

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, cardboard, 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 thematic, 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 is the selected artist for the 2024 Tate Britain Commission.

Solo exhibitions

2024

2024 - Alvaro Barrington, 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 - Sea Both Sides, MASSIMODECARLO, Milano, I

2022 - Alvaro Barrington: La Vie en Rose, Thaddaeus Ropac, Salzburg, AU

2021

2021 - GARVEY I: BIRTH – The Quiet Storm, Nicola Vassell, New York, USA

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

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

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

2021 - Wave Your Flags II, Sadie Coles HQ, London, UK
2021 - Tt x AB: The Lot Show, Far Rockaway, New York, USA

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 - 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
2022 - Fire Figure Fantasy: Selections from ICA Miami's Collection, Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, USA
2022 - The Drawing Centre Show, Le Consortium, Dijon, F
2022 - Testament, Goldsmiths Center for Contemporary Art, London, UK

2021

2021 - 11, Anton Kern Gallery, New York, USA
2021 - Tempest, Sadie Coles HQ, London, UK
2021 - Tempest, Tanya Leighton, Berlin, D
2021 - The Dead Don't Die, Abattoir Gallery, Cleveland, USA
2021 - Drawing Biennial, Drawing Room, London, UK
2021 - London Zeitgeist, Piccadilly Lights, London, UK
2021 - The Earth, That is Sufficient, Nicola Vassell, New York, USA
2021 - In the Eye of the Storm, Pigeon Park , London, UK
2021 - In the Eye of the Storm, Z33 House for Contemporary Art, Design and Architecture, Hasselt, B
2021 - Hand to Your Ear, Part 1 (Presence/Surplus), Emalin, London, UK
2021 - No horizon, no edge to liquid, Zabłudowicz Collection, London, UK
2021 - Drawing 2020, Gladstone, New York, USA
2021 - 100 Drawings from Now, The Drawing Center, New York, USA
2021 - Mixing It Up: Painting Today, Hayward Gallery, London, UK

2020

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
2020 - Landscapes of the South, Mendes Wood DM, New York, USA

2019

2019 - A Seed's A Star, LOYAL, Stockholm, S
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 - 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

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 Museum, New York