

**PRAISE
SHADOWS**
ART GALLERY

CHROMATIC VISIONS

ORGANIZED BY THE PRAISE SHADOWS MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

FEATURING ARTISTS

RASHIDA ABUWALA, CLINT BACLAWSKI, CICELY CAREW, DANIELA RIVERA

September 7 through 30, 2022

Opening Reception: Sunday, September 11 from noon to 2 pm



(Brookline, MA – August 22, 2022) Organized through the 2022 **Praise Shadows Mentorship Program** by teen curators **Ana Hernández** and **Michael Sun** with curatorial advisor **Jen Mergel**, the Gallery is proud to present *Chromatic Visions*. Featuring **Rashida Abuwala**, **Clint Baclawski**, **Cicely Carew**, and **Daniela Rivera**, the exhibition will be on view September 7 through 30, 2022. The public is welcome to the Opening Reception on Sunday, September 11 from noon to 2 pm.

The capacity to perceive color is a scientific phenomenon known as chromatic vision. But it is also something more poetic and subjective—with no two people seeing exactly alike. Through artists' works employing color across their distinct embodied and cultural experiences, and across diverse materials and methods, this exhibition invites exploration of as many chromatic visions as there are expressive points of view, including *yours*. *Chromatic Visions* seeks to prompt open-ended questions about how color can stimulate both immediate reaction and deeper thinking.

Rashida Abuwala, Clint Baclawski, Cicely Carew, and Daniela Rivera create and combine with color so that we might feel our own perceptual, corporal, spatial, and political positions more keenly or personally. Defying traditional conventions of painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, and drawing, they manipulate chromatic media to materialize a resonant sense of self, place, and power. Their works draw us through the gallery space with their bisecting glow, sound or lines to extend ideas of our relation to natural and social environments. Ultimately, through slicing and reassembling with color, they ask us to fill in the gaps to imagine new horizons.

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About the Praise Shadows Mentorship Program

This is the second year of the Praise Shadows Mentorship Program. Established upon the gallery's founding in 2021 as an essential part of the mission, the Program hosts Boston-area high school students for a unique professional development opportunity. Upon application review, up to two students are selected for paid work in the gallery through the spring and summer season, with the opportunity to curate a culminating group exhibition with a selected curatorial advisor.

Under the guidance of the gallery team and curatorial advisor Jen Mergel, mentees **Ana Hernández** and **Michael Sun** pursued studio visits with artists, met with museum educators, curators and directors, reviewed Boston-area exhibitions, and refined their exhibition checklist, layout, statement and engagement plans. Ana Hernández is a rising senior at Brookline High School, with experience in AP Art. Michael Sun graduated from Newton South High School and recently began his freshman year at Brandeis University. As Director of Experience and Cultural Partnerships at the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, Jen Mergel is presenting programs for Olmsted Now: Greater Boston's Olmsted Bicentennial and has most recently served as a mentor for the international program of the Association of Art Museum Curators.

About the Artists and Selected Works

Rashida Abuwala (b. Queens, NY in 1983, lives and works in Brooklyn, NY) draws on her Muslim-American heritage, South Asian dying traditions, and studies of New York Color Field painting as she saturates, slashes, and reassembles canvas with color. Invested in both art and community organizing since her youth, Abuwala paints through gestures of binding and opening, separating and reconnecting, breakdown and renewal, often as a collective act. Her video *Dueto Morpho* captures a collaborative performance of transformation from stained surface to stitched textile, while *Dream 315* suspends earthen and vibrant hues as a cascading landscape of solid planes and dancing shadows.

Clint Baclawski (b. Lewisburg, PA in 1981, lives and works in Boston, MA) subverts conventions of American landscapes by splicing his photographs into a series of LED-lit columns glowing across slick surfaces. His highly textured scenes of nature diffuse and merge with laminates of Plexi, plywood, and brushed or polished metallic finishes in even tones of peach, khaki or copper. The resulting works, *Temperate* and *Bound/ary*, combine the high-fidelity of corporate advertising imagery with the intimacy of a domestic mirror or privacy screen that at once allure yet resist, enfold yet divide.

Cicely Carew (b. Los Angeles, CA in 1982, lives and works in Boston, MA) animates the tools and scale of printmaking with the assertion "color is corporal." Moving from two dimensions to three by layering not just imagery but materials, she occupies and energizes space with vibrancy, which she asserts as a Black woman, is a political act. The fluorescence and fractured planes of her large-scale collage *Feté. No. 2* and the striations in her back-lit digital collage burn an after image on the mind's eye, refusing to disappear or be ignored. Like her wall sculptures made of printing mesh, her abstract forms optically "hold the room" from a distance, and hold attention up close.

Daniela Rivera (b. Santiago, Chile in 1973, lives and works between Wellesley, Framingham and North Adams, MA) chooses to explore connections to places with materials that evoke complex social, political, and ecological dynamics. For the past decade, she has experimented with copper for both its historical influence on Chile, which altered its economy and landscape to mine it, and for its reactive qualities with

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air, light, and heat. Most recently, she discovered how copper leaf mixed with hot glass emerges as a galaxy of blue, as seen in *Un bote / One bounce*. Rather than a glistening galaxy, she captures a smoky atmosphere of a charred landscape drawing in *Es solo un dibujo / Just a drawing (línea de horizonte portátil / portable horizon line)*, a work which might contain all colors on its darkness, yet expands like a spectrum outward, infinitely.

About Praise Shadows LLC

Established in 2020, Praise Shadows Art Gallery is a commercial gallery space in the Boston area showing the work of emerging and mid-career artists.

We believe that the art ecosystem is filled with untapped potential, and our work is grounded by partnering closely with artists to develop opportunities in emerging models of creativity and entrepreneurship — exhibitions, commissions, brand partnerships, new technologies, and original concepts that no one has ever tried before. 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

313A Harvard Street, Brookline, MA 02446
Wednesday - Sunday 11am - 6pm

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MEDIA CONTACT:

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MEDIA KIT DOWNLOAD [HERE](#)

Artwork credits:

Rashida Abuwala

Dream 315
2022
Fabric dye, acrylic paint,
embroidery thread on raw
canvas
84 x 60 in.
Courtesy the artist

Clint Baclawski

Bound/ary
2021
Artist's Proof (Edition of 2
plus one AP)
Khaki and peach Acrylic,
pre-finished Maple plywood,
archival pigment backlight
prints, clear polycarbonate
tubes, 6' LED bulbs, lift-off
hinges, Stinger cable
132 x 82 x 8 in.
Courtesy the artist and
Abigail Ogilvy Gallery

Cicely Carew

Fetê. No. 2
2021
Canvas, vinyl, acrylic, yupo,
ink archival paper
66 x 48 x .5 in.
Courtesy the artist

Daniela Rivera

*Solo un dibujo / Just a
drawing*
2022
Landscape drawing copper
point on paper inside glass
Courtesy the artist