

# Matthew Brown

Kenturah Davis

Born 1980 in Los Angeles, CA

Lives and works between Los Angeles, CA and Accra, Ghana

## Education

2018 MFA, Yale School of Art, New Haven, CT  
2006 BA, Art History and Visual Arts, Cum Laude, Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA  
Occidental College Off-Campus Study Program, American University, Washington, DC

## Solo and Two Person Exhibitions

2024 Clouds, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, UK  
2023 Dark Illumination, Oxy Arts, Los Angeles, CA  
Spotlight: Kenturah Davis, The FLAG Art Foundation, New York, NY  
2021 apropos of air, Matthew Brown, Los Angeles, CA  
Kenturah Davis: (a)Float, (a)Fall, (a)Dance, (a)Death, Jeffrey Deitch, New York, NY  
2020 Everything That Cannot Be Known, Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) Museum of Art, Savannah, GA  
2019 Kenturah Davis + Desmond Lewis, Crosstown Arts in coordination with Seed Space, Memphis, TN  
Blur in the Interest of Precision, Matthew Brown, Los Angeles, CA  
2014 Narratives and Meditations, Papillion, Los Angeles, CA  
2013 sonder, Papillion Institute of Art, Los Angeles, CA  
2011 euphemisms, Curve Line Space Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

## Select Group Exhibitions

2025 FEMMES, curated by Pharrell Williams, Perrotin, Paris, France  
2024 Wordplay, Institute of Contemporary Art Boston, Boston, MA  
A New Chapter: Arion Press at Haines, Haines Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
On Ma, Pedro Cera, Lisbon, Portugal  
Crossings, Kasmin, New York, NY  
PROGRAM, Matthew Brown, New York, NY  
HERSTORY: In Honor of Women's History Month, Debbie Allen Dance Academy, Los Angeles, CA  
2023 Black American Portraits, Memphis Brooks Museum, Memphis, TN  
Gettin' it Done, Ruth Chandler Williamson Gallery, Scripps College, Claremont, CA  
Accra! The Rise of a Global Art Community, Columbus Museum of Art, OH  
In and Out of Time, Gallery 1957, Accra, Ghana  
Full Figure, Cantor Arts Center, Stanford, CA  
Papertrail, Matthew Brown, Los Angeles, CA  
Clay Pop Los Angeles, Jeffrey Deitch, Los Angeles, CA  
Imperfect Paradise, Barbati Gallery, Venice, IT  
Tennessee Triennial

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Gallery 2 712 North La Brea Ave, LA, CA 90038, +1 (323) 433-4237

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- Together in Time: Selections from the Hammer Contemporary Collection, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA  
Barbati Gallery, Venice, Italy  
PRESENT '23: Building the Scantland Collection of the Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus Museum of Art, OH
- 2022  
Portrait of a Nation: 2022 Honorees, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C.  
Currents and Constellations, curated by Kee Jo Lee, Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH  
The Phoenix Project: Continuing the Dialogue from 1992, Korean Cultural Center, Los Angeles, CA  
California Biennial 2022, organized by Elizabeth Armstrong and Essence Harden, Orange County Museum of Art, Costa Mesa, CA  
From Near and Far, Stephen Friedman, London, UK  
SALT to CATCH GHOSTS, / (slash), San Francisco, CA  
Our House: Selections from MOCA's Collection, organized by Bennett Simpson and Mia Locks, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA
- 2021  
Black American Portraits, Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) Los Angeles, CA  
Otherwise Revival, Bridge Projects, Los Angeles, CA
- 2020  
PARALLELS AND PERIPHERIES: Fractal and Fragments, curated by Larry Onsei-Mensah, Galleria Anna Marra, Rome, Italy  
Lines of Thought, Pippy Houldsworth Gallery, London, UK  
Language Games, Fullerton College Art Gallery, Fullerton, CA  
Body in Motion/Traveling Bodies, STEMS Gallery, Brussels, Belgium  
In Color, February 27 2020, organized by LOVE WATTS, Watts Empowerment Center, Los Angeles, CA
- 2019  
Afrocosmologies: American Reflections, Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, CT  
Contextual Propositions, curated by Kenturah Davis, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, Brooklyn, NY  
Punch, curated by Nina Chanel Abney, Jeffrey Deitch, Los Angeles, CA  
Plumb Line: Charles White and the Contemporary, curated by Essence Harden and Leigh Raiford, California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA  
As Long as We're Flying..., Luce Gallery, Turin, Italy  
Fashioning The Black Body, curated by Dario Calmese, Projects+Gallery, St. Louis, MO
- 2018  
Portraits, Foxy Production, New York, NY  
Block Party, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, New York, NY  
Way Out Now, Diane Rosenstein, Los Angeles, CA  
Kaleidoscope, Kravetz|Wehby, New York, NY
- 2017  
Linked in Tradition, Inspiring in Vision: A Selection of Works by African American  
Women Artists, Robert and Frances Museum of Art, San Bernardino, CA
- 2016  
Black Joy, Yale University, New Haven, CT  
Southland, Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2015  
We Must Risk Delight, Accademia di Belle Arti di Venezia, Venice Biennale, Venice  
African Electronics, CHALÉ WOTE Street Art Festival, Accra, Ghana  
The Silence of Ordinary Things, The Mistake Room, Los Angeles, CA
- 2014  
I Just Want the Paper, The Mine Factory, Pittsburgh, PA  
i:23, The Yokohama Triennial, Yokohama, Japan

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- An American Water Margin, Ucity Museum at Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts, Guangzhou, China  
OPEN, Papillion, Los Angeles, CA
- 2013 Interface: Art/Fashion/Anti-Fashion, Cal State Long Beach, Long Beach, CA  
Mass Attack, Torrance Art Museum, Torrance, CA
- 2012 125th Anniversary Alumni Show, Occidental College, Weingart Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2011 Mis-Design, Ian Potter Museum, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia  
panelshop/Design Loves Art, Pacific Design Center, Los Angeles, CA  
Expanding the Matrix, Occidental College's Weingart Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2009 smockshop Berlin, Sprüth Magers Gallery, Berlin, Germany
- 2008 smockshop High Desert Test Sites CB08, California Biennial, Joshua Tree, CA

## Special Projects & Commissions

- 2020 Sonder – Crenshaw/LAX project, LA METRO, Los Angeles, CA  
Commissioned site-specific, integrated artworks for the new Crenshaw/LAX Metro Line
- 2014 Four Women, Alliance Française Accra Mural series, Accra, Ghana  
Commissioned mural by Alliance Française to commemorate International Women's Day.
- 2013 Métamorphose, L'Exposition AD Interieurs, Paris, France  
Five commissioned portraits by architect, Elliott Barnes, and featured in his installation at the AD Interieurs Metamorphose exhibition.
- 2010 Ray Charles America - A&E Documentary  
Commissioned drawing of Ray Charles, featured in the television documentary, Ray Charles America. The filmed which has aired on the Biography channel and has been featured in two film festivals, shows the creation of the artwork in the artist's studio. Directed by documentary filmmaker, Alexis Manya Spraic.
- 2008 Smockshop, A collective founded by artist, Andrea Zittel, creating interpretations of her utilitarian garment designs called smocks. They were exhibited in a series of "pop-up" shops.

## Awards and Residencies

- 2024 Sherman Family Foundation Residency, Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD
- 2022 Wanlass Artist in Residence
- 2020 Fountainhead Residency  
Headlands Residency, Sausalito, CA  
Surfs Point Artist-in-Residence, Surfs Point, ME
- 2019 NXTHVN Artist Fellow, New Haven, CT
- 2018 Toby Devan Lewis Fellowship Awardee, Yale School of Art, New Haven, CT  
Osei-Duro Artist-in-Residence, Accra, Ghana  
DAMLI Fellow - Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH

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## Public Collections

Blanton Museum of Art  
Brooklyn Museum  
Beth Rudin DeWoody Collection, The Bunker ArtSpace  
CCS Hessel Museum of Art  
Columbus Museum of Art  
Cornell Fine Arts Museum at Rollins College  
Hammer Museum  
Harvard Art Museums  
Guggenheim Museum  
Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston  
Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami  
Los Angeles County Museum of Art  
Memphis Brooks Museum of Art  
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York  
Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles  
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston  
Museum of Modern Art, New York  
Perez Art Museum  
Rubell Museum  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art  
Studio Museum in Harlem  
TANK Shanghai  
The University of Chicago Booth School of Business  
Walker Art Center  
Yale University

## Selected Lectures & Presentations

- 2022 "Family Art Talk: Kenturah Davis." The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, NY.  
<https://www.moma.org/calendar/events/7665>
- 2021 "In Conversation: Kenturah Davis & Mary Kelly." Pippy Houldsworth Gallery, London.  
<https://vimeo.com/504897930>
- 2020 "Katy Hessel discusses 'Lines of Thought.'" Pippy Houldsworth Gallery, London. December 2020.  
<https://www.houldsworth.co.uk/news/24-lines-of-thought-katy-hessel-of-the-great-women-artists-on/>  
"Conversation with Toyin Ojih Odutola." Barbican Centre, London. August 14.  
<http://www.kenturah.com/-news/2020/8/14/conversation-with-toyin-ojih-odutola>  
"Jerry Gogosian AM Art Radio Ep. 11 : An Interview with Kenturah Davis."  
Jerry Gogosian. May 27.  
[https://open.spotify.com/episode/18UaKfYUTRBcuosiomXnk8?si=EY067Z\\_zQ8KT8a3hovlHKQ](https://open.spotify.com/episode/18UaKfYUTRBcuosiomXnk8?si=EY067Z_zQ8KT8a3hovlHKQ)

## Selected Bibliography

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- 2022 Rockett, Darcel. "Theaster Gates' Experimental Design Lab hopes to amplify emerging artists, designer's work to develop a nexus of creative energy on the South Side." Chicago Tribune, August 10, 2022. <https://www.chicagotribune.com/people/ct-dorchester-industries-experimental-design-lab-rebuild-0810-20220811-4qi5pzv4bjh43b727ww57rdfhi-story.html>
- Ajudua, Christine. "'Design Has Been So Narrow for So Long': Artist Theaster Gates on His Unique Partnership With Prada to Support Emerging Designers of Color." Artnet. June 23, 2022. <https://news.artnet.com/style/theaster-gates-prada-experimental-design-lab-2114887>
- 2021 Blair, Ian F. "What exists at the edge of our perception? Artist Kenturah Davis is here to show you." Los Angeles Times. May 26. <https://www.latimes.com/lifestyle/image/story/2021-05-26/kenturah-davis-interview-on-black-art-and-the-world-of-los-angeles-that-cannot-be-known>
- 2020 Gilstrap, Peter. "Blur in the Interest of Precision." Occidental College Magazine. March 19. <https://www.oxy.edu/magazine/winter-2020/blur-interest-precision>
- Urist Green, Sarah. "You Are An Artist: Assignments to Spark Creation, Penguin Books. <https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/601958/you-are-an-artist-by-sarah-urist-green/9780143134091?aid=32820&linkid=PRH89EC6E042E&ref=PRH89EC6E042E>
- Davis, Kenturah." Presence and Possibility." LALA Magazine. Summer issue.
- Harden, Essence. "How Arthur Lewis Built a Dynamic Collection of Black Art." Artsy. March 16, 2020. <https://www.artsy.net/article/artsy-editorial-arthur-lewis-built-dynamic-collection-black-art>
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- "Kenturah Davis: Success for me is more personal than professional," i-D Magazine. Special Edition no. 01. January 19, 2020. [https://i-d.vice.com/en\\_uk/article/y3mvx5/kenturah-davis-interview-rihanna-rihannazine?series=vrrpp8r](https://i-d.vice.com/en_uk/article/y3mvx5/kenturah-davis-interview-rihanna-rihannazine?series=vrrpp8r)
- 2019 Pineda, Dorany. "Six Artists Create Works for New Metro Stations." The LA Times. November 10, 2019. <https://www.latimes.com/entertainment-arts/story/2019-11-11/metro-lax-crenshaw-public-art-artists>
- Closs, Wyatt. "Charles White in Three Dimensions: Work, Teaching and Legacy." LA Weekly. April 4. <http://laweekly.com/art/charles-white-in-three-Dimensions-work-teaching-and-legacy>
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<http://alivemag.com/new-exhibition-fashioning-the-black-body-opens-at-projects-gallery/>
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<http://www.artofchoice.co/kenturah-davis-inaugurates-matthew-brown-gallery-s-la-space-in-a-proufound-way/>
- Pitcher, Laura. "23-Year-Old Matthew Brown Opens LA's Newest Gallery." The Observer. January 25, 2019.  
<http://www.observer.com/2009/01/matthew-brown-opens-new-los-angeles-gallery-at-age-23-interview/>
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<https://news.artnet.com/art-world/art-industry-news-january-17-2019-1441873>
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<http://www.artnews.com/2019/01/16/matthew-brown-gallery-set-open-los-angeles/>
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<https://thesource.metro.net/2016/04/29/5-things-to-know-about-future-artworks-for-the-future-downtown-inglewood-station/>
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<https://www.kcet.org/shows/artbound/city-among-nations-los-angeles-at-the-venice-biennale>

## Publications & Catalogues

- 2021 Editors Phaidon. Vitamin D3: Today's Best in Contemporary Drawing. Phaidon.
- 2020 Diane Von Furstenberg, Paula Wallace, Jayy Dodd, Humberto Moro. Everything that Cannot be Known. Savannah College of Art and Design University Press.