



KAJAHL

b. 1985, Born and works in Santa Cruz, CA

Education

- 2012 MFA in Painting, Hunter College, New York, NY
- 2008 Accademia di Belle Arti di Firenze, Florence, Italy
- 2007 BFA in Painting, San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2022 *Submersia*, moniquemeloche, Chicago IL
- 2020 *Royal Spector*, moniquemeloche, Chicago, IL
Tabula Rasa, Richard Heller Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2017 *Unearth Entities*, Richard Heller Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Obscure Origins, Tillou Fine Art, Brooklyn, NY
- 2012 University of North Carolina Wilmington Arts Gallery, Wilmington, NC

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2024 *Rydell Visual Arts Fellowship Exhibition*, Solari Gallery, Santa Cruz, CA
Handle with Care, Espacio Solo, Madrid, ESP
- 2023 *Ten*, Radius Gallery, Santa Cruz, CA
Ephemeral Pleasures, Richard Heller Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
- 2022 *moniquemeloche presents...*, Lubeznik Center for the Arts, Michigan City, IN
- 2021 *Still Life! Mourning, Meaning, Mending*, 21c Museum, Louisville, KY
- 2020 *Mining Memory*, Lower Eastside Print Shop, New York, NY
A Romantic Comedy, Twentyfive Kent, Brooklyn, NY
A Pearl Laser on Gothic Holodeck, Coherent Brussels, Brussels, Belgium
- 2019 *Fortress of Solitude: A Dirty Hand Hologram for Umberto*, Super Duchess Gallery, New York, NY
Art Brussels, Richard Heller Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- 2018 *Immersion*, Richard Heller Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2017 *Respect*, The Church of St. Paul the Apostle, New York, NY
Beheaded, Richard Heller Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2016 *In Context: Africans in America*, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, ZA
Beauty, The Church of St. Paul the Apostle, New York, NY
- 2013 *Empiria*, Superchief Gallery, New York, NY
Visual Art and Music in a Post-Hip-Hop Era, MoCADA, Brooklyn, NY
Strange Times, Novella Gallery, New York, NY
- 2012 *Hunter MFA Thesis Show*, Times Square Building, Hunter MFA Building, New York, NY
Superheroes and Antiheroes, SUNY College at Westbury, NY
Voices of Home, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, New York, NY
30 American; Next Generation, Rush Arts Center, New York, NY
- 2011 *The Black Portrait*, Rush Arts Gallery, New York, NY

Grants & Fellowships

2021 Rydell Visual Arts Fellowship, Santa Cruz, CA

Awards and Residencies

2013 Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters and Sculptors Grant, New York, NY

2019 Lower Eastside Printshop, Keyholder Residency, New York, NY

2018 Joan Mitchell Center, Artist in Residence, New Orleans, LA

Lectures

2022 Black Baroque Series: Kajahl Benes in Conversation with Cecilio Cooper

Bibliography

- 2023 Scott, Chadd. "Richard Mayhew paintings exhibitions," See Great Art. September 16
"At age 99, Richard Mayhew still painting 'Inner Terrains'," Sonoma Sun Valley. September 8
Griffin, Jonathan. "At 99, the Painter Richard Mayhew Is Still Upending Expectations," The New York Times. May 25
Martin-Brown, Becca. "Portia Munson's busy, bright installation at 21c Museum Hotel invites deeper contemplation," Democrat Gazette. April 2
- 2022 Dozier, Ayanna. "The 10 Best Booths at the Art Basel Miami Beach," Artsy. November 30
Mothes, Kate. "The Denizens of 'Submersia' Breathe New Life into Ancient Artifacts in Oil Portraits by Kajahl," Colossal. November 18
Kelly, Nadya. "Renewed Life Under Water: A Review of Kajahl's 'Submersia' at Monique Meloche Gallery," Newcity Art. November 16
Dobrowolski, Anna. "A Collector Discovers Friends and History Through Art", CGN Spring Summer 2022 Issue
Carroll, Angela; Bulluck, Kelvin. "Living With Art: Keith Timmons," Bmore Art. August 8
Anagli, Mimi. "Oil Paintings That Rewrite History by Kajahl," Made in Shoreditch. March 4
"Rydell Visual Arts Fellowship Exhibition," Times Publishing Group Inc. January 8
- 2021 "Tabula Rasa: A Conversation with Kajahl", Richard Heller Gallery & Juxtapoz. October 26
- 2020 Nafziger, Christina. "Fantasy of a Fantasy- A Review of Kajahl: "Royal Specter" at Monique Meloche," Sixty Inches from Center. December 2
Moreira-Brown, Caira. "A Fantastical Take on the Blackmoor: A Review of Kajahl at Monique Meloche", Newcity Arts. December 9
Ebert, Grace. "Subversive and Grandiose, Kajahl's Vivid Portraits Supplant Historical Narratives", Colossal. November 20
- 2019 "Video: Swizz Beatz and Alicia Keys on 4 Works from Their Collection," Art News. December 16
- 2018 "The CSM graduate channel Dali, Magritte, and Rachael from Blade Runner," Dazed. September 18
- 2017 Skopp, Sam. "Unearthed Entities at Richard Heller", Santa Monica Mirror
McCombs, Greg. "Richard Heller Gallery: Kajahl", Artillery. October 11
Smith, Andy. "Kajahl's Portraits Combine Cultures, Histories," Hi-Fructose. October 11
- 2016 "Portraits of Reinvention", City Press South Africa. November 1
"Kajahl Benes' Parallel Histories", Juxtapoz. August 25
"Artist Spotlight: Kajahl Benes," Booooooom. August 25

Public Collections

21c Museum Hotels, Louisville, KY

Coleccion Solo, Espacio Solo, Madrid, ESP

The Dean Collection, New York, NY

Public Collections (cont.)

Petrucci Family Foundation Collection of African American Art, Asbury, NJ

The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY