

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**October 5, 2022**

# Beyond the Frame

**Works by Lionel Frazier White III**

On view December 17, 2022–January 21, 2023

**Closing reception: Saturday, January 21, 2023, 5–7pm**  
**1353 U St NW, Washington, DC 20009**



*Silk Prom Dress, 2020*

Hamiltonian Artists is pleased to present Lionel Frazier White's solo exhibition, *Beyond the Frame*. Living in the wake of DC's ongoing gentrification and the whitewashing of Black communities built here, White finds his footing between the pages of Tina M. Camp's *Image Matters* (2012), Saidiya Hartman's *Wayward Lives Beautiful Experiments* (2019), and Brandi Thompson Summers' *Black in Place: The Spatial Aesthetics of Race in a Post-Chocolate City* (2019). Written by Black women scholars, each text offers theoretical examinations of both historical and contemporary Black subjectivity within urban/metropolitan contexts, particularly in relation to gender and class. The body of work presented reflects White's meditation on such critical theories, centering his mother and the re-memory of her lived experiences as a young Black woman coming of age in 1970's and 80's Washington, DC.

White splices images from his family photo archive, reconfiguring them in the foreground of collages, videos, and mixed media works methodically washed with white paint. In doing so, White attempts to intimately recontextualize a time that is often reduced to pathologized data and stigmatized historical archives. The resulting compositions reckon with her radical aspirations and ruptured pursuits toward belonging — all the while complicating the approachability of family photography and calling attention to the aesthetic qualities and increased fugitivity of Black public/private life. *Beyond the Frame* serves as an extended portrait of White's mother and the familial legacy she has inspired — one that lives on beyond the frame of the image, despite DC's long history of leveraging progress against Black life.

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

**Lionel Frazier White III** (b. Washington, DC; lives and works in Washington, DC) is a fourth generation DC native, arts educator, and interdisciplinary conceptual artist who works in painting, drawing, wood sculpture, installation, and mixed media collage. White's work explores themes of forced and coerced labor and its effect on family pathology, erasure, displacement, reassertion, and gentrification. White holds a Bachelors in Fine Arts from The George Washington University Corcoran School of Art and Design (2018) and is a graduate of The Duke Ellington School of the Arts High School in Washington, DC. His work has been exhibited at the DC Commission on Arts and Humanities, Prince George's African American Art Museum and Cultural Center, Torpedo Factory, Rush Arts Galleries, and Area 405. White is a 2020-2022 Hamiltonian Artists Fellow, and was previously a 2019 *Halcyon Arts Lab Cohort 3* Fellow-in-Residence.



## ABOUT HAMILTONIAN ARTISTS

Hamiltonian Artists' mission is to build a dynamic community of innovative artists and effective visual art leaders by providing professional development opportunities to early-career artists and by advancing their entrepreneurial success. In 2007, Paul So, an avid painter and a physics professor at George Mason University, founded Hamiltonian Artists and Hamiltonian Gallery with the vision of creating an innovative career incubator program for emerging visual artists. In 2019, the Board of Directors of Hamiltonian Artists chose to merge the two organizations into a single 501c3 nonprofit to better serve the mission.

Today, Hamiltonian Artists is a dynamic catalyst for DC's creative economy and a vibrant center for contemporary art in Washington, DC. Through its unique investment into the next generation of cutting-edge artists, Hamiltonian helps artists to develop important business skills, professional experiences, and visibility to support and sustain their art career. Through a two-year artist fellowship, artist talks, public events and its membership program, the organization contributes to the vitality of DC's burgeoning arts scene by deepening the appreciation for contemporary art and culture throughout Washington, DC, and beyond.

## HOW TO VISIT

The exhibition is on view at Hamiltonian Gallery, 1353 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20009. **Gallery open Thursday through Saturday 11 am – 6 pm.** Masks are strongly suggested. For more information visit [hamiltonianartists.org](https://hamiltonianartists.org).

## CONTACT

**For press inquiries and additional info contact Anisa Olufemi, Fellowship Manager.**  
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