

## JAS KNIGHT

b. 1997, Connecticut, US. Lives and works in New York, US.

Jas Knight depicts and celebrates contemporary African-American experience through the historical language of portraiture, still life and genre painting. Through masterful use of 16th and 17th century painting techniques, Knight translates his love of French and Dutch traditions into portraits of people doing everyday 21st century things, focusing on the lives of everyday New Yorkers, as well as some settings far from home. Playing with the lines between reality and fiction, Knight's paintings demurely subvert historical depictions of black subjects in academic painting, foregrounding the presence, personality and surrounding environment of everyday lives. His fascination with the role of draughtsmanship, perception and memory is honed through an ongoing series of master copies from Gérôme to Velázquez, which allow him to not only refine his technique but embody the perception of other artists, a way to truly see a painting and establish forms of communion with history, its many challenges and discoveries.

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2027

Salon 94, New York, US (forthcoming)

2024

*Terrain*, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK

2015

*Jas Knight: Euhemerized*, Bill Hodges Gallery, New York, US

### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025

*GIRLS. On Boredom, Rebellion and Being In-Between*, MoMu, Antwerp, BE

2024

*Flight into Egypt: Black Artists and Ancient Egypt, 1876–Now*, The Met, New York, US

2023

*In Search of Juan de Pareja: From Arturo Schomburg to Jas Knight*, Hispanic Society Museum & Library, New York, US

2019

*Blackface: A Reclamation of Beauty, Power and Narrative*, Galerie Myrtis and The Agora Culture, New York, US

2017

*Expanding Tradition: The Journey of the African-American Artist*, Grenning Gallery, New York, US

*Holiday Gifts under \$3,000*, Grenning Gallery, New York, US

2016

*Miracle on Madison Street*, Grenning Gallery, New York, US

Hannah Barry Gallery

Peckham

since 2007.

*Another Look: A Hand Selected Group Show*, Grenning Gallery, New York, US

2015

*50 Under \$5k*, Bill Hodges Gallery, New York, US

2014

*Painted Portraits*, Rush Arts, New York, US

2005

*New Philadelphia Realists*, Seraphin Gallery, Philadelphia, US

## COLLECTIONS

Studio Museum Harlem, New York, US

Museum of Fine Arts Boston, New York, US

Yale University US Department of State Collection, New Haven, US

Leonard E.B. Andrews Foundation, Dallas, US

University of Hartford, West Hartford, US

DeWitt Collection, West Hartford, US

## RESIDENCIES/AWARDS

Greater Hartford Arts Council Innovation Grant (award)

Leonard Andrews Foundation Scholarship (award)