

**JARRETT KEY SELECTED AS THE FIRST SOLO ARTIST FOR
BOSTON'S NEWEST ART GALLERY**

***Chosen Family* at Praise Shadows Art Gallery to
Feature Nine New Paintings**

On view December 9, 2020 through January 3, 2021
313A Harvard Street, Brookline, MA 02446

Artist's Talk: Jarrett Key with Curator Ellen Tani
December 9, 2020 at 7 pm ET
Register [here](#) for the Zoom session



(October 19, 2020 -- Brookline, MA) Providence-based artist **Jarrett Key** will be the first artist featured at **Praise Shadows Art Gallery**, the Boston area's newest space for contemporary art. Their solo exhibition of new paintings opens December 9, 2020 and is on view through January 3, 2021.

A continuation of their *Leaving the City* series, *Chosen Family* is a unique body of work that depicts members of Key's chosen family in relationship to the natural splendor of landscapes that define the figure, lushly painted on wet cement. Taking on a fresco-like appearance, the use of cement conjures connotations of Black life, leisure, and stereotypes: the basketball court, the sidewalk, jail. By exposing

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ART GALLERY

the limits of public imagination in regards to Black life, Key's bucolic images suggest land ownership, safety, and freedom within lush pastoral landscapes.

The nine new works created for the show include four diptychs, each featuring a bust portrait from Key's chosen family of queer Black folx. "Chosen family in the queer community refers to friends that become brothers and sisters, mentors that become parents," says Key. Each bust is paired with a landscape, a natural environment that is meaningful to the figure and that has informed their experience. The final work is a triptych that places these four figures in an imagined shared landscape, enjoying each other's company in nature.

The public is welcome to join Jarrett Key and curator Ellen Tani on December 9 at 7 pm ET for an artist's talk on Zoom. Registration is available [here](#).



Jarrett Key (b. 1990) lives and works in Providence, RI. Key is a recent MFA graduate from RISD Painting. Key is one of Forbes' 30 under 30 for Art and Style 2020. Key's practice embodies several modes of production in one frame. Through form, image, and material, the objects they make integrate a sculpture, painting, and performance practice. Excavating lost stories and the oral histories that define their upbringing in rural Alabama, Key's work seeks to criticize those historical conditions that are the seeds of contemporary issues in their life, while creating spaces that celebrate beauty, joy and survival.

Image of the artist by SK O'Brien.

About Praise Shadows LLC

We believe that the art ecosystem is filled with untapped potential, and our work is rooted in partnering closely with artists to develop opportunities in emerging models of creativity and entrepreneurship—exhibitions, commissions, brand partnerships, new technologies, original concepts that no one has ever tried before. Praise Shadows Art Gallery is a commercial gallery space in the Boston area opening in late 2020. Praise Shadows Art Partners advises artists and companies in the creative industries on strategic partnerships and marketing. Our work is local, global, and virtual. www.praiseshadows.com

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Download Jarrett Key Press Images [here](#)

View the Gallery Opening Press Release [here](#)

View the Media Fact-Sheet [here](#)

View the Praise Shadows Art Gallery Presentation Deck [here](#)

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