

cadet capela

ARTISTS BIOS

Nadia Ayari

*Born in 1981, Tunis, Tunisia
Lives and works in New York*

Nadia Ayari is a Tunisian-American artist whose vibrant and thought-provoking works straddle abstraction and figuration. Born to a Tunisian father and an American mother, Ayari moved to the United States in 2000 and pursued a Master of Fine Arts degree from the Rhode Island School of Design. In 2007, Ayari made New York City her home and set up a studio in the eclectic Lower East Side, dedicating herself fully to her artistic practice. Since then, she has been engaged in an exploration of multivalent narrative and form through paint. Hers is a unique lens through which western art histories such as Abstract Expressionism can be instrumentalized to describe a world lived in three languages and from a multitude of cultural positions.

Ayari's artwork is characterized by her vivid oil paintings that delve into narratives of survival, intertwining the personal and the political. She constructs imaginary scenarios inspired by elements of the flora of her native North Africa, striking a unique fusion of natural and fantastical motifs. In her recent works, Ayari breathes life into thriving scenes of branches, pink flowers, and leaves, evoking a sense of motion and connection against all odds. These compositions, rendered in thick and meticulously applied oil paint, endow her creations with a substantial and tangible presence, enhancing their relatability to the viewer. Ayari's work explores the intersection of personal experience and geopolitics, frequently narrating stories related to how socio-political conflicts impact individuals.

Paul Hutchinson

*Born in 1987 in Berlin, Germany
Lives and works in Berlin*

In his multifaceted artistic practice, Paul Hutchinson critically examines the unfolding of social processes in urban space. By exploring the artist's immediate surroundings or focusing on details—whether seemingly banal or deeply personal—Hutchinson translates his inner world into carefully composed photographic images. Through a range of additional artistic activities, from performative readings to sound installations to moving images, he conveys a unique characterization of contemporary life. While his photographs oscillate between documentary and poetic expression, his writing helps to articulate concerns about an increasingly polarized society.

Paul Hutchinson (born in Berlin in 1987, lives and works in Berlin) studied at the University of the Arts Berlin and at Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design in London. His work has recently been featured in solo exhibitions at the German Institute of Photography, Düsseldorf, DE; Kunst-Station, Hauptbahnhof Wolfsburg, DE; Kunstverein Ulm, DE; and Kunstraum Kunze, Gifhorn, DE. His work has also been recently exhibited in group shows at Kunstpalast Düsseldorf, DE; Haus Kunst Mitte, Berlin, DE; Kunstverein + Kunsthalle, Marburg, DE; Kunstraum Potsdam, Potsdam, DE; Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich, DE; and others.

Emmanuel Massillon

Born in 1998, in Washington DC, US

Lives and works in Washington DC and New York City, US

Emmanuel Massillon is an African American conceptual artist who works in several different mediums including painting, photography, and sculpture. With these varying mediums, He explores the complex history of race, identity, culture and it's the relation to people of African descent. Massillon's upbringing in the inner city of Washington D.C. shapes the unique narrative that he strives to convey through his work, which is introducing others to new ideas by creating work from day-to-day life to politically charged topics. With this, he aims for his viewers to start and explore conversations that may or may not have been previously spoken about.

Language and materials is very much an important part of his work; he uses many visual puns and many examples of street vernacular which adds to the overall experience of his artwork. The use of language and puns is directly inspired by many genres of African-American music such as Jazz, R&B and Rap music which Massillon believes to be one of the main preservers of black culture in America. The materials used in his work vary from bullet shells, dirt, found objects and wood which act as a way to express his perception of the world by using materials found in his own environment and cultural history. With influences as diverse as folk art, music, art history and African history. Massillon uses many reference points to get his ideas across to his viewers, in a simple yet evoking manner.

When he isn't working on creating artwork Massillon can be found curating shows to shed light on artists looking to share a similar narrative as him.

Massillon is a graduate of the School of Visual Arts (SVA) in New York City and is pursuing a BFA in Fine Arts. In recognition of his academic and artistic accomplishments, Massillon was selected as a recipient of the Silas H. Rhodes Scholarship and is a recipient of the District of Columbia Commission on the Arts and Humanities Exhibitions (Curatorial) Grant.

Madeline Peckenpaugh

Born in 1991 in Milwaukee, WI

Lives and works in Queens, NY

The painting of Madeline Peckenpaugh, infused with her roots in the Midwest and enriched by her immersion in urban life, reflects a unique sensitivity to landscape. Each canvas exudes a distinct atmosphere, revealing a multitude of forces and natural phenomena in interaction. Her creative process, based on a technique of layering and erasing paint, gives rise to works that symbolize the unpredictability and continuous transformation of the environment.

Madeline Peckenpaugh (born in 1991 in Milwaukee, lives and works in New York) graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, USA, and holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia, USA. Peckenpaugh's works have been exhibited, among others, at the Alexander Berggruen Gallery, New York; and in institutions such as The Rachofsky House, Dallas, USA; Woodmere Art Museum, Philadelphia, USA; and The Rhode Island School of Design Museum, Providence, USA. Her works are part of the public collections of the Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, USA; the Woodmere Art Museum, Philadelphia, USA; Brown University, Providence, USA; and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia, USA.