



AZIKIWE MOHAMMED

STEPPING INTO TOMORROW

NADA MIAMI 2023

5 December - 9 December 2023

BOOTH C200

Ice Palace Studios

1400 North Miami Avenue

Miami, FL 33136

de boer



Azikiwe Mohammed

Forever Is A Long Long Time #3, 2023
acrylic, oil, flashe, gouache on board in
Artist's frame
53.5 x 43.5 in. (135.89 x 110.49 cm)

\$ 15,000.00 USD



Azikiwe Mohammed

Sustained Search #2, 2023

acrylic, oil, flashe, gouache on board in Artist's frame
42 x 55.5 in. (106.68 x 140.97 cm)

sold



Azikiwe Mohammed
Stepping Into Tomorrow #9: Arthur McDuffie, 2023
Acrylic, oil, flashe, gouache on board in
Artist's frame
22 x 18 in. (55.88 x 45.72 cm)

\$ 8,000.00 USD



Azikiwe Mohammed

Sustained Search #4, 2023

acrylic, oil, flashe, gouache on board in Artist's frame
29.75 x 33.75 in. (75.56 x 85.72 cm)

\$ 10,000.00 USD



Azikiwe Mohammed
Stepping Into Tomorrow #3: Aunt Betty, 2023
acrylic, oil, flashe, gouache on board in Artist's
frame
53.75 x 43.5 in. (136.53 x 110.49 cm)
\$ 15,000.00 USD



Azikiwe Mohammed

Sustained Search #6, 2023

acrylic, oil, flashe, gouache on board in Artist's frame

27.5 x 31.5 in. (69.85 x 80.01 cm)

\$ 10,000.00 USD



Azikiwe Mohammed
Stepping Into Tomorrow #6: Johnnie Mae Chappell, 2023
acrylic, oil, flashe, gouache on board in
Artist's frame
37.75 x 30.5 in. (95.89 x 77.47 cm)

\$ 10,000.00 USD



Azikiwe Mohammed

Sustained Search #8, 2023

acrylic, oil, flashe, gouache on board in Artist's frame
38 x 48.5 in. (96.52 x 123.19 cm)

\$ 12,000.00 USD



Azikiwe Mohammed
Stepping Into Tomorrow #4: Uncle James, 2023
acrylic, oil, flashe, gouache on board
30.75 x 34.5 in. (78.11 x 87.63 cm)

\$ 10,000.00 USD



Azikiwe Mohammed

Sustained Search #7, 2023

acrylic, oil, flashe, gouache on board (to be framed)

22 x 24 in. (55.88 x 60.96 cm)

\$ 8,000.00 USD

AZIKIWE MOHAMMED

STEPPING INTO TOMORROW

NADA MIAMI 2023

Booth C200

December 5 - 9, 2023

de boer (Miami, FL) is pleased to present a solo presentation of new paintings by New York-based **Azikiwe Mohammed** for *NADA Miami 2023*. The presentation titled, *Stepping Into Tomorrow* borrows its title from the song and studio album by American Jazz artist Donald Byrd (1932-2013). The paintings will be presented in ornate frames that synthesize the wide range of Mohammed's oeuvre.

Stepping into tomorrow / Got funk beat on the ground / Stepping into tomorrow / My destiny is back - Donald Byrd

Stepping Into Tomorrow brings together Mohammed's collection of history paintings that are rooted in the idea of home, yet, as is the experience of many Black Americans, does not provide an easy answer to what that means. Having lived in Miami in his youth, Mohammed reflects on the history of a place that has long been a landing pad for members of his family and the larger Black population as a whole. The works in this presentation offer a better set of questions about what a home is meant to be.

Mohammed's illustrated scenes concern themselves with the slipperiness of time and place, and the documentation and dissemination of Black culture as it passes from one generation to the next. Through imagery that ranges from still lifes to seascapes and portraiture, Mohammed's painting style creates a dreamlike dimensionality where daily interactions like meals, swimming in the ocean, or smoking a cigarette, offer a place of hope for Black Americans beyond the commodification of the body.

With demise around every corner, Mohammed's paintings ask if solace can be found in the bodies of the unclaimed, flowers unwilted, and in the language of still life and history painting. This is exemplified by his social practice, a real-life food bank Mohammed calls *New Davonhaime* (named by combining the five US cities with the highest density of African American residents (New Orleans, Detroit, Jackson, Birmingham, and Savannah)), and *Back Painters Academy*, offering free art classes, mutual aid, and food relief in lower Manhattan.

ABOUT AZIKIWE MOHAMMED

Azikiwe Mohammed is known for designing places to relax, environments where a shared language is spoken, or sometimes places where new languages can be created. His exhibitions have often taken on the identity of a small business such as an operational photo studio, thrift stores, Leroy's Diner, the Black Painters Academy, and the New Davonhaime food bank which he has staged for both real and imagined residents on the streets of New York, and in museums, galleries, and art fairs all over the country. These projects are functional, interactive, and designed to fulfill a material need, to evoke and produce feelings, and to be remembered.

Azikiwe Mohammed (b. 1983, New York, NY) is a 2005 graduate of Bard College, where he studied photography and fine arts. Mohammed's work has been presented in a number of solo and two-person museum exhibitions including the SCAD Museum of Art, Savannah, GA; the Knockdown Center, Maspeth, NY; and the California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA. Gallery solo exhibitions include those at de boer, Los Angeles, CA; CANADA Gallery, New York, NY; Anna Zorina, New York, NY; Western Exhibition, Chicago, IL; Elijah Wheat Showroom, New York, NY; Mindy Solomon, Miami, FL; and Public Swim Gallery, New York, NY. Group exhibitions at MoMa PS1, Queens, NY; MoAD, San Francisco, CA; Frac Normandie Caen, Caen, France; the Studio Museum in Harlem, NY; Crystal Bridges Museum, Bentonville, AR; Green Naftali, New York, NY; Eduardo Secci, Firenze, Italy; Rashid Johnson's Red Stage, New York, NY; David Kordansky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA; John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, WI; Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles, CA; and Dinner Gallery, New York, NY.

Mohammed received the Art Matters Grant in 2015, the Rema Hort Mann Emerging Artist Grant in 2016 a Rauschenberg Artists Fund Grant in 2021, and a Foundation for Contemporary Arts Grant in 2023. He is an alumnus of Pioneer Works in Brooklyn, New York, and Mana Contemporary in Jersey City, New Jersey. His work has been reviewed in magazines and publications including Artforum, VICE, I-D, Forbes, BOMB, The New York Times, The Washington Post, and Hyperallergic.

Mohammed lives and works in New York City.

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**availability subject to change*