

# **#PPGArtists Public Studio Residency @Power Plant Gallery**

The Power Plant Gallery is pleased to announce our #PPGArtists for summer 2018. Joining us for Residency 1 is Bahamian artist Jodi Minnis, and for Residency 2, Durham native, Anthony Patterson. Each artist will receive a stipend of \$750 and 24/7 access to the Power Plant Gallery, a 1500-square-foot space located in downtown Durham. The gallery will hold public hours during each residency, inviting patrons to learn about each artist's process and work.

## **Residency 1, June 1-July 14, 2018:**

Interdisciplinary artist Jodi Minnis focuses on Bahamian women and identity against the backdrop of Bahamian culture, politics and tourism. While in residence as a #PPGArtist Minnis will work on her project, *Colour, Association, and Colonialism*.

"The colour palette of colonialism in The Bahamas is comprised of flamingo-pink and cerulean blue. Flamingo-pink, trimmed with white and accented with dark green, usually appears on government buildings, specifically those in Parliament Square. Cerulean blue appears in tourism advertisements. Historically, those sectors ignore women or erase the issues of women and girls either directly or indirectly. Since women sit at the core of Bahamian society as matriarchal heads, teachers, historians, straw market vendors etc., the misconception of The Bahamas as a utopia by foreigners and natives dilutes social ills, thus resulting in a lackadaisical response to collectively solve these problems."

During her residency, Minnis intends to render naturalistic portraits of women and girls inserting them into government and touristic spaces through oil painting. She will also explore relief printmaking, rendering everyday and naturalistic objects as symbols, such as pineapples for export, coconut trees for landscape, and roaches, for poverty.

Jodi Minnis has been exhibited in Los Angeles, CA, Tampa, FL, Aruba, Barbados, and New Providence, The Bahamas. She was awarded the Popop Junior Residency Prize in 2014, and participated in the Caribbean Linked III residency program in 2015. Minnis was also nominated for a National Youth Award and a Bahamian Icon Award. She is currently pursuing a Bachelor's of Fine Arts at the University of Tampa, and holds an Associates of Art: Fine Arts from the College of The Bahamas.

## **Residency 2, July 23-September 1, 2018:**

Native Durham artist Anthony Patterson will join the Power Plant Gallery for Residency 2 continuing to explore the relationships between themes of identity, loss, and conviction through his experimental documentary work.

After participating in *The Jumpsuit Project* by artist Sherrill Roland, Patterson developed his series of portraits, called *Any Black Man*, that express how American society criminalizes black men. Originally the men were painted in orange jumpsuits with smeared faces and tactile marks across the canvas. Later portraits removed the jumpsuit and focused on how the color orange embodies the 'criminal' stereotype.

"During my residency, I will be working on a new series entitled *PIGEONHOLED*. I will be painting portraits in response to interviews I have with black men who are convicted felons. The portraits will attempt to convey their struggles and, hopefully, create important dialogue surrounding the criminal justice system." Patterson intends to collect interviews for an audio installation, providing context to the paintings as well as create a powerful, felt-experience for the viewer.

Anthony Patterson's work is rooted in figuration, but also lends itself to the language of abstract painting. Informed by the current sociopolitical climate of America, as well as his interest in documentary studies, Patterson pulls from historical archives, sifts through contemporary media, and records conversations with peers in his community. He then reconstructs the source materials through his painting, resulting in a multi-layered work that investigates societal ills while driving the conversation beyond the pictorial space. Patterson earned his Bachelors of Fine Art in Painting from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and is exhibited regionally throughout North Carolina.