

# TITUSKAPHAR

Titus Kaphar is a painter and sculptor whose practice examines the history of representation. In his art, he appropriates styles and conventions from the art historical canon, using techniques like cutting, shredding, and erasing to illuminate social inequalities in an attempt to confront the past and to highlight the inadequacies of our present. In Kaphar's words, he creates works "that nod to hidden narratives and begin to reveal unspoken truths about the nature of history." Titus Kaphar was born in 1976 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. He received an MFA from the Yale School of Art and is a distinguished recipient of numerous prizes and awards including: a 2018 MacArthur Fellowship, the 2014 Gwendolyn Knight and Jacob Lawrence Fellowship, 2015 Creative Capital grant, 2016 Robert R. Rauschenberg Artist as Activist grant, 2018 Art for Justice Fund grant and the 2018 Rappaport Prize, among others.

Kaphar's work has been included in solo and group exhibitions at Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA; the Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY; MoMA PS1, Long Island City, NY and the National Portrait Gallery, Washington, DC. His work is included in the collections of Crystal Bridges Museum, Bentonville, AK, 21C Museum, multiple locations, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY and the Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), Miami, Florida, amongst others. His ambitious installation, *The Vesper Project*, was last exhibited at the Abrams Engel Institute for Visual Art, Birmingham, AL in Fall/Winter 2018. Past locations include: the Lois and Richard Rosenthal Center for Contemporary Arts, Cincinnati, OH, the Katzen Arts Center at American University, Washington, DC, New Britain Museum of American Art, New Britain, CT, the Lowe Art Museum, Miami, FL.

In late 2014, TIME magazine commissioned Kaphar to create an artwork in response to protests in Ferguson, Missouri. In 2017, he led a TED Talk titled "How Can We Address Centuries of Racism In Art?" in which he explored the history of racism in Western artwork—and asked how we can amend it through contemporary art. He completed his whitewash painting, *Shifting the Gaze*, onstage.

Future exhibitions include *One*, an exhibition at the Brooklyn Museum, Summer 2019 and *Suffering from realness*, at MASSMoCA, March 2019-2020.

## EDUCATION

### **2006**

MFA, Yale University, School of Art, New Haven, Connecticut

### **2001**

BFA, San Jose State University, San Jose, California

## SELECTED ONE-ARTIST EXHIBITIONS

### **2019**

*Survey*, Maruani Mercier, Knokke, Belgium, August 2 - September 7, 2019

*Forgotten Solider*, American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, Yorktown, VA June 29, 2019 - March 22, 2020

*One: Titus Kaphar*, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, New York, June 21 - October 13, 2019

*The Vesper Project*, Maruani Mercier, Zaventem, Belgium, May 18 - September 28, 2019

*Suffering from Realness*, Mass MoCA, North Adams, MA, April 19, 2019 - January 1, 2020

*Redaction*, A Project by Titus Kaphar and Reginald Dwayne Betts, MoMA PS1, New York, March 31 2018 - May 6, 2019

### **2018**

*Unseen: Our past in a new light*, The National Portrait Gallery, Washington, DC, March 2018 - 19

### **2017**

*Impressions of liberty*, installation at Princeton University Maclean House, Princeton, NJ, November - December 2016.

### **2016**

*Titus Kaphar: Shifting Skies*, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, December 16, 2016 - January 28, 2017.

### **2015**

*Titus Kaphar: Drawing the Blinds and Asphalt and Chalk*, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, January 15 - February 21, 2015.

*99 Jeromes*, ArtSpace, New Haven, Connecticut, July 17 - September 12, 2015.

*Titus Kaphar: Selections from Asphalt and Chalk*, MoMA PS1, Long Island City, NY, June 10 - August 31, 2015.

### **2014-2017**

*The Vesper Project*, Lois & Richard Rosenthal Center for Contemporary Art, Cincinnati, Ohio, April 17 - September 13, 2014. Travelling to: New Britain Museum of American Art, New Britain, Connecticut, November 2014-February 2015; American University Museum at the Katzen Art Center, Washington, D.C., November 7 - December 13, 2015; Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia, Fall 2015 - Spring 2016; Lowe Art Museum, University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida, September 8 - December 23, 2016; Abrams-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts, University of Alabama at Birmingham, September 2017.

## **2014-2015**

*The Jerome Project*, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, November 13, 2014 –March 8, 2015.

## **2012**

*Titus Kaphar: Behind a Veil of Beauty*, SEM Art Gallery, Monaco, July 7–September 9, 2012.

## **2011**

*Titus Kaphar: Classical Disruption*, Friedman Benda, New York, New York, February 17–April 2, 2011.

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

### **2018**

*Parallel lives*, Kavi Gupta, Chicago, IL, June 1-August 18, 2018

*On whiteness*, the Racial Imaginary Institute at The Kitchen, New York, NY, June 27-August 3, 2018

*From enslavement to mass incarceration*, permanent exhibition, the Legacy Museum, Montgomery, AL, 2018-

### **2017**

*20/20*: The Studio Museum in Harlem and Carnegie Museum of Art, Heinz Galleries, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA, July 22 – December 31, 2017.

*Examining Political Expressions in African American Art*, Detroit Institute of Arts, Michigan, July 23 – October 22, 2017.

*The Legacy of Lynching: Confronting Racial Terror in America*, Brooklyn Museum, New York, July 26 – September 3, 2017.

### **2016**

*For Freedoms*, Jack Shainman Gallery, 513 West 20th Street, New York, NY, June 30 – July 29, 2016.

*Arresting Patterns: Perspectives on Race, Criminal Justice, Artistic Expression, and Community*, African American Museum in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 30 – September 11, 2016.

*Recharging the Image: Selections from the Mott-Warsh Collection*, Visual Arts Center of New Jersey, Summit, New Jersey, April 4 – July 10, 2016

*Dress Up, Speak Up: Costume and Confrontation*, 21c Museum Hotel, Durham, North Carolina, September 2016 – July 2017

### **2015-2016**

*I See Myself in You: Selections from the Collection*, Brooklyn Museum, New York, August 26, 2015– 2016

*Us Is Them*, The Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, Ohio, September 18, 2015 – April 3, 2016. Travels to: Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, Grand Rapids, Michigan, January 27 – May 14, 2017. Winter in America, The School, Kinderhook, New York, October 17, 2015 – March 19, 2016.

## 2015

*FOCUS I: IDENTIFIED*, Selected Works from the Collection of Jim Sokol and Lydia Cheney, Abrams-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts, University of Alabama at Birmingham, June 5 - July 25, 2015.

*The Art of Ideas Festival*, 21c Museum Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky, August 21 - October 11, 2015.

*Breath/Breadth: Contemporary American Black Male Identity*, Maier Museum of Art at Randolph College, Lynchburg, Virginia, September 3 - December 11, 2015.

*New Arrivals 2015: Collecting Contemporary Art* at The University of Maryland, Stamp Gallery, College Park, Maryland, September 21 - December 18, 2015.

*To Be Young, Gifted, and Black*, Goodman Gallery, South Africa, September 26 - November 11, 2015.

*Status Quo*, The School | Jack Shainman Gallery, Kinderhook, NY, January 31 - April 12, 2015.

## PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Birmingham Museum of Art, Alabama

Brooklyn Museum, New York

The Burger Collection, Zurich, Switzerland

Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arkansas

The Equal Justice Initiative Museum, Montgomery, Alabama

Mott-Warsh Collection, Flint, Michigan

New Britain Museum of American Art, New Britain, Connecticut

Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), Miami, Florida

The Museum of Modern Art, New York

The National Gallery of Victoria, Australia

The Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, Ohio

Seattle Museum of Art, Seattle, Washington

Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond

The Legacy Museum, Montgomery, AL

## AWARDS

### **2018**

Art for Justice, Imagining Justice Grantee  
The Rappaport Prize  
MacArthur Fellow

### **2017**

The Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Grant

### **2016**

Artist as Activist Fellow: Racial Justice + Mass Incarceration, Robert Rauschenberg Foundation

### **2015**

Creative Capital Fellow

### **2009**

Gwendolyn Knight and Jacob Lawrence Fellowship Recipient, Seattle Art Museum

### **2006**

Artist in Residence, The Studio Museum In Harlem

### **2004**

Belle Arts Foundation Grantee

### **2001**

California Arts Council Grantee