



PETER WILLIAMS

Born 1952, Nyack, NY

Lives and works in Wilmington, DE

EDUCATION

- 1987 M.F.A. Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD
- 1975 B.F.A. Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis, MN
- 1970-72 University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
- 1969-70 Art Students League, New York, NY

SOLO & TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 ***Black Exodus***, Freight+Volume, New York, NY
- 2020 *Black Universe*, Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit (MoCAD), Detroit, MI
Black Universe, Luis De Jesus Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
Narration and Transition, Trinosophes, Detroit, MI
Mass Murder, Paul Kotula Projects, Ferndale, MI
Peter Williams: Incarceration, Cressman Center for Visual Arts, Hite Art Institute, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY
- 2019 *Black Exodus*, NADA Miami, presented by Luis De Jesus Los Angeles, Miami, FL
The Enamels, The Armory Show, presented by Luis De Jesus Los Angeles, New York, NY
- 2018 *River of Styx*, Luis De Jesus Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
With So Little to Be Sure Of, curated by Larry Ossei-Mensah, CUE Art Foundation, New York, NY
- 2017 *Dark Humor: Peter Williams*, Allcott Gallery, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC
The N-Word: Common and Proper Nouns, curated by Oswaldo Mesa, The Gallery, Baltimore County Catonsville College, Catonsville, MD
Dark Humor: Joyce J. Scott and Peter Williams, Center for the Arts Gallery, Towson University, Towson, MD
The N-Word: Common and Proper Nouns, Ruffin Gallery, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
- 2016 *Contested Identities: The Recent Work of Peter Williams*, Hicks Art Center, Bucks County Community College, Newtown, PA
- 2015 *The N-Word*, Novella Gallery, New York, NY
- 2014 *Jim Chatelain and Peter Williams: Recent Work*, Paul Kotula Projects, Ferndale, MI
- 2013 *Peter Williams*, Foxy Production, New York, NY
- 2012 NADA Miami, presented by Foxy Production, Miami, FL
- 2011 *Midnight Waltz in D Minor*, Paul Kotula Projects, Ferndale, MI
- 2010 *Recent Works*, Clough-Hanson Gallery, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN
- 2008 Delaware Division of the Arts, Wilmington, DE
- 2007 *Artistic Repair*, The Visual Arts Center of New Jersey, Summit, NJ
Baghdad and Other Unfinished Business, Delaware Center for Contemporary Arts, Wilmington, DE
- 2006 *everything is everything*, Paul Kotula Projects, Ferndale, MI
- 2004 *Focus Series: Paintings by Peter Williams*, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, IN
- 2003 *Peter Williams: Alicia Studio Time*, Kiehle Gallery, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN

- Black Heaven*, Revolution Gallery, Ferndale, MI
Peter Williams Paintings, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI
 2001 *Life on a Black Planet*, Revolution Gallery, Ferndale, MI
 2000 *Eight Years, Nine Months, Six Hours: A Retrospective of Paintings by Peter Williams*, Meadow Brook Art Gallery, Rochester, MI
 1999 *Decoys*, A.R.C. Gallery, Chicago, IL
 1993 *Peter Williams*, Thimmesh Gallery, Minneapolis, MN
 1990 *Peter Williams*, Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, Grand Rapids, MI
 1989 *Peter Williams*, Michigan Council for the Arts, Detroit, MI
 1985 *Peter Williams*, St. Cloud State University Gallery, St. Cloud, MN
 1972 *Peter Williams*, Mission Gallery, Taos, NM
 1970 *Peter Williams*, Merenstein Gallery, Nyack, NY

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 *This is America*, Kunstraum Potsdam, Potsdam, Germany
Zoo, Torrance Art Museum, Torrance, CA
Friend Zone, curated by Vaughn Spann, Half Gallery, New York, NY
 2020 *20 Artists on Work They Made in 2020*, digital billboards presented by Artsy and Outfront Media, New York City Transit System
Unreachable Spring, Luis De Jesus Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
In the Air: Voices from Detroit and Beyond, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
Here and Now, curated by John Yau and Wes Sherman, The Center for Contemporary Art, Bedminster, NJ
 2019 *Men of Steel, Women of Wonder*, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, AK
Men of Steel, Women of Wonder, San Antonio Museum of Art, San Antonio, TX
Men of Steel, Women of Wonder, Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy, Andover, MA
Contextual Proportions, curated by Kenturah Davis, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
I've got a good mind to give up living and go shopping instead, Luis De Jesus Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
 2018 *SOUL RECORDINGS*, Luis De Jesus Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
 Delaware Contemporary, Wilmington, DE
 Paul Kotula Projects, Ferndale, MI
 2017 Bushwick Parlour, Brooklyn, NY
Rooted in Resistance, Remembrance, Ritual & Resilience: Black Masking Indian Suiting, The New Orleans Jazz Museum at The Old U.S. Mint; *Prospect.4: The Lotus In Spite Of The Swamp*, Prospect Biennial, curated by Dan Cameron, New Orleans, LA
 2016 *As Carriers of Flesh*, curated by Michael David, DAVID&SCHWEITZER Contemporary, Brooklyn, NY
 Paul Kotula Projects, Ferndale, MI
 2014 *As If*, Novella Gallery, New York, NY
Soul, Novella Gallery, New York, NY
 2013 Gallery Project, Ann Arbor Drones Group Show, Ann Arbor, MI
 2012 *Giving Time To Time*, Paul Kotula Projects, Detroit, MI
Eye Teeth, Paint Creek Center, Rochester, MI
Grammar of the Elite, Gallery Project, Ann Arbor, MI
 2009 *Race*, Gallery Project, Ann Arbor, MI

- 2007 *Stuff: International Contemporary Art from the Collection of Burt Aaron*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit, MI
State of the Union, Gallery Project, Ann Arbor, MI
Shrinking Cities, Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI
- 2006 *Black Panther Rank and File*, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, CA
American Icons, Gallery Project, Ann Arbor, MI
Contemporary African American Artists, Delaplaine Visual Arts Education Center, Frederick, MD
- 2005 *The Whole World Is Rotten: Free Radicals and the Gold Coast Slave Castles of Paa Joe*, traveling exhibition curated by Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, NY
Cheers, Revolution Gallery, Ferndale, MI
- 2004 *Free Fall*, Revolution Gallery, Ferndale, MI
Comic Release: Negotiating Identity for a New Generation, traveling exhibition curated by Regina Gouger Miller Gallery, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA; Center for Contemporary Art, LA; University of N. Texas, Denton, TX; Western Washington University, WA
Windsor Biennial, Art Gallery of Windsor Group, Ontario, Canada
Head Games, Revolution Gallery, Ferndale, MI
- 2002 *Whitney Biennial*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
The Stray Show, Art Revolution Gallery, Chicago, IL
Art Chicago, Art Revolution Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2001 *African Influences in the Visual Arts of the Americas*, Museo Afro-Brasileiro, Bahia de Salvador, Brazil
- 1999 *Looking Forward, Looking Black*, traveling exhibition curated by Jo Anna Isaak of Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY
Body and Soul, Paint Creek Center for the Arts, Rochester, MI
Naked, Detroit Contemporary Gallery, Detroit, MI
On the Verge of Abstraction, Center Galleries, College for Creative Arts, Detroit, MI
- 1997 *HOT*, Revolution Gallery, Ferndale, MI
- 1996 *Gilda Snowden Selects Work by Detroit-area Artists*, Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI
- 1995 *Interventions*, Detroit Institute for the Arts, Detroit, MI
Dis/Abilities, Slussen Gallery, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- 1994 *Inside/Outside*, Detroit Artist Market, Detroit, MI
The Figure Show, Buckham Gallery, Flint, MI
- 1993 *Cultural Diversities*, St. Paul Companies, St. Paul, MN
Art Expo Chicago, Thimmesh Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1992 *Drawing for Drawing*, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
- 1990 *Endangered: Visual Art by Men of Color*, Intermedia Arts, Minneapolis, MN
Art For Life, AFAR, Troy, MI
- 1988 *Re-Presents*, Broadway Gallery, Detroit, MI
- 1987 *Mix*, Broadway Gallery, Detroit, MI
- 1985 *Minneapolis*, North Dakota Museum of Art, Fargo, ND
- 1984 *Twelve Artists and Their Work*, First Bank Place, Minneapolis, MN
- 1983 *McKnight Fellowship Exhibition*, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, MN
- 1982 *One Two Three Show*, Barry Richard Gallery, Minneapolis, MN
- 1979 *Artists Initiative*, Washington Avenue Space, Minneapolis, MN
- 1970 *Annual Show*, National Arts Club, New York, NY
- 1969 *Woodstock Music Festival Exhibition*, Bethel, NY
American Art, National Council of Jewish Women, Essex, NJ

Annual Show, Afra-Arts Gallery, White Plains, NY
Group Show, Merenstein Gallery, Nyack, NY

AWARDS / RESIDENCIES

- 2020 Artists' Legacy Foundation Award, Oakland, CA
- 2018 National Academy of Design, New York, NY
Djerassi Resident Artists Program, Woodside, CA
- 2011 Wynn Newhouse Award, New York, NY
- 2007 Joan Mitchell Foundation, Santa Fe Art Institute, NM
Individual Artist Fellowship, Delaware Division of the Arts, Wilmington, DE
- 2004 Distinguished Professor Award, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
Joan Mitchell Foundation, Santa Fe Art Institute, NM
- 2001 Humanities Center, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
- 1997 Humanities Fellowship, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
Excellence in Teaching Award, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
- 1996 Mercedes Benz Project, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
- 1991 Detroit Council for the Arts Urban Margins, MI
- 1989 Artist Grant, Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, Lansing, MI
- 1985-7 Ford Foundation Fellowship, Washington D.C.
- 1983 Artist Fellowship, McKnight Foundation, Minneapolis, MN

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2004 – 2020 Professor in Fine Arts, Department of Art & Design, University of Delaware, Newark, DE
- 1987 – 2004 Associate Professor, Art and Art History, College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

ARTIST TALKS / LECTURES / CONFERENCES

- 2021 Discussion with co-curators Rebecca Mezzai and Larry Ossei-Mensah, MOCA Detroit and Trinosophes, Detroit, Jan 9
- 2020 *Unreachable Spring* Artist Talk with Lindsay Preston Zappas, Luis De Jesus Los Angeles, Dec. 19
Visiting Artist, Bard College, Annandale-On-Hudson, NY, Dec. 8
Visiting Artist, Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI, Nov. 16-17
Conversation with Dr. Jordana Moore Saggese, Associate Professor of American Art at the University of Maryland and Editor-in-Chief of the College Art Association *Art Journal*, Artists' Legacy Foundation Award, Nov. 13
Interview: Articulate: Treasures from the Vault: Peter Williams, Interview with Sachi Yanari-Rizzo, Curator of Prints and Drawings, Ft. Wayne Museum of Art, Ft. Wayne, IN, Aug. 24
Artist Talk: Peter Williams in Conversation with John Yau, UNTITLED, ART Online, Aug. 1

- Visiting Artist, College of Creative Studies, Detroit, MI, Apr. 16
 Artist Talk with Christopher Reitz, curator of the Hite Art Institute, Cressman Center for Visual Art, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, Apr. 10
- 2019 Visiting Artist Talk, Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, VT, Aug. 23
- 2018 Panel: Revolution, Rebellion, Reparations...How to make a painting: A conversation with artist Peter Williams, curator Larry Ossei-Mensah, Angela N. Carroll, and Ebony L. Haynes, Cue Art Foundation, New York, NY, Feb. 24
 Visiting Artist / President's Lecture Series, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis, MN, Oct. 9
- 2017 Artist Interview, Delaware Art Museum, Wilmington, DE, Jun. 2
 Dark Humor: Peter Williams, Hanes Visiting Artist Lecture, John and June Allcott Gallery, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, Sep. 12

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2020 Boshier, Rosa, "The Trouble with Truth: Peter Williams's *Black Universe*," NAD NOW, The Journal of the National Academy of Design
 "20 Artists on the Work They Made in 2020," Artsy, Nov. 20
 Wouk Almino, Elisa. "Your Concise Los Angeles Art Guide for November 2020," Hyperallergic, Nov. 2
 Gottesman, Sarah. "Five Artists on the Radar this October," Artsy, Oct. 6
 Gerwin, Daniel. "Peter Williams's Afrofuturist World and Its Cyclones of Color," Hyperallergic, Oct. 1
 McKinson, Kimberly D. "Do Black Lives Matter in Outer Space," Sapiens, Sep. 30 (image)
 "Peter Williams Wins Artists' Legacy Foundation's \$25,000 Award," Artforum, Sep. 21
 Keener, Katherine. "Art World Roundup," ArtCritique, Sep. 18
 Zellen, Jody. "Peter Williams 'Black Universe' Narratives Speaking to Our Urgent Need to Change," ARTNOWLA, Sep. 18
 Valentine, Victoria. "Employing 'Outrageous Color,' Peter Williams Makes Bold Paintings That Confront Racial Oppression and Envision a 'Black Universe,'" Culture Type, Sep. 11
 Selvin, Claire and Tessa Solomon. "ARTnews in Brief: Peter Williams Receives Artists' Legacy Foundation 2020 Artist Award-and More from September 11, 2020," ARTnews, Sep. 11
 Weber, Jasmine. "Week in Review," HYPERALLERGIC, Sep. 11
 "Peter Williams: From The 'Black Exodus' Series," Grizzly Grizzly, Sep. 10
 Winn, Ashley. "Where to See Visual Arts in Person Around Metro Detroit," HOOR Detroit, Sep. 2
 Must See Show: Peter Williams Black Universe @ Luis De Jesus Los Angeles, Artforum, Aug. 28
 Treasures from the Vault: Peter Williams, Articulate from the Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Aug 24
 Schwabsky, Barry. "What Truths Can You Divine From Instagram Paintings?" The Nation, Aug. 4
 "Peter Williams: Black Universe @ MoCAD," JUXTAPOZ, Jul. 13
 Loren, Cary. "Peter Williams: Black Universe," BookBeat Backroom, Jul. 13
 Dambrot, Shana Nys. "Arts At And Out Of Home (IRL, VR, and Zoomy)," LA Weekly, Jul. 8
 Goldman, Edward. "Virtual Art Presentations that Beg for Gallery Visits," Art Matters, Jul. 7
 Cruz, Cristina. "Editors' Picks: 14 Events for Your Virtual Art Calendar Week," Artnet News, Jul. 6
 Looseleaf, Victoria. "Peter Williams' Black Universe at Luis De Jesus," ARTNOWLA, Jun. 23
 Harris, Anne. "Anne Harris on Nowinski and Williams: Looking In and Out," Painters On Paintings, Jun. 21
 Williams, Peter. "Peter Williams on George Floyd and Art Not in Isolation," Painters On Paintings, Jun. 11

- Gural, Natasha. "George Floyd's Death and Systemic Racism Spark Creative Breakthroughs For Artists," Forbes, Jun. 9
- Yau, John. "There Is Nothing United About the United States or the Art World," HYPERALLERGIC, Feb. 29
- Weis, Natalie. "At U of L's Cressman Center, Peter Williams' Work Uses Joyful Colors To Tackle Black Incarceration," 89.3 WFPL News Louisville, Feb. 27
- 2019 Jordan, Eliza. "Our Top Picks From NADA 2019," Whitewall, Dec. 9
- Perrell, Franklin Hill. "Critic's View: Pier 90 of The Armory Show Holds Rewards for Collectors & Serious Viewers," Hamptons ArtHub, Mar. 10
- "Here Are 10 Must-See Booths at the Armory Show, Filled With Compelling Portraiture and Mixed-Media Masters," artnet news, Mar. 7
- "Armory Show Survives Pier Pressure, Sees Big Names and Strong Sales on VIP Day," ARTnews, Mar. 6
- Morales, Atenea. "De frente al PASADO," VOGUE (México), Mar. 1
- 2018 Gerwin, Daniel. "Peter Williams: River of Styx," The Brooklyn Rail, Dec. 11
- Knight, Christopher. "Review: Dot by Dot, Painter Peter Williams Makes Points About Racial Violence," Los Angeles Times, Nov. 30
- Wheless, Avery. "Two Stops in Culver City," Artillery Magazine, Oct. 25
- Miranda, Carolina. "Datebook," Los Angeles Times, Oct. 19
- Brody, Danny. "Mass Murder and The Resistance. I Peter Williams," QuietLunch.com, Mar. 30
- Yau, John. "Peter Williams's Everyday American Hell," HYPERALLERGIC, Mar. 4
- Ossei-Mensah, Larry, et al. Peter Williams: With So Little To Be Sure Of, CUE Art Foundation (Catalogue)
- 2017 Alessi, Andrea. "In 2017, Artists Channeled Pessimism, But Weren't Defeated," Artslant, Dec. 21
- Davis, Ben. "See Highlights from the Just-Opened Prospect 4 Triennial in New Orleans," Artnet News, Nov. 20
- "Prospect New Orleans Announces Participating Artists for Its Fourth Edition," Artforum, May 23
- Rubenstein, Bradley. "Bearing Witness, Peter Williams Advances an Art History of Accountability," ArtSlant, Mar. 31
- 2016 Micchelli, Thomas. "The Body Politic, in the Flesh," HYPERALLERGIC, Nov. 26
- 2015 Sharp, Sarah Rose. "Paintings of a Homegrown Black Superhero," HYPERALLERGIC, Oct. 18
- Indrisek, Scott. "N-Word Versus the Pig Cops: Peter Williams Bears Witness," Modern Painters, Mar. 31
- Roffino, Sara. "Peter Williams," The Brooklyn Rail, Apr. 2
- 2013 Yau, John. "Peter Williams's Body, Opened and Closed," HYPERALLERGIC, Feb. 24
- 2010 Dobbins, Hamlett. "Recent Works Peter Williams," Clough Hanson Gallery Rhodes College (Catalogue)
- 2007 McGee, Julie L. "Peter Williams: Artistic Repair," Visual Arts Center of New Jersey (Catalogue)
- Micchelli, Thomas. "Peter Williams: Artistic Repair," The Brooklyn Rail, Nov. 4
- 2006 Katz, E. "Gallery director continues artistic revolution in new space," Daily Tribune, Apr. 7
- Sousanis, Nick. "Peter Williams embodies the city," Metro Times, Apr. 19-2, 2006
- 2004 Carducci, Vince and Collins, Lisa. "Artist not in residence," Metro Times, Jul. 7
- 2003 Cohen, K.G. "New approach elevates work," Detroit Free Press, May 25
- Crawford, Lynn. "Peter Williams, Revolution Gallery," Tema Celeste 98, Summer
- "Artist Peter Williams: on race, history and painting," Thedetoiter.com, Apr.
- 2002 Clark, Vicky A., Bloemink, Barbara, and Merino, Ana. Comic Release! Negotiating Identity for a New Generation, Regina Gouger Miller Gallery, Carnegie Mellon University (Catalogue)
- Mannisto, Glen. "The new sincerity," Metro Times, May 15
- Provenzano, Frank. "From destruction, creation." Detroit Free Press, March 7
- Rinder, Lawrence, et al. 2002 Biennial Exhibition, Whitney Museum of American Art (Catalogue)
- 2001 Carducci, Vince. "Peter Williams's Black Humor," New Art Examiner, No. 2, Nov. / Dec.

- Colby, J.H. "Peter Williams paints with passion about his experiences as a black man," Detroit News, Feb. 23
- Crawford, Lynn. "Peter Williams at Revolution," Art in America, No. 9, Sep.
- Rizk, Mysoon. "Peter Williams: Meadow Brook Art Gallery," New Art Examiner, No. 5, Feb.
- Sawyer, R. "Bigger and blacker: Peter Williams showcases work at Revolution," South End, Feb. 28
- 2000 Cohen, K.G. "'Eight Years' showcases artists many styles," Detroit Free Press, Sep. 24
- Colby, J.H. "Painter matures with exhibit that reveals the naked truth," Detroit News, Sep. 8
- Goody, Dick. "Interview," / Machmut-Jhashi, Tamara. "The," / Mannisto, Glen. "Peter Williams' Mercurial Space," / Wilson, Rachel E. "If," Eight Years Nine Months Six Hours: A Retrospective of Paintings by Peter Williams, Oakland University (Catalogue)

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C.

Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY

Walker Arts Center, Minneapolis, MN

Detroit Institute of the Arts, Detroit, MI

Delaware Art Museum, Wilmington, DE

Davis Museum of Art, Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA

Escalette Permanent Collection of Art, Chapman University, Orange, CA

Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, IN

Howard University, Washington, D.C.

Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham, NC

University of Delaware, Newark, DE

Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn, MI

Jorge M. Perez Collection/Espacio 23, Miami, FL

Beth Rudin DeWoody Collection/The Bunker, Palm Beach, FL

Christy and Bill Gautreaux Collection, Kansas City, MO

Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, OH

McEvoy Family Collection, San Francisco, CA

Rev. Al Shands Collection, Louisville, KY

CCH Pounder Collection, New Orleans, LA

Kelly M. Williams and Andrew Forsyth Collection, Palm Beach, FL