

PRESS RELEASE



William Parrish, *The Three Faces of Betty Carter*, mixed media

The Color of Jazz: Concepts in Improvisation Artworks by William Parrish

August 21 — September 22, 2023
McClure Gallery, Art Academy of Cincinnati
1212 Jackson St.
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Opening Reception: Friday, August 25, 2023, 5—8pm

The Art Academy of Cincinnati is pleased to present *The Color of Jazz: Concepts in Improvisation*, an exhibition of paintings and drawings by artist and AAC alum William Parrish.

Artist's Statement About the Exhibition: "The inspiration for this exhibition was former Cincinnati Art Museum designer Noel Martin and long-time Art Academy instructor Constance McClure. During my time at the Art Academy, they greatly influenced my artistic path. I spent

numerous hours with Noel in his museum office watching him work, listening to jazz, and him sharing stories about jazz greats. We became good friends, and I fell in love with the music and his influence. Although I had a good basic foundation in art from Franklin Shands at Princeton High School, it was Connie McClure who quietly challenged me to be adventurous through the introduction of different materials and techniques. The creation of these works are merely to honor Noel and Connie for their influence and impact on my life as an artist.”

About the Artist: William (Bill) Parrish is the Founder and Executive Director of the Eckstein Cultural Arts Center in the Historic Village of Glendale, a northern suburb in Cincinnati. Bill holds a BFA in Communication Design from the Art Academy of Cincinnati and has exhibited his work in galleries and museums in Atlanta, Cincinnati, Cleveland, North Carolina, Chicago, Austin, Oklahoma City, and San Diego. Bill was named a Distinguished Alumni of the AAC in 2022.



Gallery Hours:

Monday through Friday 9am—9pm

Saturday and Sunday 9am—5pm

(Closed September 4; Labor Day)

Gallery admission and reception are free and open to the public

Contact: exhibitions@artacademy.edu, 513-562-6262

About Us: Art Academy of Cincinnati, established in 1869, is an independent college of art and design. Degrees granted are the Associate of Science in Graphic Design; the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Creative Writing, Design, Illustration, Painting and Drawing, Photography, Print Media, and Sculpture; and the Master of Arts in Art Education. Accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, the Art Academy is a charter member of both NASAD and the Association of Independent Colleges of Art and Design. The Art Academy is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the Greater Cincinnati Collegiate Connection. The Art Academy’s Office of Engagement department offers extensive visual arts courses to children, teens, and adults, including a Portfolio Preparation program and an award-winning summer camp. The Art Academy of Cincinnati is located in historic Over-the-Rhine at 1212 Jackson Street Cincinnati, OH 45202. Please visit www.artacademy.edu.