MASSIMODECARLO

# **Alvaro Barrington** Biography

Alvaro Barrington was born in Venezuela (1983, Caracas) to Haitian and Grenadian parents and was raised between the Caribbean and Brooklyn, NY. He currently lives and works in London. His artistic practice is multidisciplinary, reflecting on histories of cultural production and their exchange. Whilst firstly considering himself a painter, his process to image-making is wide-ranging, as his works include the application of diverse non-traditional materials – such as concrete, wood, textiles, yarn, burlap, carboard, clothing, and postcards, prints, drawing, and photography. For the artist, each media has numerous possibilities, and each is a tool to represent both individual as well as collective cultural narratives. Recurrent subject matters are close- ups of faces, parts of the body and equatorial plants. References are seen in his use of imagery such as hibiscus flowers, the 20th century Harlem Renaissance, Marcus Garvey, hip-hop culture of the 90's such as Tupac, and inspiration from other artists' practices such as Willem de Kooning, Joseph Beuys and Robert Rauschenberg. His works explore diverse thematics, such as migration, nationality, selfhood, sexuality, time, and the digital realm. Barrington is also actively involved in various community practices such as charities, concerts, performances and shows. Believing that art needs to be accessible to communities in public sites, Barrington has been participating to the organization of the Notting Hill Carnival since 2019. In 2022, he has been the producer of Queen of the Caribbean, the main concert stage at the Notting Hill Carnival.

Barrington was the selected artist for the 2024 Tate Britain Commission.

#### Solo exhibitions

#### 2025

2025 - MY MAMA TOLD ME YOU WAS A PROBLEM, BITCH, MASSIMODECARLO, Milano, I

#### 2024

2024 - GRACE, Tate Britain Commission, London, UK

#### 2023

- 2023 Island Life, Nicola Vassell Gallery, New York, USA
- 2023 They Got Time, Thaddaeus Ropac, Paris Pantin, F
- 2023 Grandma's Land, Sadie Coles HQ, London, UK
- 2023 Human Nature, Mendes Wood DM, São Paulo, BR
- 2023 Oh, Sandy? Sandy, Sandy, Karma, New York, USA
- 2023 Oh Sandy, why did you leave me all alone, Anton Kern Gallery, New York, USA

#### 2022

- 2022 91–98 jfk–lax border, Blum & Poe, Los Angeles, USA
- 2022 Alvaro Barrington: La Vie en Rose, Thaddaeus Ropac, Salzburg, AU
- 2022 Sea Both Sides, MASSIMODECARLO, Milano, I

#### 2021

- 2021 GARVEY 1: BIRTH The Quiet Storm, Nicola Vassell, New York, USA
- 2021 Tt x AB: The Lot Show, Far Rockaway, New York, USA
- 2021 Wave Your Flags II, Sadie Coles HQ, London, UK
- 2021 Wave Your Flags, Tabernacle, London, UK
- 2021 You don't do it for the man, men never notice. You just do it for yourself, you're the fucking

coldest, Thaddaeus Ropac, Paris, F

2021 - Drug Culture: Vol ii Trust your local drug dealer and My words will live forever/fuck my Name, Emalin , London, UK

2021 - Wave Your Flags: Labor Day, Saint George Projects, Brooklyn, USA

2021 - SPIDER THE PIG, PIG THE SPIDER, South London Gallery, London, UK

#### 2020

2020 - Garvey 2 - they eyes were watching God, Corvi-Mora, London, UK

#### 2019

2019 - Garvey: Sex Love Nurturing Famalay, Sadie Coles HQ, London, UK

#### 2018

2018 - A Taste of Chocolate, curated by Norman Rosenthal, Thaddaeus Ropac, London, UK

2018 - Condo London / Alvaro Barrington, Emalin, London, UK

#### 2017

2017 - Alvaro Barrington, curated by Klaus Biesenbach, MoMA PS1, Queens, NY, USA

#### Group exhibitions

#### 2024

2024 - 118 1/2, Emalin Gallery, Clerks House, London, UK

2024 - Woodworks, LAMB Gallery, London, UK

#### 2023

2023 - Les Fleurs du Mal, Maison Guerlain, Paris, F

2023 - Thread Routes, Massimo De Carlo, Hong Kong, PRC

2023 - THINGS THAT ARE REAL: ALVARO BARRINGTON X DEAN CROSS, Cement Fondu, Paddington, NSW, AUS

2023 - L'Atelier du Sud, Fondation Vincent Van Gogh, Arles, F

2023 - Linhas Tortas, Mendes Wood DM, São Paulo, BR

2023 - The Culture: Hip Hop and Contemporary Art in the 21st Century, Saint Louis Art Museum, Saint Louis, Missouri, USA

2023 - COME HOME, curated by Alvaro Barrington and Celeste Doig, Sadie Coles HQ, London, UK

#### 2022

2022 - Fire Figure Fantasy: Selections from ICA Miami's Collection, Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, USA

2022 - Testament, Goldsmiths Center for Contemporary Art, London, UK

2022 - The Drawing Centre Show, Le Consortium, Dijon, F

2022 - Night Owl, curated by Archie Raphulu, MASSIMODECARLO, VSpace,

2022 - At The Rose House: Green River Project LLC and Object & Thing, The Rose House, Ridgewood , USA

#### 2021

2021 - The Dead Don't Die, Abattoir Gallery, Cleveland, USA

2021 - No horizon, no edge to liquid, Zabludowicz Collection, London, UK

2021 - Drawing 2020, Gladstone, New York, USA

2021 - 100 Drawings from Now, The Drawing Center, New York, USA

2021 - 11, Anton Kern Gallery, New York, USA

2021 - Tempest, Sadie Coles HQ, London, UK

2021 - Tempest, Tanya Leighton, Berlin, D

2021 - Hand to Your Ear, Part 1 (Presence/Surplus), Emalin, London, UK

2021 - Mixing It Up: Painting Today, Hayward Gallery, London, UK

2021 - In the Eye of the Storm, Z33 House for Contemporary Art, Design and Architecture, Hasselt, B

2021 - In the Eye of the Storm, Pigeon Park, London, UK

2021 - The Earth, That is Sufficient, Nicola Vassell, New York, USA

2021 - London Zeitgeist, Piccadilly Lights, London, UK

2021 - Drawing Biennial, Drawing Room, London, UK

#### 2020

- 2020 Landscapes of the South, Mendes Wood DM, New York, USA
- 2020 30 Years in Paris, Thaddaeus Ropac, Paris Pantin, F
- 2020 A Focus on Painting, Thaddaeus Ropac, London, UK
- 2020 after image, MAMOTH, London, UK

#### 2019

- 2019 Tt x AB: Tall Boys & A Double Shot Espresso, Emalin, London, UK
- 2019 Go To Heaven, 130 E Flagler Street, Miami, USA
- 2019 Breathless / London Art Now, curated by Norman Rosenthal, Ca' Pesaro Galleria Internazionale d'Arte Moderna, Venice, I
- 2019 Material Tells, curated by Daisy Desrosiers, Oakville Galleries, Oakville, USA
- 2019 A Seed's A Star, LOYAL, Stockholm, S
- 2019 Artists I Steal From, curated by Alvaro Barrington and Julia Peyton-Jones, Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac, London, UK

#### 2018

- 2018 Natura Naturans, Mendes Wood DM, New York, NY, USA
- 2018 The Way Things Run (Part 1: Loose Ends Don't Tie), PS120, Berlin, D
- 2018 Hog's Curve, curated by Joseph Hart, Halsey McKay Gallery, East Hampton, USA

#### 2017

- 2017 The Sleeping Procession, Cass Sculpture Foundation, West Sussex, UK
- 2017 Woven, Rental Gallery, East Hampton, USA

## **Public Collections**

## **Belgium**

Vanhaerents Art Collection, Brussels

#### Canada

Rennie Museum, Vancouver

#### China

Long Museum, Shanghai Start Museum, Shanghai X Museum, Beijing

## **Hong Kong**

K11 Art Foundation, Hong Kong

## **Spain**

Fundación NMAC, Cádiz Loewe Foundation, Madrid

## **United Kingdom**

Tate, London The Hepworth Wakefield, West Yorkshire

### **United States of America**

ICA - Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami Solomon R. Guggenheim Musem, New York