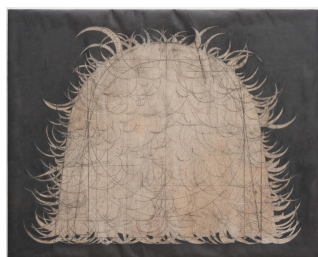


Mic Check

On view November 8, 2025 through January 17, 2026

Opening reception Saturday, November 8, 2025, 5–7pm

1353 U St NW, Washington, DC 20009



Washington, DC: Hamiltonian Artists is pleased to present *Mic Check*, a group exhibition featuring the work of artists Lindsay Adams, Jermaine “jET” Carter, Kamari Carter, Alanna Fields, Cameron A. Granger, Imar Lyman, Kai Jenrette, and Darol Olu Kae. Taking cues from the sonic landscape and cultural legacy of U Street Corridor, historically known as “Black Broadway,” the exhibition spotlights music’s presence, politicization, and intergenerational resonance within Black American communities. Curated by Anisa Olufemi, director of programs and curator, *Mic Check* will feature sound, drawing, video, photo, and sculpture—including new works created especially for this exhibition.

Select works from Fields’ Les Girls series open fanned windows into the past, spotlighting archival photographs of Black Drag and Femme Queen icons who paved the way for queer Ballroom culture in 1960s and 70s. Granger’s pseudo-documentary ponders the ominous presence of black holes, searching for the memory of people and places that seem to vanish within them. Dancing between sculpture and illustration, Jermaine “jET” Carter’s work pays tribute to jazz and go-go music’s influence within DC’s collective memory. Kae’s short film *Keeping Time* (2023) ponders the challenges and necessity of stewarding musical tradition across generations. Kamari Carter’s installation-based and 2D works call attention to the weight of silence, and the invasiveness of policing. Both Adams and Jenrette offer abstract drawings that conjure rhythm in gesture and spirit in negative space.

Music holds the unique capacity to transcend the bounds of borders and built-environment with echo and bounce. From Washington, DC, to East Columbus, Kansas City to Crenshaw, *Mic Check* celebrates music as a form of power, and a vital tool of resistance. Reflecting on the exhibition’s theme, curator Anisa Olufemi shares the following:

Images (L-R): Kai Jenrette, *No Title*, 2025. Graphite on waxed newsprint. 16 x 20 inches. Courtesy of the artist. Cameron A. Granger, *Here & There Along The Echo* (still), 2024, Digital Video. 27 minutes. Courtesy of the artist. Graphite on waxed newsprint. 16 x 20 inches. Courtesy of the artist. Alanna Fields, *Edye In Bloom*, 2024. Coated archival pigment print on canvas and acrylic on constructed wood paneling. 47 × 24 x 1 ½ inches. Courtesy of the artist.

“This neighborhood that Hamiltonian Artists calls home has served as fertile ground for Black American cultural production for over three generations. In the thick of Jim Crow, jazz and blues icons like Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday, and Louis Armstrong found respite. Chuck Brown and the Soul Searchers rose from the ashes of the ‘68 riots with go-go. Black music and performance is an inextricable part of the district’s social, cultural, and political fabric. Today and always, musicians and artists of all disciplines spark community in times of division, invoke memory despite cultural amnesia, and conjure site amid redevelopment and rampant displacement. I am thrilled to share an exhibition that is so deeply inspired by the radical past, present, and futurity of U Street, a place I and so many others hold dear.”

A curator-led exhibition tour will be held on Saturday, November 15, 1–2:30pm; link to register [here](#). Additional programming to be announced. Visit Hamiltonian Artists’ [website](#) and follow [@hamiltonian_artists](#) on Instagram for more information about corresponding public programs.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Lindsay Adams (b. 1990, Washington, DC) is a writer and painter working across traditional mediums. Employing her educational foundation as a social scientist, with a background in foreign relations, sociology, and cultural anthropology, she systematically engages in her work with precise critical analysis and a perceptive understanding of the complex fabric of social dynamics. Adams received her B.A.s in both International Studies: World Politics and Diplomacy and Spanish from the University of Richmond and an MFA in Painting and Drawing from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She has been the recipient of the Helen Frankenthaler Award (2024) and the New Artist Society Merit Award (2023). Her work has been exhibited at the Baltimore Museum of Art, MD, and the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, Washington, DC, and is included in the collections of the Baltimore Museum of Art and Northwestern Law School. Most recently, she presented solo exhibitions at PATRON Gallery, Chicago, and Sean Kelly Gallery, Los Angeles. In 2025, Adams was commissioned by the Obama Presidential Center for a public installation titled *Weary Blues*, reimagining one of her gestural, gem-colored abstract paintings.

Jermaine “jET” Carter (b. 1998, Washington, DC) is an interdisciplinary artist from Southeast Washington, DC, whose work explores memory, cultural preservation, and speculative world-building through painting, sculpture, digital media, and animation. A graduate of Duke Ellington School of the Arts, jET went on to earn his BFA from The Cooper Union in 2020. His practice spans illustration, hand-cast tilework, digital ephemera, motion graphics, and narrative storytelling. His work has been exhibited in cities including Washington, D.C., New York, Chicago, and London, where he presented his first solo show, *SUPER-CHARGED*. His animations have also been featured in public installations, such as CulturalDC’s *TORRENTS: Art in Transit*. Currently, he is a 2024–2026 Hamiltonian Artists Fellow.

Kamari Carter (b. 1992, Los Angeles) is a New York-based artist working primarily with sound, video, installation, and performance. His practice circumvents materiality and familiarity through a variety of recording and amplification techniques to investigate notions such as space, systems of identity, oppression, control, and surveillance. Driven by the probative nature of perception, Carter's work seeks to expand narrative structures through sonic stillness and found objects. Carter holds a BFA from California Institute of the Arts (CalArts) and an MFA from Columbia University. Kamari Carter is represented by Microscope Gallery in New York City.

Alanna Fields (b. 1990, Maryland) is a mixed-media artist and archivist whose work unpacks Black queer history through a multidisciplinary engagement with photographic archives. Fields' work has been featured in exhibitions at Yancey Richardson Gallery, Yossi Milo Gallery, and Hannah Traore Gallery, among others. She has participated in museum exhibitions at The Brooklyn Museum, The Sugar Hill Museum in Harlem, The High Museum of Art, The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Plug In ICA, SF Camerawork, and has shown work at Paris Photo, Art Basel Miami, Expo Chicago, and Felix Art Fair LA. Fields is a Gordon Parks Foundation Scholar and has participated in residencies at Light Work, Baxter Street CCNY, Silver Arts Projects, Fountainhead Arts, and TILT Institute for the Contemporary Image among others. She received her MFA in Photography from Pratt Institute and is a professor of Photography at Howard University. Her work has been published in the New York Times, Aperture Magazine, FOAM Magazine, and The Atlantic. Fields lives and works between Washington, DC, and New York City.

Cameron A. Granger (b. 1993, Cleveland, Ohio) is Sandra's son and came up in Cleveland, Ohio. He likes pigeons, video games, and memes. Lately he's been thinking about how myth making and narrative have been used as a means to police the imagination. He's a lifetime member of MINT Collective, and an alumni of Euclid Public Schools. Granger has exhibited his work in solo exhibitions at No Place Gallery, Columbus, OH (2022); Ortega y Gasset Projects, Brooklyn, NY (2019), and Vox Populi, Philadelphia, PA (2018), among others. He has shown in group exhibitions at MoMA PS1, Long Island City, NY (2022), Jack Shainman The School, Kinderhook, NY (2022), and The Bemis Center for the Arts, Omaha, NE (2021), among others. Granger has been awarded residences at the Studio Museum in Harlem, NY, Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture, and ACRE. His film, *Before I Let Go*, was awarded Best Experimental Film and the Audience Award at the 2023 BlackStar Film Festival. Granger's work can be found in the collection of the Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH.

Imar Lyman [Hutchins] is a collagist and printmaker based in Washington, DC. Most recently he has been extending his practice into glasswork. This year he was honored to create his first major work in glass—entitled *Sunbursts Appear in Dark Disguises*—for the lobby of the newly-constructed Cedar Hill Hospital in Ward 8, Washington, DC. Imar's other recent projects include his pop-up exhibition and panel, "Decolonizing Printmaking" at Escuela de Artes Plásticas y Diseño de Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico; a benefit print he created for Millennium Arts Salon, Washington, DC, in honor of the legendary, 94-year-old artist, E.J.

Montgomery; and the unveiling of two of his portraits at the University of Birmingham, England, United Kingdom, in honor of the 75th Anniversary of the Windrush (Caribbean mass migration to the UK). Other recent activities include *Imar's Zero Dollar Bill* exhibition at IA&A Hillyer, Washington, DC; and his *Inheritance* exhibition at Pyramid Atlantic Art Center, Hyattsville, MD, and at the Muhammad Ali Center, Louisville, KY. Lyman's work can be found in numerous notable public and private collections.

Kai Jenrette (b. 2001, Atlanta) was raised in Baltimore and lives and works in New York. He received his BFA from the Cooper Union School of Art, New York. He has exhibited at Silke Lindner, New York; Derosia, New York; Mamoth, London; LVL3, Chicago; April April, Pittsburgh; White Columns, New York; and My Perfect Environment, Chicago. He recently completed a residency at the Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, and published *I'M PERFECT LIFE'S PERFECT I LOVE BEING ME* with Du-Good Press, Brooklyn, New York. Other past publications include *KENNY + PENNY*, recently acquired by the National Gallery of Art Library.

Darol Olu Kae (b. 1984, Los Angeles) is a filmmaker from and based in Los Angeles. Kae's artistic practice disrupts conventional narrative structures of storytelling through its dynamic treatment of sound and image. His highly collaborative, research-based approach to filmmaking grounds itself in the nuance of black expressive modalities in America and challenges the medium to render the full complexity of black being visible in cinematic terms. Kae's film work has screened at festivals and institutions worldwide including BlackStar Film Festival, Philadelphia; Camden International Film Festival, Camden, ME; International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR), Netherlands; Locarno Film Festival, Switzerland; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Museum of Modern Art, New York; South by Southwest (SXSW), Austin, TX; and Sundance Film Festival, Park City, UT. He was awarded the Pardino d'oro for Best International Short Film in 2020 at the Locarno Film Festival for his film *i ran from it and was still in it*. And in 2021, *i ran from it...* earned Special Jury Recognition for Poetry at the 2021 SXSW Film Festival.

ABOUT HAMILTONIAN ARTISTS

Hamiltonian Artists' mission is to nurture community and increase access to space, opportunity, and resources for emerging artists, through impactful programs and exhibitions. The organization reaffirms and expands upon its originating vision as an incubator for the professional development of emerging visual artists, serving as a hub for Washington, DC's, creative economy and a vibrant center for contemporary art in the DC area. With its unique investment in emerging artists, Hamiltonian Artists provides resources to aid their development in important business skills, professional experiences, and visibility to support and sustain their art career.

Through the fellowship program, exhibitions, studios, artist talks, public events, membership program for art collectors at all levels, and so much more, the organization contributes to the vitality of the area's arts scene by deepening the appreciation for contemporary art and culture throughout Washington, DC, and beyond.

HOW TO VISIT

Location: Hamiltonian Artists, 1353 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20009

Hours: Thursday–Saturday, 11am–6pm

For more information visit hamiltonianartists.org.

CONTACT

For press inquiries and additional info, contact Anisa Olufemi, director of programs and curator anisa@hamiltonianartists.org.

Images available [here](#).