

SALON 94

ROBERT A. PRUITT

Born in 1975, Huston, TX

EDUCATION

Tougaloo Art Colony, Jackson, MS
BFA, Texas Southern University, Huston, TX
Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Skowhegan, ME
MFA, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 *Robert Pruitt Drawings*, Salon 94, New York, NY
- 2019 *The Banner Project*, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
The Majesty of Kings Long Dead, Koplín del Río, Seattle, WA
- 2018 *Robert Pruitt: Devotion*, California African American Art Museum, Los Angeles, CA
- 2017 *Robert Pruitt: Benediction*, Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita, KS
Robert Pruitt: Planetary Survey: New Drawings, Prographica/KDR, Seattle, WA
- 2016 *Robert Pruitt: New Work*, Visual Arts Center, University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX
Escape Velocity, Robert L. Ringel Gallery, Stewart Center Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
- 2015 *Robert Pruitt: Flight Risk*, Koplín Del Río Gallery, Culver City, CA
The Mosaic Project: Robert Pruitt & Shadra Strickland, Pennsylvania College of Art & Design, Lancaster, PA
Omohle Ntsudu Omnyama, Gallery MOMO, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2013 *Fantastic Sagas*, Koplín Del Río, Culver City CA
Robert Pruitt: Women, Studio Museum Harlem, New York, NY
- 2012 *Robert Pruitt*, Bakersfield Museum of Art, Bakersfield, CA
- 2011 *The Souls of Black Folk*, McKinney Art Center, Dallas, TX
New American Voices, Fabric Workshop Museum, Philadelphia, PA
Them From After the End of the World, Koplín Del Río, Culver City CA

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- 2010 *The Forever People*, Hooks-Epstein Gallery, Houston, TX
- 2008 *Two Tears in a Bucket: Considering The Alcubierre Metric*, Mary Goldman Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2006 *Quiet as Kept*, Clementine Gallery, New York, NY
Perspectives 154: Robert Pruitt, Contemporary Art Museum, Houston, TX
Symmetrical Patterns of Def, (Otabenga Jones and Associates), Clementine Gallery, NY
- 2004 *I call my brother sun because he shines like one*, Clementine Gallery, New York, NY
Cold Kuts and Fresh Beef, Galveston Art Center, Galveston, TX
Round 18 of Artists' Installations, Project Row Houses, Houston, TX

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 *Perennial*, Koplín Del Río Gallery (Pop-up exhibition), Los Angeles, CA
Men of Steel, Women of Wonder: Modern American Heroes in Contemporary Times, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, AR
Men of Change: Power. Triumph. Truth, Exhibition coordinated by the Smithsonian Institution, the 10-city national tour opened at the California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA, April/May 2019
Black Refractions | Highlights from the Studio Museum in Harlem, The Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, CA (January 15 – April 14, 2019); Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, SC (May 24 – August 18, 2019); Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, MI (September 13 – December 8, 2019); Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, MA (January 17 – April 12, 2020); Frye Art Museum, Seattle, WA (May 9 – August 2, 2020); Utah Museum of Fine Arts, Salt Lake City, UT (August 28 – December 13, 2020)
- 2018 *People Get Ready | Building A Contemporary Collection*, Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham, NC
WOMAN, Koplín Del Río, Seattle, WA
We The People, Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum, Mesa, AZ
Out of Africa, Art Village Gallery, Memphis TN
MLK50: Beyond the Balcony, Art Village Gallery, Memphis TN
- 2017 *LIBERTY.*, Prographica/KDR, Seattle, WA
Anachronism and Liberation, Asteroid Tiger Strike, Philadelphia, PA
Z is for Zigzag: Directions Around Northern Manhattan, Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art & Storytelling, New York, NY

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- Impressions: African American Artists and Their Connection to African Art*, Mesa College Art Gallery, San Diego, CA
- 2016 *How Far Have We Come*, Koplín Del Río Gallery on Artsy (online exhibition),
Indivisible: Spirits in the Material World, curated by William Cordova, Prizm Art Fair, Miami, FL
Time + Space: Futures, Bemis Center, Omaha, NE
IDENTITY, Koplín Del Río Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2015 *New Editions*, Tamarind Institute, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
- 2013 *Wunderkammer: Miniatures and Curiosities*, Koplín Del Río, Culver City CA
The Shadows Took Shape, The Studio Museum Harlem, New York, NY
- 2012 *Self Possessed: Examining Identity in the 21st Century*, Koplín Del Río, Culver City CA
HX8(Houston Times Eight), Station Museum of Contemporary Art, Houston, TX
- 2011 *Stargazers, Elizabeth Catlett in conversation with 21 contemporary artists*, Bronx Museum, Bronx, NY
- 2010 *Hangin' Together*, Koplín Del Río Gallery (Guest Curated by Kerry James Marshall)
Drawing for Projection, SITE Santa Fe Biennial, Santa Fe, NM and P.S.1/MoMA, New York, NY
- 2008 *S & M: Shrines and Masquerades in Cosmopolitan Times*. NYU, Steinhardt Galleries, New York NY
- 2007 *New Works: 07.1*, curated by Debra Singer, Artpace, San Antonio, TX
Sweet Sweetback's Badasssss Song, Von Lintel Gallery, New York NY
- 2006 *Whitney Biennial*, (both individually and as part of Otabenga Jones and Associates), Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
Black Alphabet, The Zacheta Gallery, Warsaw, Poland
Frequency, The Studio Museum, New York, NY
The Texas Prize Exhibition, ArtHouse, Austin, TX (catalog)
Texas Artadia Recipients, Diverseworks, Houston, TX
Art on Paper, The Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, NC
Black Alphabet, the Zacheta Gallery, Warsaw, Poland
Intersections: Shifting Identity in Contemporary Art, John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, WI
Interstellar Low Ways, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
...but I was cool, Aljira Center for Contemporary Art, Newark, NJ
- 2005 *Double Consciousness: Black Conceptual Art Since 1970*, Contemporary Art Museum Houston, Houston, TX

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Perspectives 144: Amalgama, Contemporary Art Museum Houston, Houston, TX (as part of Otabenga Jones and Associates)

- 2004 *Farm to Market*, ArtPace, San Antonio, TX
Texas Prime, Diverseworks, Houston, TX
SuperSalon, Samson Projects, Boston, MA
- 2003 *Miniatures*, Hooks-Epstein Gallery, Houston, TX
The Big Show, (first prize), Lawndale Art Center, Houston, TX
Splat Boom Pow! The Influence of Cartoons in Contemporary Art, Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX
Come Forward: Emerging Art in Texas, Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX
- 2002 *Soul Sonic Lustre Silk*, Houston Community College, Houston, TX
The Big Show, Lawndale Art Center, Houston, TX
Process, Creative Research Lab, Austin, TX
The Debt, The Old School, Austin, TX
22 to Watch: New Art in Austin, Austin Museum of Art, Austin, TX
Safety Gear, D Ramos Studios, Austin TX
- 2001 *Umfrumnat tre'*, Doty Fine Arts Building, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX
An Adult Fantasy in Visuals, Studio 107, Austin, TX
- 2000 *Our New Day Begun: African American Artists Entering the Millenium*, LBJ Library and Museum, Austin, TX
Love Letters, Commerce Street Artists Warehouse, Houston, TX
- 1999 *Strange Fruit*, Diverse Works Art Space, Houston, TX
Proper Hygiene, 820 Sampson, Houston, TX
Huh What?!, Texas Southern University Library Art Gallery, Houston, TX
Third Annual Citywide African American Artists Exhibition, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX
- 1998 *Fresh Beginnings*, The African American Museum, Dallas, TX
HBCU Invitational, Benedict College, Columbia, SC
- 1996 *Preventions*, Project Row Houses/Community Artists Collective, Houston, TX

CURATORIAL PROJECTS

- 2020 *Drawing the Ghost*, Koplín del Río, Seattle, WA

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COLLECTIONS

Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY
Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA
Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock, AR
Nasher Museum of Art, Duke University, Durham, NC
Studio Museum of Harlem, NY
Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX
University Museum, Texas Southern University, Houston, TX
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX
US Embassy, Zimbabwe

RESIDENCIES

2016 Joan Mitchell Foundation Artist in Residence, New Orleans, LA
2015 Tamarind Institute, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
Gallery MOMO, Johannesburg, South Africa
Bemis Center for Contemporary Art A.I.R
Gallery MOMO, Johannesburg, South Africa
2014 Tamarind Institute, Albuquerque, NM
2007 ArtPace Residency, San Antonio, TX

BIBLIOGRAPHY

2019 “Best of 2018: Our Top 15 Los Angeles Art Shows”, Hyperallergic, December 18,
2018
Caldwell, Ellen C., “Robert Pruitt: Devotion”, Riot Material, December 17, 2018
Gerwin, Daniel, “The Potent Realism of Robert Pruitt’s Black Portraiture”,
Hyperallergic, December 4,
2018
“Robert Pruitt’s ‘Devotion’ at California African American Museum”, Blouin Artinfo,
November 2018
“Robert Pruitt”, Wall Street International Magazine, October 26, 2018
Little, Colony, “Pay Attention to the Loaded Details in Artist Robert Pruitt’s Powerful
Images of Devotion”, Artnet News, October 18, 2018
Onyewuenyi, Ikechukwu, “‘Robert Pruitt: Devotion’ Preview”, Artforum, September
2018

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- Drew, Kimberly, "Tina Knowles Lawson on Her Black Art Collection, Beyoncé, Solange, and Creativity", Vanity Fair, September 2018
- Cotter, Holland, "A Good Year for Younger Artists, Immigrant Citizens and Outrage", New York Times, September 6, 2018
- Howe, Brian, "In Contemporary Showcase People Get Ready, The Nasher's Progressive Vision Snaps into Blazing Focus", Indy Weekly, September 6, 2018
- McGrath, Katherine, "Tina Knowles Lawson on Why Beyoncé and Solange Grew Up Surrounded by an Incredible Art Collection", Architectural Digest, August 6, 2018
- 2017
- Edge, Lisa, "Celestial Figures: Robert Pruitt's portraits disrupt media narratives of black lives", Real Change, March 1, 2017
- Breslaw, Cathy, "IMPRESSIONS: AFRICAN AMERICAN ARTISTS AND THEIR CONNECTION TO AFRICAN ART", Vanguard Culture, February 8, 2017
- "San Diego Mesa College Art Gallery Presents IMPRESSIONS", Broadway World, San Diego, February 2, 2017
- 2016
- Agresta, Michael, "Ward Matters: Robert Pruitt's Art Vividly Portrays the Lives and Dreams of the People who have long called Houston's Rapidly Gentrifying Neighborhoods Home", Texas Monthly, December 2016
- Mader, Elisa, "IDENTITY: A Visual Artifact", AEQAI, March 2016
- 2015
- Gerwin, Daniel, "Drawing an Afro-Future with the Past and Present", HYPERALLERGIC, Dec. 1, 2015
- Mizota, Sharon, "Critic's Choice: Robert Pruitt: Futuristic portraits gain a real edge", LA Times, Nov. 10, 2015
- Will, Rachel, "Robert Pruitt's New Works Juxtapose African Culture and Space Objects", Artsy, Nov. 1, 2015
- Word, Tanekeya, "Interview: Robert Pruitt", Saint Heron, March 16, 2015
- 2013
- Rosenberg, Karen, Women Inspired to Mix and Match, Drawings by Robert Pruitt at the Studio Museum in Harlem, The New York Times, August 8, 2013
- Cembelast, Robin, Reinventing the African American Portrait, ARTnews, August 1, 2013
- Ulysse, Gina Athena, Immeasurable Inspiration: On Robert Pruitt's Women, The Huffington Post, July 26, 2013
- Roffino, Sara, 25 Questions for Afrofuturist Artist Robert Pruitt, BLOUINARTINFO International, July 18, 2013
- 2012
- Boyd, Robert, Robert Pruitt: This Rejection of the Conqueror at the Art Museum of Southeast Texas, Glasstire, February 5, 2012

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- 2011 Ollman, Leah, Robert Pruitt at Koplín Del Río, Los Angeles Times, Art Reviews, August 19
Mizota, Sharon, Robert Pruitt, ARTNews Magazine, Art Reviews, November
- 2007 Gajkowski-Hill, Sarah. Perspectives 154: Robert Pruitt, Arts Houston Magazine, February 2007
Goodard, Dan R. Caught Between Two Cultures, San Antonio Express-News, Sunday, April 22, 2007
Gupta, Anjali. Glenn Kaino + Robert Pruitt + Katja Strunz, Art Papers, May/June 2007
Salmon, Lori. Robert Pruitt, ArtUS, March-April, 2007
Wolff, Elaine. The Art Capades: We Shall (Eventually) Overcome (One Way Or Another), San Antonio Current, March 22-April 3, 2007
- 2006 Baldwin, Rosecrans. Quiet As Kept, Interview with Robert Pruitt, The Morning News, December 2006
Cotter, Holland. The Collective Conscious, The New York Times, Sunday March 5, 2006 (as part of Otabenga Jones and Associates)
Golden, Thelma, and Christine Kim. Frequency, The Studio Museum of Harlem, New York
Iles, Chrissy, and Phillip Verne. Day for a Night, Whitney Biennial, Whitney Museum of Art
Kerr, Merrily. Otabenga Jones and Associates, Symmetrical Patterns of Def, Time Out New York, February 2-8, 2006 (as part of Otabenga Jones and Associates)
Goings On About Town: Robert Pruitt, New Yorker, December 25, 2006
- 2005 Cassel Oliver, Valerie, and Franklin Sirmans. Double Consciousness, Black Conceptual Art Since 1970, Contemporary Arts Museum of Houston
- 2004 Schwendener, Martha. Robert Pruitt at Clementine, Time Out New York, August 5-12
Robert Pruitt at Clementine, The New Yorker, August 9 & 16
Psylos, Steven. Robert Pruitt, New York Press, August 3
- 2003 Weaver, Suzanne. et al. Come Forward: Emerging Art in Texas, Dallas Museum of Art