

Glimmer on the Horizon

About the Artists

Jermaine "jET" Carter

Jermaine "jET" Carter is an interdisciplinary artist from Southeast Washington, DC, whose diverse body of work encompasses painting, drawing, sculpture (physical and digital), motion graphics, animation, casting, papermaking, fabrication, rendering, and world-building within his jETCO universe. He earned his BFA from the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, New York, NY (2020).

Carter's art has been exhibited nationally and internationally, including Washington, DC; New York, NY; and Chicago, IL, as well as in his first solo exhibition, SUPER-CHARGED, London, England (2023). His animations have been featured in various public spaces, including Washington, DC train stations as part of Cultural DC's TORRENTS Art in Transit Exhibition (Cohort II) (2024).

Jermaine "jET" Carter lives and works in Alexandria, VA.

Nancy Chavarria

Nancy Chavarria is a photographer from the Washington Metropolitan area. She earned a BFA from The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art in 2017 and is based in Maryland. Working primarily with film photography, her practice explores themes of domestic labor, cultural memory, and homemaking within family histories shaped by migration. Centering her family as recurring subjects, the work examines inherited ways of living carried through everyday rituals and gestures.

Chidinma Dureke

Born in Washington, DC, Dureke was raised between America and Nigeria. She creates multi-layered mixed-media oil paintings, weaving together everyday materials found across multiple geographies and metropolitan cities. Dureke recombines various domestic materials as props for collage, painting, and drawing, disassembling plastic food packaging, shipping cardboard, and newspaper materials. Separating fruit from plastic and text from newspaper headlines and sewing the quotidian into canvas, what manifests are figural fragments of her dual identity. Even with the bittersweet taste of the diasporic experience, she synthesizes these elements into a lived-in and liminal psychological space, striving to produce an intimate spiritual or magical light in her work, captured by Naples yellow, warm violets, and earthy greens. The supernatural light Dureke casts on these Afropolitan spaces reveals the interior self, achieving the personal without being anchored to a specific time or place.

Dureke has exhibited her work at The Peale Museum, Howard Community College, Yale University, Dwight Hall: Center for Public Service & Social Justice, New Haven, CT, Asian Fusion Gallery, Washington, DC, Super Wonder Gallery, Toronto, Canada, among others. She is the recipient of The Hamiltonian Artists Fellowship, 2025-2027, Washington D.C.; Liu Shiming Art Grant, 2023 Cohort, New York, NY; Maryland Institute College of the Art, 2024 Graduate Research Development Grant, Baltimore, MD; and the ColorCreative 2023 Find Your People Program Fellowship in Los Angeles, California. In 2025, her work was commissioned by Issa Rae and Denise Davis for the Sony Pictures film *One of Them Days*, directed by Lawrence Lamont, starring SZA and Keke Palmer.

Charles Philippe Jean-Pierre

Charles Philippe Jean-Pierre is a Haitian American artist raised on Chicago's south side. He is currently an adjunct professor at American University in Fine Arts. As a US State Department Art in Embassies Artist, his work is now in the permanent collection of the U.S. Embassy in Cotonou, Benin, West Africa. He was a President Obama White House invitee for the role of art education in promoting national youth justice. Jean Pierre has participated in two Asian Pacific American Smithsonian exhibitions and has exhibited with the International Monetary Fund headquarters in Washington DC. His work has been highlighted by numerous media outlets, including The Washington Post, Ebony Magazine, Black Enterprise, NHK Japan, The Village Voice, BET, NBC, Netflix, and FOX.

Jean-Pierre has guest lectured at Stanford University regarding a positive vision of Haiti through the Mamelodi Project. He was named one of the top five art educators by the District of Columbia and served as a creative communication instructor for Alvin Ailey Chicago. Jean-Pierre is the former National Arts Director for the Young and Powerful group and served on the board of the Diaspora of African Women's Network (DAWN). Jean Pierre holds a Master of Arts from Howard University and has created public art murals in South Africa, Panama, New York, Chicago, Washington, Istanbul, Montreal, Port-au-Prince, London, and Paris.

Omari Jesse

Omari Jesse is a multidisciplinary artist based in Washington DC. Born in the heart of the DC metropolitan area, Jesse was immersed in a vibrant tapestry of culture and community from an early age, a foundation that continues to deeply inform his creative practice. His work centers around evocative collages that feature friends, family, and figures from his local neighborhood, capturing the spirit and stories of his community through a personal lens. After earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Virginia State University and attending the University of Johannesburg, South Africa, Jesse returned home to launch his art career. Jesse has remained committed to his fine art practice, creating experimental collages that document and celebrate the world around him. In addition to his studio work, he currently serves as an art instructor, mentoring young artists in developing their creative voices and foundational visual art skills.

Jazmine Dior Johnson

Jazmine Dior Johnson (b. 1991) is a self-taught multidisciplinary artist and graphic designer living and working in Washington, DC. Her artistic practice centers on identity, social justice, and collective healing.

Artist Statement

"Freedom is a constant struggle." — Angela Davis. My practice is an outward manifestation of my internalized feelings about this complicated reality. These works examine the global, national, regional, and personal impact of imperialism and political strife. The choice to pull text and images from popular newsprint, archival records, and past stewards reflects the call-and-response that has occurred throughout history. An atrocity occurs, and the people react. And while *Free DC* and *Untitled* (Gwendolyn Brooks) are separate works, as a result of the tyrannical regimes we experience, each work is inextricably linked. From the macro to the micro; from intraconnection to interconnection. I chose screenprint as my medium because of the arduous labor involved in making a print. Each pull on the screen is imperfect, but intentional. Each print is a reminder that the body can withstand tension.

The struggle for liberation under an oppressive regime is as much a physical process as it is mental, emotional, and spiritual. The body keeps the score, and we are the collective body.

Wayson Jones

Wayson R. Jones (American, b. 1957) is a painter, musician, and spoken-word artist. A self-taught visual artist, he was part of a vibrant Black LGBTQ arts scene in Washington DC in the 1980s and early 1990s. His work can be found in private and public collections in the DC area and nationally, including the District of Columbia Art Bank, and the Maryland/National Capitol Park and Planning Commission.

Lex Marie

Lex Marie (b. 1992: Prince George's County, MD) is a multidisciplinary artist who creates paintings, sculptures, and installations that reflect her individual experiences yet encompass the experiences of many in the African diaspora. Marie's artistic practice is an exploration of the weighty realities experienced by many African American children and children of color. Her work is a testament to the profound impact of adultification biases, food insecurity, and systemic challenges.

entrenched in American school systems, healthcare systems, in the home, and out in the world. Through a fusion of everyday materials, often reclaimed and repurposed, Marie offers a tangible manifestation of the intangible struggles these young minds face, compelling viewers to confront the profound significance inherent in the seemingly ordinary.

Marie holds a BA in studio art with a concentration in painting from the University of Maryland, College Park. Marie's most recent solo exhibition, "Let Them Kids Be Kids," opened at the Museum of Contemporary Art Arlington (2022). Marie's work has been curated into group exhibitions, including REVISIT/REIMAGINE (Banneker-Douglas Museum, 2024), In Tender Peaks, Grace Unfolds (Mitochondria Gallery, 2024), A Color Story (Cierra Britton Gallery, 2024), and Stories From My Childhood (Northern Illinois University Art Museum, 2022). Marie received the Washington Studio Award from S&R Evermay in 2023 and currently works in Washington, DC.

Beverly Price

Beverly Price is a native of Washington, DC, a fine art photographer whose work focuses on the intersection of preventative justice and critical compassion. She is dedicated to using her camera as a tool for advocacy, particularly within marginalized communities, with a strong emphasis on supporting youth as they navigate systemic challenges. Through her lens, Price captures the stories of young people, preserving their innocence and dignity while addressing issues like violence, inequality, and displacement.

Her work embodies the concept of critical compassion, blending a thoughtful critique of social injustices with deep empathy for her subjects. Projects like Royal Blue: The Essence of Innocence—which examines the lives of three black boys impacted by gun violence—highlight her commitment to telling stories that foster understanding and healing. Price's approach to photography not only documents moments but also serves as a call to action, urging viewers to engage with the broader narratives of community and justice.

Beverly's photographic works mainly focus on youth advocacy, helping young people find their voice and future through creative expression. A graduate of the Maryland Institute College of Art with a Master of Fine Arts in Photographic & Electronic Media, Price's work has been shown at institutions

such as the National Museum of Women in the Arts. Her dedication to preventative justice and her compassionate storytelling have earned her numerous accolades, including the Smithsonian James E. Webb Scholarship and the Art for Justice & Right of Return Fellowship.

Autumn Spears

Autumn Spears (b. 1998) is a Washington, DC native whose art serves as a powerful medium for reimagining Black histories and diasporic narratives. Her upbringing in communities of color, while simultaneously navigating predominantly white institutions, has profoundly shaped her identity and artistic vision. These contrasting environments have ignited her interest in exploring black representation and identity across the African diaspora.

In 2020 she received her BFA in Art Education from Albright College. In 2023, Spears held her inaugural solo exhibition, "Becoming," at the Freedman Gallery in Reading, Pennsylvania. This milestone event showcased her distinctive style and marked the beginning of a promising artistic journey. Additionally, Spears' work has been featured in local cultural institutions such as the MLK Memorial Library, Charles Sumner School, Anacostia Arts Center, and the Anacostia Community Museum. Spears is also a 2025 DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities grant recipient.

Artist Statement: *My work explores the concept of descendancy—both in relation to African American identity and within my own family history. I am interested in what it means to be a descendant of enslaved Africans while living within systems and narratives that have historically defined, fragmented, and reshaped that lineage.*

Through this lens, I consider how identity is formed across generations: how it is inherited, disrupted, remembered, and reimagined. I am particularly drawn to the ways African American culture has developed its own origin stories and systems of meaning in response to historical rupture.

These questions inform my use of materials, imagery, and pattern. Working across mixed media, I build layered visual compositions that reflect the complexity of inheritance—drawing from domestic spaces, ritual, memory, and symbolic objects that speak to both personal and collective histories.

Elzie Williams III

Elzie Williams III, born in 1993 in Baltimore, MD, is a New York-based interdisciplinary artist working in sculpture, collage, and installation whose practice focuses on racial and social issues. He holds an MFA from Columbia University and a BFA from the Cooper Union School of Art. Williams has participated in group exhibitions at Phillips, New York, NY; Half Gallery, New York, NY; C-L-E-A-R-I-N-G, Los Angeles, CA; M23, New York, NY, and Francois Gebaly, New York, NY, among others.