Her work was included in the Glass Art Societies student exhibition 2025, Kent State University Downtown Gallery for their 2023 exhibition, Aggregate, and also was one of the 2025 Windgate-Lamar fellowship winners.

Summary

- Annie earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Glass from the Cleveland Institute of Art.
- Her artwork celebrates women succeeding in traditionally male-dominated fields.



THEY ARE ALWAYS WATCHING

Glass

5" x 12" x 3"

2025

NFS

A glass sculpture of a clown stands upright on a pair of oversized clear shoes. The clown has a white face with blue eyes, a red nose, and a red frown. Yellow hair sticks out from each side beneath a tall red pointed hat with a white pom-pom at the tip. The body is made of light blue translucent glass with a row of colorful buttons down the front, a dark purple collar, and black ruffled cuffs around the ankles.

EMERGENT



Gabs
Rataiczak

AUGUST 21 - OCTOBER 18,
2026

Biography



"I gravitate towards bold/ high contrast in most of my work. A lot of it has to do with the passion for skateboarding the past 20 years and the love of faces/shapes."

I'm Gabrielle "Gabs" Rataiczak from Canton, OH. Painting and drawing have been the one consistent passion, as well as skateboarding, for me. Both go hand in hand and I've combined the two by taking old skate photographs and creating them in a different way, but staying true to who I'm representing. My dad is a very creative person who is the reason I kept making art. He taught me about charcoal and various materials, but I have gravitated more towards acrylic.

Summary

- Gabs is a self-taught artist from Canton, Ohio.
- They enjoy painting, drawing, and skateboarding.
- Family, especially their father, encouraged them to create art.

Statement

Faces are something that I admire. The way no one looks exactly alike, the way we have lines in our face and I enjoy bringing those out in paintings because it's a part of us and should be shared and never hidden. Faces can tell a story and it's been a fun project to keep evolving and see where else it may take me. I also enjoy a variety of subjects to keep challenging the way I create even a single coffee mug.

Summary

- Gabs enjoys painting faces because every face is unique.
- They believe faces can tell stories and show a person's life and personality.
- They also paint many different subjects to keep learning and trying new ideas.

 @justpaintgabs



DP

Acrylic Paint

12" x 16"

2026

\$180.00

A painting shows a skateboarder performing a trick on the edge of a concrete skate bowl. The skater wears a helmet, elbow and knee pads, long striped socks, and black sneakers. A chain-link fence and tall light poles stand against a gray sky in the background. The painting is mostly black, white, and gray with soft shading.



ANDRECT

Acrylic Paint

15" x 30"

2026

NFS

A painting shows a skateboarder balancing upside down on one hand at the edge of a concrete skate bowl with both feet on the skateboard. The skater wears a helmet, a loose T-shirt, long shorts, white socks, and black sneakers. A brick wall and trees appear in the background beneath a gray sky. The painting is mostly black, white, and gray with soft shading.



THE OVERTHINKER

Acrylic Paint on Skateboard

10" x 34"

2026

\$300.00

A skateboard deck is painted with overlapping black, white, and gray portraits of the same person wearing large square glasses. The face appears to be the same person wearing large square glasses. The face appears multiple times at different sizes and angles, with close-up views of the eyes, nose, mouth, and forehead filling the board. Bold black outlines and fine lines define the facial features, while the layered portraits create a collage-like composition across the length of the skateboard.



STAY HYDRATED

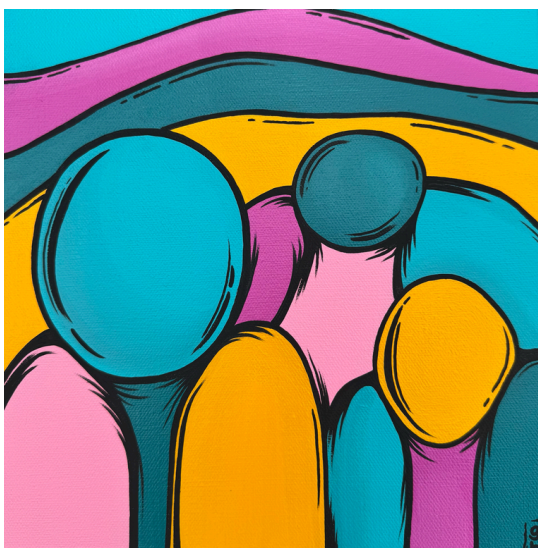
Acrylic Paint

10" x 10"

2026

\$100.00

A group of simplified, faceless figures fill the lower half of the composition. Orange, yellow, red, and turquoise shapes define their heads and clothing, with small cactus-like patterns on several figures. Curving bands of orange, red, and turquoise stretch across the background, with thick dark outlines throughout.



FAMILY VACATION

Acrylic Paint

10" x 10"

2026

\$100.00

Several simplified, faceless figures overlap across the composition. Their rounded forms are filled with bright turquoise, pink, yellow, and blue-green. Curving bands of the same colors fill the background, while thick black outlines define each shape.



WAS IT SOMETHING I SAID?

Acrylic Paint

16" x 20"

2026

\$320.00

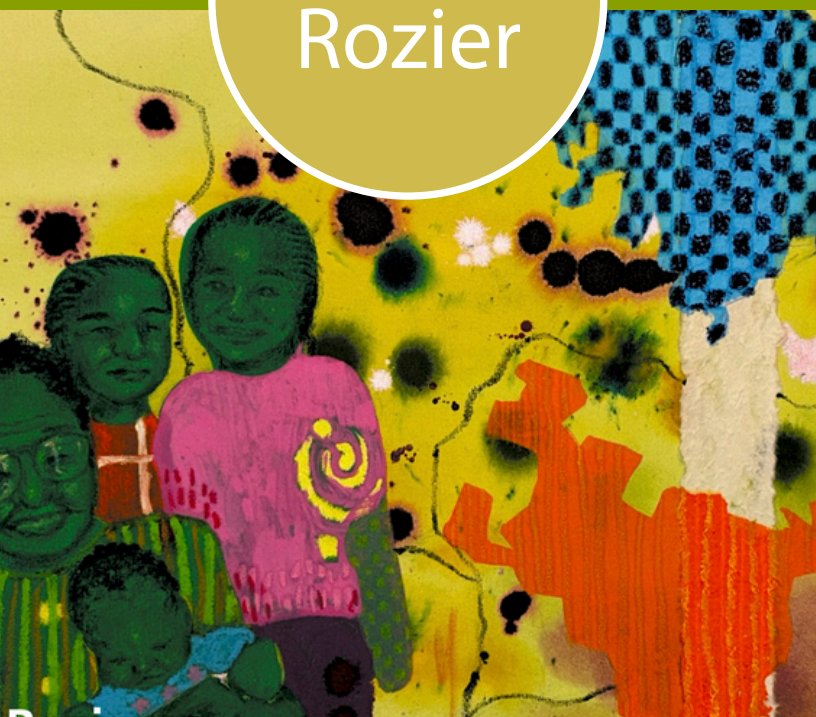
An oval painting on a black background shows a close-up portrait of a person holding both sides of their head with their hands. The face is painted in bright turquoise, orange, pink, purple, and lime green with bold black outlines. The painting uses flat, vivid colors and thick black lines to create a graphic, high-contrast style.



EMERGENT



Jazzee
Rozier



AUGUST 21 - OCTOBER 18,
2026

Biography



"[I gravitate towards themes of] Survival, epigenetics, stream of consciousness babblings, systemic family dynamics, and memory."

Jazzee Rozier is an emerging artist raised and based in Cleveland, OH. Rozier spends a lot of their time researching and reiterating philosophical ideas on coping with emotions, relationships, and strong undertones of survival through the 'American Dream'. They take a lot of inspiration from their surroundings and the people they interact with; taking walks, listening to music, and keeping an active sketchbook act as key components to this creative process. Considering a familial theme and broad ideas of individualism, tragic optimism, and documentation, Rozier implements printmaking, drawing, sewing, written poetry, and photography as chosen techniques to display this angst.

Summary

- Jazzee's work explores emotions, relationships, survival, and everyday life.
- They find inspiration in the people, places, and experiences around them.

As an artist who practices existing within communities and actively showing up for them, Rozier showcases a lot of their artworks within various art galleries, exhibitions, and even curating shows for the involvement of others.

Summary

- Jazzee regularly exhibits their artwork and helps organize exhibitions for other artists.
- They enjoy building community by creating and sharing art with others.

Rozier has received awards such as the Helen Greene Perry Travel Scholarship (2025), Zygote PROOF Fellowship (2025), Creativity Works Award (2024) —where Jazzee exhibited their first solo show at Cleveland’s LGBT Center, Sing About Lesbians, I’m Dying of Thirst. Their work has been featured in various group exhibitions such as the 79th Annual Student Independent Exhibition with the Cleveland Institute of Art, The Nature of Healing group exhibition with the Deep Roots Experience (ongoing), Ready, Set, Relay! a class collaboration with the Progressive Art Collection, and Back in the Dayz, CIA’s annual black history month show for the Black Scholars and Artists club.

Summary

- Jazzee has received awards and fellowships for their artwork.
- Their work has been shown in solo and group exhibitions across Northeast Ohio.

 jazzeerozier.wixsite.com/jaslynrozier

 @artmistakes



a life beyond this moment

Oil pastel, colored pencil, acrylic ink, POSCA marker, handmade paper on canvas

30" x 36"

2026

\$2,500.00

A square mixed media piece shows two people sitting closely together against a light pink background. The larger figure wears glasses and a green shirt with yellow and blue patterns, while the smaller figure wears a green shirt with a large blue star and an orange hat. Both figures have pink skin and brightly colored hair. Around them are colorful blocks, spirals, stripes, and paint splatters in pink, orange, blue, green, and black. The artwork uses bright, flat colors and layered patterns throughout.



god's in my breakfast right now

Oil pastel, colored pencil, acrylic ink, POSCA marker, and handmade paper on canvas

30" x 36"

2026

\$2,500.00

A square mixed media piece shows three people gathered around a small table. An older person wearing glasses stands in the foreground with one hand extended, while an adult and a child sit at the table behind them eating and drinking. The background is pale yellow with orange paint splatters, green abstract shapes, and small rectangles. The figures are painted in bright shades of orange, pink, blue, green, and purple with layered colors and patterns throughout.

Spotlight



Olatunbosun
Akinyelure



AUGUST 21 - OCTOBER 18,
2026

Biography



"Inspired by the richness of African life, I draw upon images of traditional rulers, musicians, horsemen, and everyday people whose lives embody dignity, resilience, and cultural continuity."

Olatunbosun Akinyelure is a Nigerian visual artist based in the United States whose work explores African identity, cultural memory, and the richness of everyday life through contemporary painting. With more than thirty years of artistic practice, he employs a diverse range of media and techniques to create expressive works that celebrate heritage, leadership, movement, resilience, and community. A distinctive feature of many of his paintings is the rich surface texture achieved through his extensive use of the palette knife, creating works whose physical presence rewards careful observation.

Summary

- Olatunbosun Akinyelure is a Nigerian artist based in the United States.
- He creates textured paintings using a palette knife.
- His work is inspired by African culture, everyday life, community, and personal history.

Raised in northern Nigeria, Akinyelure draws inspiration from the region's cultural diversity and the lived experiences that shaped his early artistic development. His work has been exhibited in Abuja, Nigeria, Dubai, London, and the United States, reflecting an artistic journey that bridges continents while remaining firmly rooted in his Nigerian heritage. Through his paintings, he seeks to foster dialogue, preserve cultural memory, and celebrate our shared humanity.

Summary

- His artwork is inspired by the people, cultures, and daily life he experienced there.
- His paintings have been shown in Nigeria, Dubai, London, and the United States.

Statement

Painting has been an integral part of my life for more than thirty years. Growing up in northern Nigeria exposed me to a rich tapestry of cultures, traditions, colours, and everyday experiences that continue to shape my artistic vision. Although I am now based in the United States, my work remains deeply rooted in the memories, people, and cultural heritage that formed me.

Summary

- Akinyelure's paintings are inspired by northern Nigeria.
- They celebrate Nigerian culture and traditions.
- His work reflects memories and everyday life.

My artistic practice embraces a range of techniques and materials to achieve the expressive qualities each work demands. Many of my paintings are distinguished by the extensive use of the palette knife, creating richly textured surfaces that become an integral part of the composition. These textures are more than visual effects; they give the paintings a tangible physical presence that rewards close observation, inviting viewers to discover layers of movement, light, and emotion across the painted surface.

Summary

- He often uses a palette knife to create thick layers of paint.
- The textured surface is an important part of each painting.

My work explores themes of identity, history, leadership, movement, and community. Inspired by the richness of African life, I draw upon images of traditional rulers, musicians, horsemen, and everyday people whose lives embody dignity, resilience, and cultural continuity. Rather than pursuing photographic realism, I seek to capture the emotional presence and enduring spirit of my subjects.

Summary

- His paintings explore identity, history, leadership, and community.
- He is inspired by African culture and everyday life.
- He focuses on expressing the emotions and spirit of the people he paints.

Each painting represents both preservation and exploration—preserving memories, traditions, and stories while exploring contemporary ways of seeing and expressing them. Over the years, I have had

the privilege of exhibiting my work in Abuja, Nigeria, Dubai, London, and the United States. These experiences have reinforced my belief that art possesses the unique ability to transcend language, geography, and culture, creating meaningful human connections.

Summary

- His paintings preserve memories, traditions, and stories.
- His work has been exhibited in Nigeria, Dubai, London, and the United States.
- He believes art can bring people together across different cultures.

Ultimately, I hope my paintings invite viewers to pause, look closely, and encounter the beauty, resilience, and shared humanity reflected in African life and its enduring cultural traditions.

Summary

- He hopes his paintings encourage people to slow down and look closely.
- He celebrates the beauty, strength, and traditions of African life.



THE DRUMMER

Acrylic paint on canvas

48" x 36"

2026

\$2,000.00

A person wearing a loose white robe and blue head covering stands facing forward while holding a large drum. Both hands are raised over the drum, positioned as if striking it. Thick layers of paint create a textured surface, with visible brush and palette knife marks in shades of white, blue, purple, yellow, and red. The background is light blue and white with broad textured strokes and no detailed setting.



CELEBRATION

Acrylic paint on canvas

48" x 36"

2026

\$2,000.00

Two musicians in loose yellow and orange robes and white head coverings play long-necked string instruments. One figure fills the foreground while a second stands behind. Thick palette knife strokes create a heavily textured surface, with the figures set against a layered green background.



THE CROWN

Acrylic paint on canvas

30" x 40"

2026

\$1,500.00

A thickly painted white symbol fills the center of the canvas. It resembles a stylized ceremonial crown with a rounded top, a pointed shape above it, and a long vertical center. Large white letters form an A on the left and an é on the right, while the center line also forms the stem of a lowercase d, spelling "Adé" meaning "crown" in Yoruba. The background is built from thick layers of blue, yellow, red, green, and brown paint, with heavily textured palette knife marks throughout.



KIKELOMO

Pencil drawing

16" x 24"

2026

NFS

A close-up black-and-white portrait shows a person looking directly at the viewer. Their hair is styled in neat braids pulled back from the face. Soft shading creates detail across the face, with darker tones around the eyes, cheeks, and neck. The figure has a calm expression with a slight smile against a plain dark background.

"Celebrating the beauty, strength, and quiet elegance of my wife, Kikelomo. Through light, texture, and expression, this piece captures not only her likeness, but the grace and warmth that make her truly special. This is a masterpiece"

-Olatunbosun Akinyelure



LADY WITH THE BEADS OBÌNRIN ILÊKÊ

Drawing

16" x 24"

2026

\$1,000

A close-up portrait shows a person looking directly at the viewer against a dark background. They have closely cropped hair and wear a white beaded necklace with a matching beaded earring. Soft brown, black, and white shading creates detailed features, with a small amount of reddish color on the lips.



THE GUITAR MAN

Acrylic paint on canvas

24" x 30"

2026

\$400.00

A seated musician holds a large red stringed instrument across their body, with one hand near the strings and the other on the neck. The figure wears dark clothing with areas of bright blue and pink. Thick palette knife strokes create a heavily textured surface in shades of blue, red, purple, brown, and gray.



DURBAN CELEBRATION

Acrylic paint on canvas

24" x 30"

2026

\$1,000.00

A rider wearing a white head covering and dark clothing sits on a black horse facing the viewer. The horse is dressed in a bright red covering with blue, white, and orange details. Two loosely painted figures appear in the blue background. Thick palette knife strokes create a heavily textured surface throughout. This depicts a celebration in Northern Nigeria known as a festival.



ALÁÀFIN (THE PALACE RULER OR THE KING)

Acrylic paint on canvas

36" x 46"

2026

\$4,500.00

A person wearing layered gold and orange robes sits on an ornate wooden throne. They wear a tall, pointed crown and hold a ceremonial staff decorated with beads and a floral emblem reading "ALAYELUWA." Two attendants in blue garments stand behind the throne, while two larger figures frame the ruler in the foreground. Thick palette knife strokes create a heavily textured surface. Warm gold, brown, orange, and purple tones dominate the composition, with blue garments providing contrast.

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