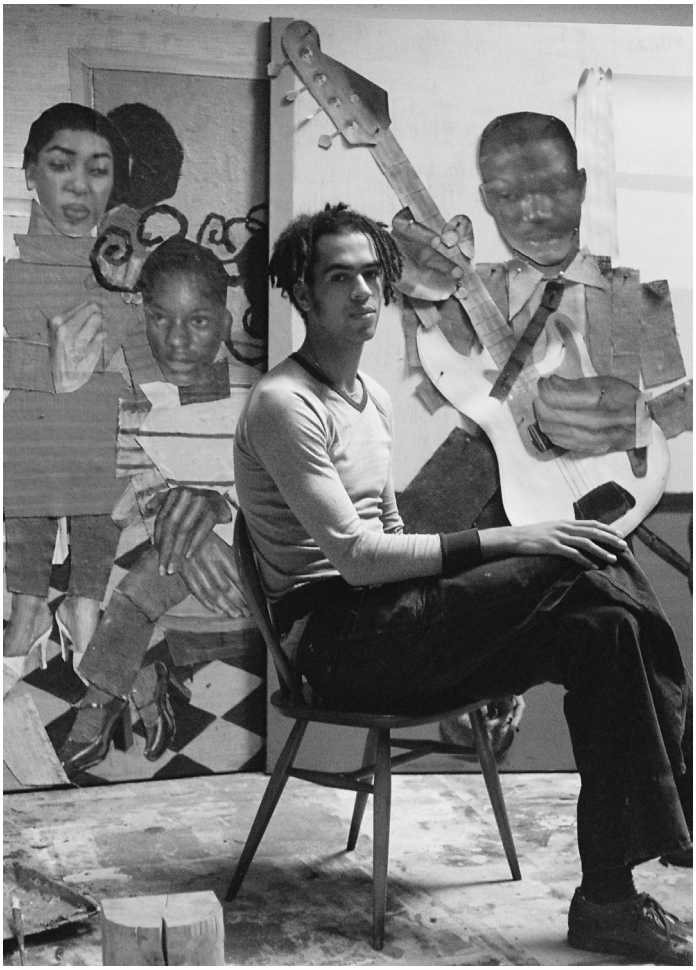

Cato

b.1999, Brighton, UK

Cato pairs acrylic, collage, and airbrush in his paintings, and through his practice aims to explore art history, belonging, and Black culture. Cato paints vibrant scenes, constructed from old photographs of jazz musicians, street culture, and Black heroes. The heads and hands in Cato's paintings are depicted in outsize scale, and Cato considers how we might catch glimpses of facial expressions and become curious about people, sparking recognition and empathy. Once his figures' heads and hands are completed, Cato cuts out these silhouettes and collages them onto a canvas ground, adding geometric collage forms cut from painted canvas to suggest interiors or street scenes. The visible edges and deliberately disjointed quality of his paintings reflect the artist's fascination with the energy of these interactions.

Cato's father is a historian whose parents were from Jamaica; this cultural legacy informs the artist's subject matter and his source material. Many images are taken from his father's books. Cato's use of black and white embraces the appearance of vintage photography. Cato participated in The Cabin La Brea Studio Residency, Los Angeles, CA, which was followed by a solo exhibition, and has exhibited at the Royal Academy of Arts and the Hive Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China. In 2023 Cato released his EP 'The Wind That Was Blown' produced by Rhythm Section International. Cato's work is in held in the collection of the North Dakota Museum of Art, as well as The Dean and Nixon Collections.

ARTIST CV

EDUCATION

2023 Another Life, The Cabin, La Brea Studio Residency, LA, USA

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2026 *Cato: Tinker, Tailor…,* Group Exhibition, Cooke Latham Gallery, London, UK

Cato, Saatchi Yates, London, UK

2025 *Once Upon a Time in London,* Saatchi Yates, London, UK

2024 *Breach,* SETAREH, London, UK

Cato: Love Song, Eric Firestone Gallery, New York, USA

A Look Inside, FA\WA, Paris, FR

2023 *To Be Held,* curated by Ronan Mckenzie, Carl Freedman Gallery, Margate, UK

Close to HOME, collaboration with Ronan McKenzie, Royal Academy of Arts, London, UK

Polyreality, curated by Sasa Bogojev, Hive Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, CN