

FRAENKEL

WARDELL MILAN

Born in 1977, Knoxville, Tennessee

Lives and works in New York, NY

EDUCATION

2004

MFA Photography, Yale University, New Haven, CT

2001

BFA Photography & Painting, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

AWARDS & RESIDENCIES

2025

Artist in Residence, Civitella Ranieri Foundation, Umbertide, Italy

2019

Joan Mitchell Painter & Sculptors Grant

2017

African American Trailblazer Award, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

Collaborator on W. David Hancock's play *Master*, The Foundry Theater, New York, NY

Artist in Residency, Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, New York, NY

2014

Foundation for Contemporary Arts Grant, New York, NY

2011

Traveling Grant, Art Matters, New York, NY

2010-11

Artist in Residence, Lower East Side Printshop, New York, NY

2007

The Louis Comfort Tiffany Award, New York, NY

Artist in Residence, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY

2003

Artist in Residence, Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture, Skowhegan, ME

SELECTED INDIVIDUAL EXHIBITIONS

2024

Modern Utopia, Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2023

Bluets & 2 Years of Magical Thinking, Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, NY

2022

Wardell Milan: Recent Work, Benton Museum of Art, Pomona College, Claremont, CA

The World Is Made of Eggs, Borch Editions, Berlin, Germany

2021

Amerika. God Bless You If It's Good to You, Bronx Museum, Bronx, NY

2020

Death, Wine, Revolt: The Nonsense of the World, Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco, CA

The Balcony, David Nolan Gallery, New York, NY

Death, Wine, Revolt: uneventful Days, David Nolan Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

2019

Parisian Landscapes, Blue Zenith, David Nolan Gallery, New York, NY

Parisian Landscapes: Blue in Green, Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2018

Wardell Milan, ADAA | The Art Show, Park Avenue Armory, New York, NY

2017

Wardell Milan: PERSONA, Project For Empty Space, 2 Gateway Center, Newark, NJ

2015

The Charming Hour, David Nolan Gallery, New York, NY

2014

Show (Untitled) Parisian Landscapes, Osmos Address, New York, NY

2013

Kingdom or Exile: Parisian Landscapes, Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, GA

2012

A Series of Inspiring Women, Louis B. James Gallery, New York, NY

2011

On Beauty, Annarumma 404 Gallery, Naples, Italy

2010

Landscapes! Romance, Recession & Rottenness, Clough-Hanson Gallery, Rhodes College,
Memphis, TN

2009

Landscapes! Romance, Recession, & Rottenness, Taxter & Spengemann Gallery,
New York, NY

Wardell Milan: Drawings of Harlem, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY

2008

Hercules & The Love Affair, Franklin Art Works, Minneapolis, MN

Power!, Testosterone! They looked ferocious with heavy sexual overtones, Taxter &
Spengeman
Gallery, New York, NY

2006

Sampson Projects, Boston, MA

2005

Taxter & Spengemann Gallery, New York, NY

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026

A View, Sikkema Malloy Jenkins Gallery, New York, NY

2025

a field of bloom and hum, Tang Teaching Museum and Gallery, Saratoga Springs, NY

Fragments of Memory, Menil Drawing Institute, Houston, TX

Black Ecologies in Contemporary American Art, Benton Museum of Art, Pomona, CA

All of Me with All of You: LGBTQ+ Art Out of the Collection, The Hecksher Museum of Art,
Huntington, NY

2024

Fraenkenstein, Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco, CA

FRAGMENTED BODIES: Celia Hempton, Paul Sepia, Wardell Milan, Galleria Lorcan O'Neill,
Rome, Italy

Fragile Beauty: Photographs from the Sir Elton John and David Furnish Collection, The
Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England

2023

Mickalene Thomas / Portrait of an Unlikely Space, Yale University Art Gallery,
New Haven, CT

Under the Sheltering Sky, New Bedford Art Museum, New Bedford, MA

Multiplicity: Blackness in Contemporary American Collage, Frist Art Museum, Nashville, TN
(touring); Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX; The Phillips Collection, Washington, DC

Strike Fast, Dance Lightly: Artists on Boxing, The FLAG Art Foundation/The Church,
Sag Harbor, New York, NY

Please Stay Home, Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts at Harvard University,
Cambridge, MA

2022

Lux et Veritas, NSU Art Museum, Fort Lauderdale, FL

A Traves, James Cohen Gallery, New York, NY

Young, Gifted, and Black: The Lumpkin - Boccuzzi Family Collection of Contemporary Art,
Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem Museum of Art, Davis, California

2021

Our Whole, Unruly Selves, San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, CA

Mining the Archive, Yancy Richardson Gallery, New York, NY

Speaking Tree, Candice Made Gallery, New York, NY

Dawoud Bey, John Edmonds, Wardell Milan, Art Gallery of Toronto, Ontario

Mel Kendrick, David Hartt and Wardell Milan, David Nolan Gallery, New York, NY

2020

Closer to Life: Drawings and Works on Paper in Marieluise Hessel Collection, Hessel
Museum of Art Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY New York

2019

Young, Gifted, and Black: The Lumpkin Boccuzzi Family Collection of Contemporary Art,
OSilas Gallery, Concordia College, Bronxville, NY
Wars, David Nolan Gallery, New York, NY

2018

Queens International: 2018 Volumes, Queens Museum, Queens, NY
Constructing Identity in America (1776-2017), Montclair Art Museum, Montclair, NJ
Echoes: Reframing Collage, Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, IL
Vision of the Other Worlds, Sargent's Daughters, New York, NY
The Beyond: Georgia O'Keefe & Contemporary Art, Crystal Bridges Museum of
Contemporary Art, Bentonville, AK; travelled to Huntington Library Art Collections &
Botanical Gardens, San Marino, CA

2016

George Grosz: Politics & His Influence, David Nolan Gallery, New York, NY
BIG ART / SMALL SCALE, Philip Slein Gallery, St. Louis, MO
Making & Unmaking, Camden Arts Center, London, England (curated by Duro Olowu)

2015

Black: Color, Material, Concept, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY
Greater New York, MoMA PS1, New York, NY
Rush20: 1995 – 2015, Rush Philanthropic Arts Foundation, Brooklyn, NY
The Confident Line: George Grosz, Wardell Milan, Andy Warhol, David Nolan Gallery,
New York, NY
Permanent Collection Rotation, The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

2014

*Three thousand times, each hour, a different terrain: Titus Kaphar, Wardell Milan, Demetrius
Oliver*, Inman Gallery, Houston, TX

2013

Body Language, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY

Worm Hole, Louis B. James Gallery, New York, NY

Glitter & Folds, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, PA

11 Dimensions: Titus Kaphar, Demetrius Oliver, Wardell Milan, Louis B. James Gallery,
New York, NY

White Petals Surround Your Yellow Heart, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, PA

2012

Long Shadows, Inman Gallery, Houston, TX

POSE/RE-POSE, Savannah College of Art & Design, Savannah, GA

2011

The Bearden Project, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY

Elizabeth Catlett: Roundtable Remix, The Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, NY

Mixed Signals, The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh, PA

Don't Get High On Your Own Supply, David Castillo Gallery, Miami, FL

2010

Quadruple-Consciousness, Vox Populi, Philadelphia, PA

Looking Back: The Fifth White Columns Annual Group Show, White Columns, New York, NY

Roundabout, City Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand

2009

Time - Life, Taxter & Spengemann Gallery, New York, NY

Collected. Propositions on the Permanent Collection, The Studio Museum in Harlem,
New York, NY

Decoding Identity: I Do it for My People, The Museum of the African Diaspora,
San Francisco, CA

2007

Wardell Milan & Kalup Linzy, Context Gallery, Londonderry, Ireland

Blur, Arndt & Partner Gallery, Berlin, Germany

Midnight's Daydream, Studio Museum Artist In Residence Show, The Studio Museum in
Harlem, New York, NY

2006

The Searchers, White Box, New York, NY (curated by Patricia Maloney)

Queens International 2006, Queens Museum of Art, New York, NY

Black Alphabet, Zacheta National Gallery of Art, Warsaw, Poland

Being There, Ingalls & Associates, Miami, FL

25 Bold Moves, House of Campari, New York, NY

2005

Frequency, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY

Being There, Cuchifritos, New York, NY

Super Sonic, Richard Heller Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

La Beauté de l'Enfer, Galerie Rodolphe Janssen, Brussels, Belgium

Greater New York, MoMA P.S.1, New York, NY

2004

Homemade World, Reconstructed Images in Photograph, Rush Arts Gallery, New York, NY

Notorious Impropriety, Samson Projects, Boston, MA

Skillz, Ingalls & Associates, Miami, FL

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

2021

"Wardell Milan: Amerika. God Bless You If It's Good To You," *The Brooklyn Rail*

2020

"Pentimenti," *Brooklyn Rail*, as told to Alvin Hall.

"Nine Black Artists & Cultural Leaders on Seeing & Being Seen," *The New York Times Style Magazine*.

2019

"A Disruptor of Race & Sex," *Hyperallergic*, John Yau.

"Critic's Picks: Wardell Milan: Parisian Landscapes: Blue in Green," *Artforum*, Glen Helfand.

2018

"ADAA: A Fair to Remember Starts a Month of Art Show Madness," *The New York Times*, Roberta Smith. 1 March 2018.

2015

Foster, Carter, et al. *Wardell Milan: between late summer and early fall*. Cay Sophie Rabinowitz, ed., New York: Osmos Books.

"Hermaphroditic Beauty," *Interview Magazine*, Emily McDermott, February.

"The Ones to Watch," *Interview Magazine*, December.

2014

"From King to Camus..." *Osmos Magazine*, Isolde Brielmaier & Wardell Milan, Issue 05, Winter, p. 28-30, print.

2013

Vitamin D2: New Perspectives in Drawing. New York: Phaidon Press, p.183-187.

2011

Ligon, Glenn. *Yourself in the World: Selected Writings & Interviews*. Scott Rothkopf, ed. New Haven: Yale University Press. Rosenberg, Karen.

2010

"Landscapes! Romance, Recession & Rottenness." Weekend Arts, Fine Arts & Leisure. *The New York Times*, 8 January.

2007

"Midnight's Daydream: Titus Kaphar, Wardell Milan II, Demetrius Oliver, Frances Richard," *Artforum*, November, p. 371. Schwendener, Martha.

"Three Contemporaries, Each With A Different Way to View the Past." Weekend Arts, Fine Arts & Leisure. *The New York Times*, 11 August, p. A17.

"Nina, Meet Jesus, Frank Leon Roberts." Art. *The Village Voice*, 12 September, p.58.

2005

"Art in Review: Wardell Milan at Taxter & Spengemann, Holland Cotter." Weekend Arts, Fine Arts & Leisure. *The New York Times*, 16 December, p. E38. Smith, Roberta.

"Frequency at The Studio Museum in Harlem: Where Issues of Black Identity Meet the Concerns of Every Artist." Weekend Arts, Fine Arts & Leisure, Art in Review. *The New York Times*, 18 November, p. E37.

SELECTED INSTITUTIONAL COLLECTIONS

Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Canada

Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

The British Museum, London, England

Brooklyn Museum, New York, NY

Daniel & Florence Guerlain Contemporary Art Foundation, Paris, France

Dartmouth Hood Museum of Art, Hanover, NH

Denver Art Museum, Denver, CO
Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA
Hall Art Foundation Collection
Harvard Art Museums, Cambridge, MA
The Hecksher Museum of Art, Huntington, NY
Hessel Museum of Art, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY
The Menil Collection, Houston, TX
Montclair Art Museum, Montclair, NJ
Morgan Library & Museum, New York, NY
Museum of Contemporary Photography, Columbia College, Chicago, IL
Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, AZ
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY
Tang Museum, Saratoga Springs, NY
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
Hall Art Foundation Collection
UBS Art Collection