

PRESS RELEASE

Tschabalala Self My House

Preview Days: October 16 - 17, 2024 Public Days: October 18-20, 2024 Booth B37, Grand Palais, Paris

Galerie Eva Presenhuber is pleased to present My House, a solo booth with works by Harlem-born artist Tschabalala Self (b. 1990), including two figure sculptures, several paintings, and functional art objects in the form of furniture.

"My body of work is concerned with the iconographic significance of the Black female body in contemporary culture. It explores the emotional, physical and psychological impact of the Black woman's body as an icon, and is primarily devoted to examining the intersectionality of race, gender and sexuality. Collective fantasies surround the Black body and have created a cultural niche in which our contemporary understanding of Black femininity exists. My practice is dedicated to naming this phenomenon.

In My House, my project for Art Basel Paris, I pay homage to a fictional Parisian woman of African descent, the protagonist of the presentation. She is set in her own home, wearing intimates. The booth's installation borders on the theatrical, employing the visual and formal aspects of set design, borrowing from the post-impressionistic aesthetics of modernist French painters, such as Henri Matisse. The uncanny environment references a mockhome. This fabrication houses my quotidian figure, an imagined woman, living somewhere between the present time and our shared historical imagination. She is seen in two states – standing and sitting. The repetition of her form alludes to her movement.

In regard to history and depictions Black femininity, one historical figure has continued to influence my practice. Her name was Sarah Baartman (1789–1815), more famously known as the "Venus Hottentot". Ms. Baartman, who traveled to Europe from South Africa, was trafficked,

and after her death in 1815 her skeleton, genitals, and an assortment of other body parts were placed on view at what would become the Musée de l'Homme in Paris. Her body remained on view until the 1970s and her remains were not returned to South Africa until 2002. My House is deeply inspired by my desire for Sara Baartman to have lived a different life, where she was in control of both her environment and her own body. My presentation, in many ways, tries to imagine an alternate universe where such a reality could have been true. The sculptural works in my presentation are inspired by the silhouette and physique of Ms. Baartman, a true Black beauty, who, two centuries before, was not allowed to live freely as a Parisian woman. I reference a number of Francophile aesthetics in my presentation to root my project within the Parisian visual landscape.

Baartman's image is conflated with that of other Black Parisians, such as Josephine Baker. Pointing to the complex realities for Black creatives in Paris historically — the tension between their objectification and humanization. Paris, for some, offered an escape from racial tyranny, while for others, it was the location of great radicalized abuse. My House examines the real and fantastical interpretations of Black femininity within a Parisian context.

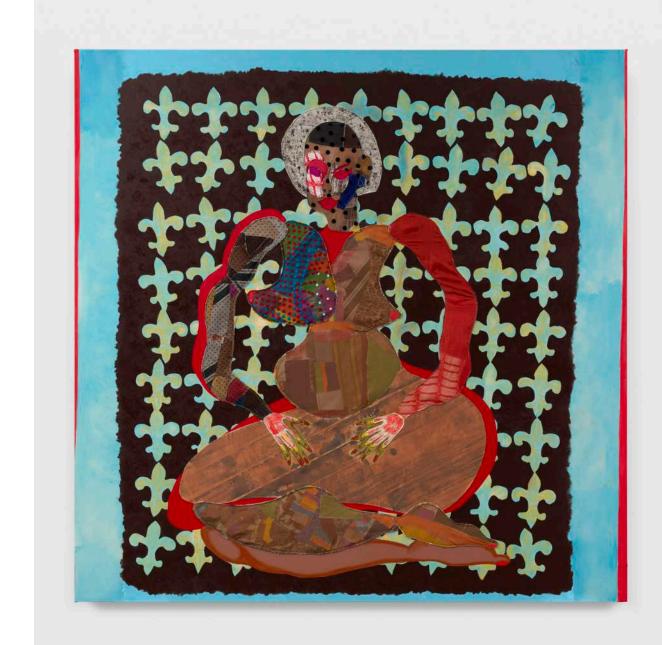
Overall, my practice aspires to redirect misconceptions propagated within and projected upon the Black body while simultaneously generating space for new narratives. Blackness is not an island, but a lived experience that has many intercultural intersections, as articulated by the life and legacy of Sara Baartman. My House will explore Black femininity from a pan-Africanist perspective as it relates to the present and past representations of the Black female body in Parisian visual culture."

Tschabalala Self

Our sales team is reachable here.

For press images and inquiries, please contact us here.

Learn more about Art Basel Paris' program and purchase tickets here.

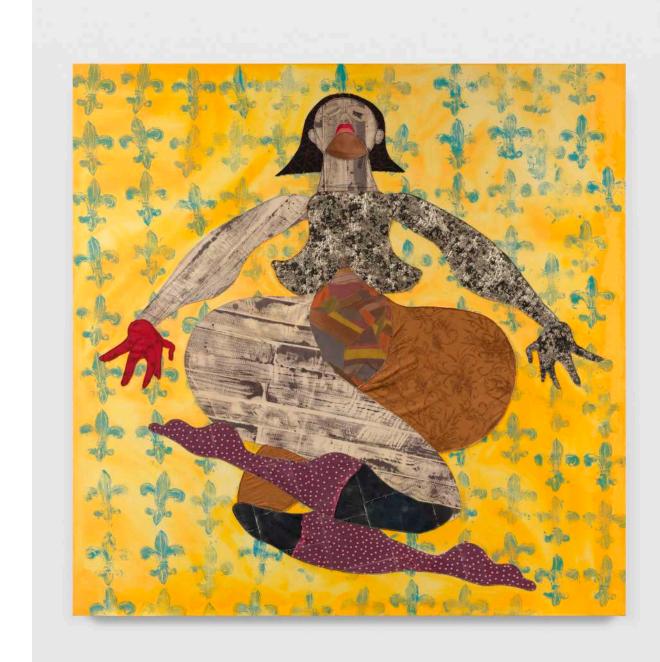


Incarnation

2024
Acrylic paint, oil paint, fabric, thread, painted canvas on canvas 244 x 244 cm / 96 x 96 in
SELF 60494



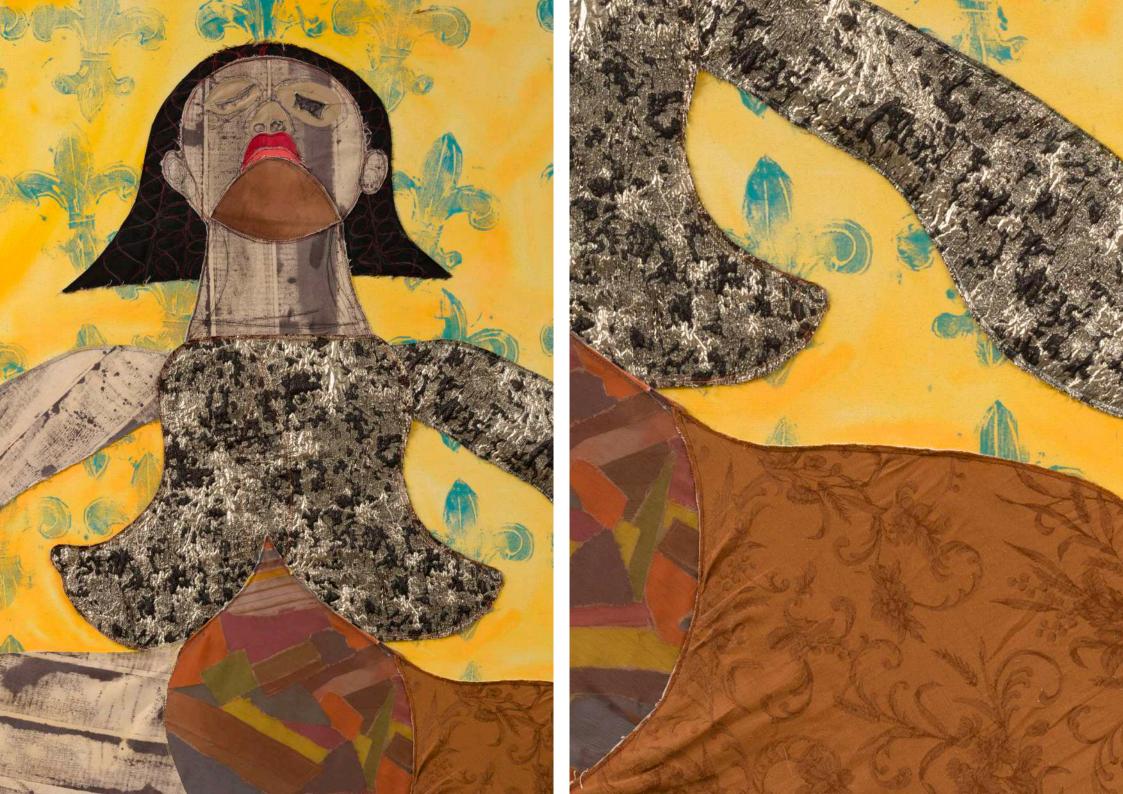


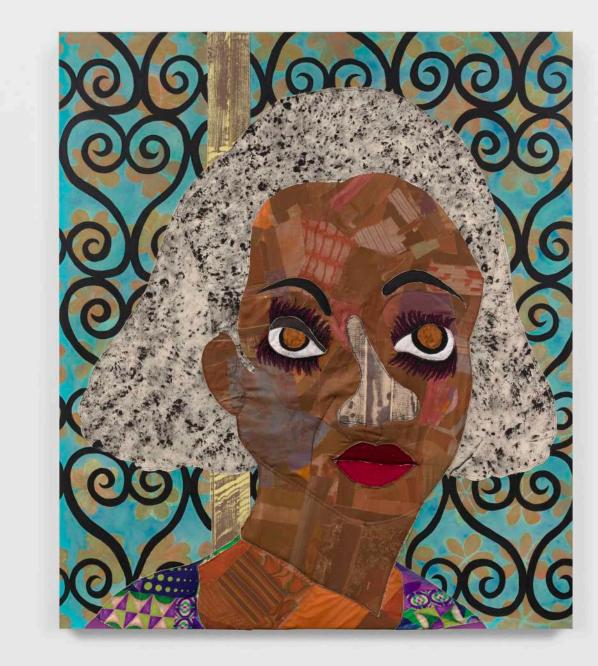


Sommeil Mielle

2024 Acrylic paint, fabric, thread, painted canvas on canvas 244 x 244 cm / 96 x 96 in SELF 60493



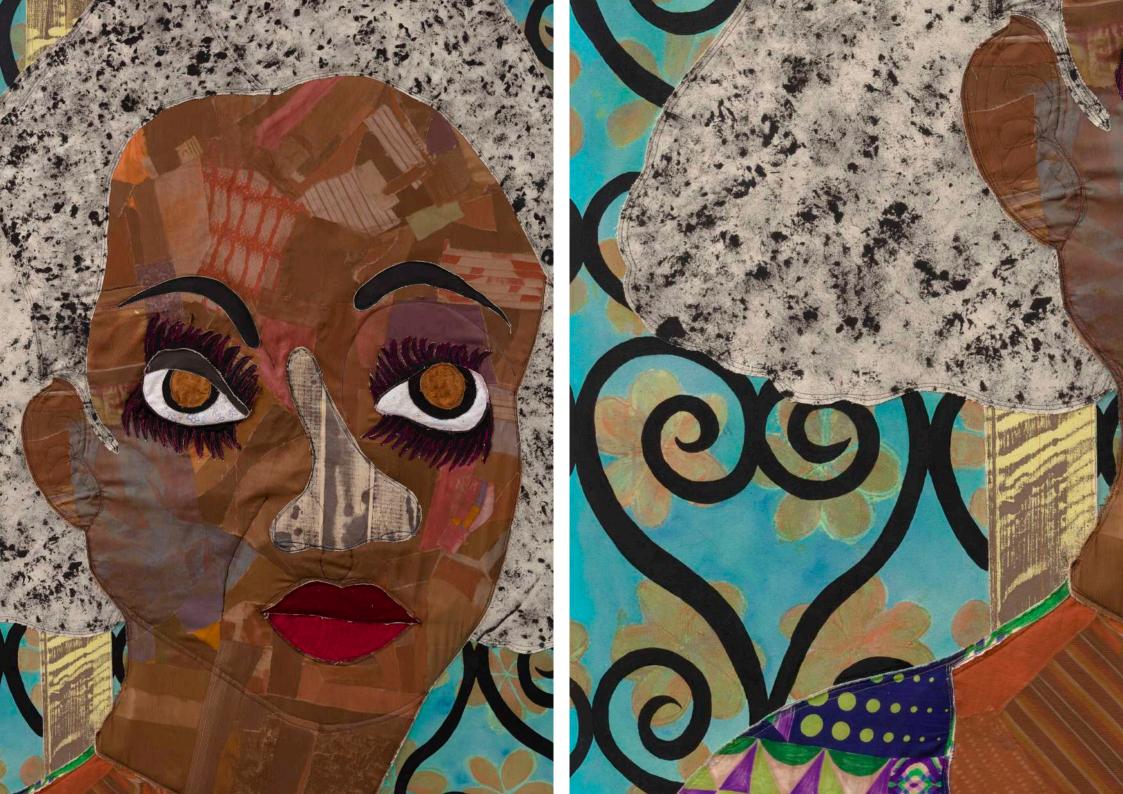


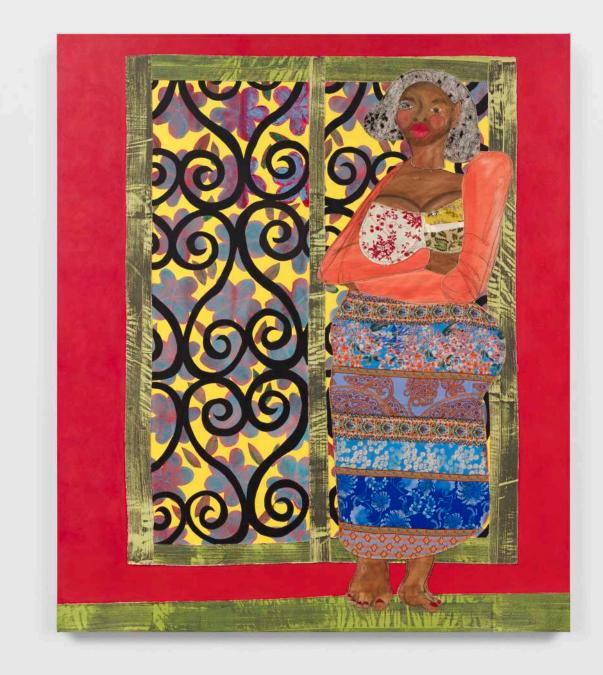


Allumé

2024
Acrylic paint, fabric, thread, painted canvas on canvas 213.5 x 183 cm / 84 x 72 in SELF 60495







Penseuse

2024
Acrylic paint, oil pastel, fabric, thread, painted canvas on canvas 213.5 x 183 cm / 84 x 72 in
SELF 60496
285'000 USD







Chambre Rouge

2024
Acrylic paint, oil pastel, fabric, thread, painted canvas on canvas 213.5 x 183 cm / 84 x 72 in
SELF 60497







Chérie

2024 Acrylic paint, oil pastel, fabric, thread, painted canvas on canvas 213.5 x 183 cm / 84 x 72 in SELF 60498





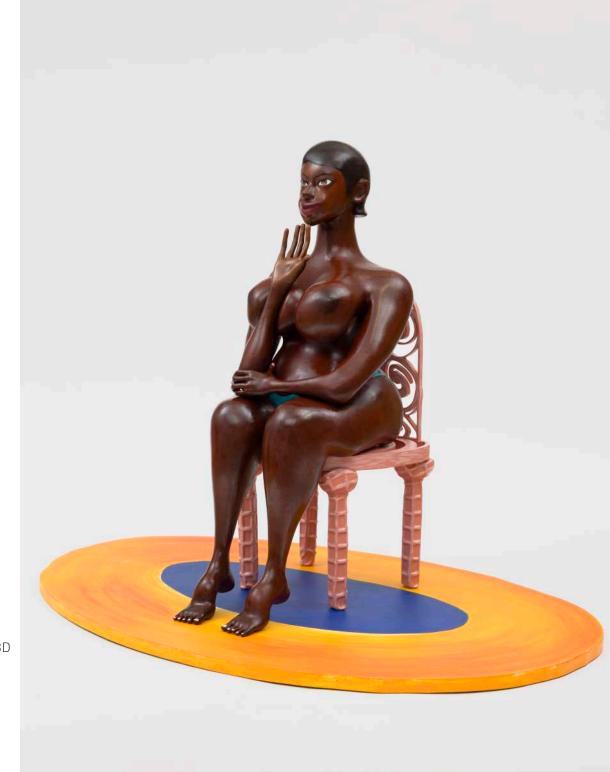


La Festin

2024 Acrylic paint, oil pastel, fabric, thread, painted canvas on canvas 172.5 x 127 cm / 68×50 in SELF 60757







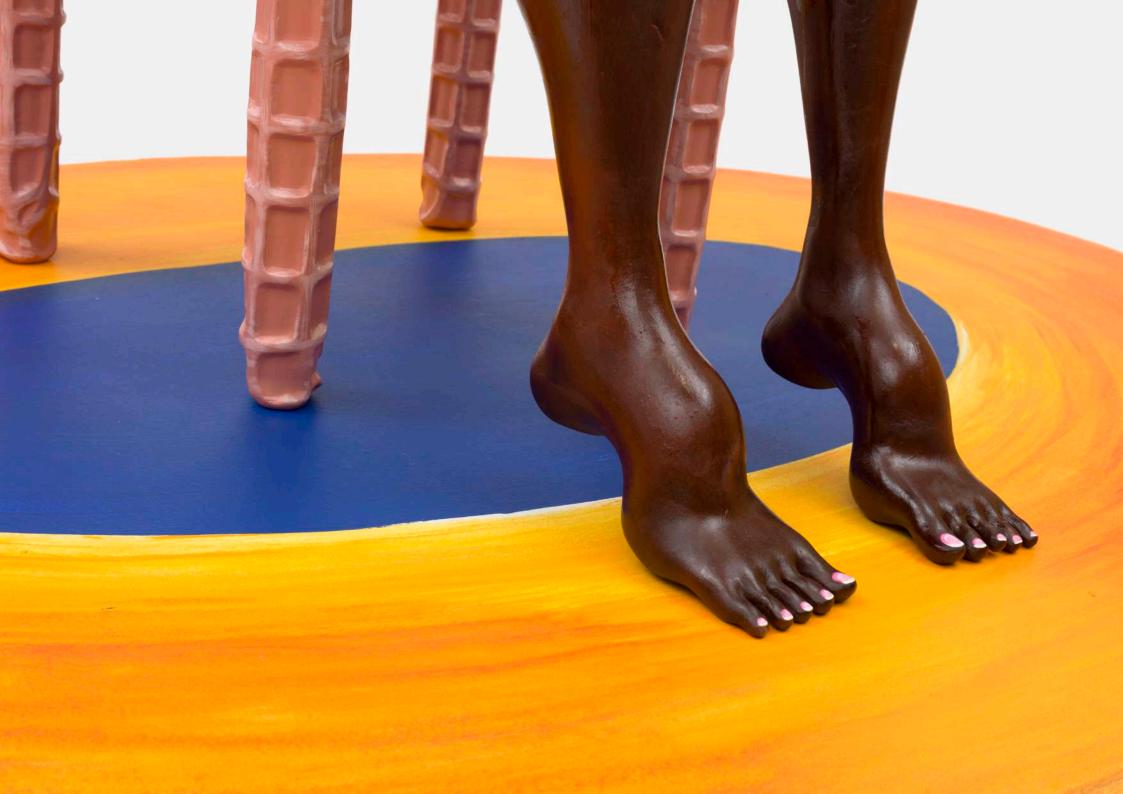
Heroine inspired by the fantasy of Saartjie Bartmann in Paris 1 $2023\,$

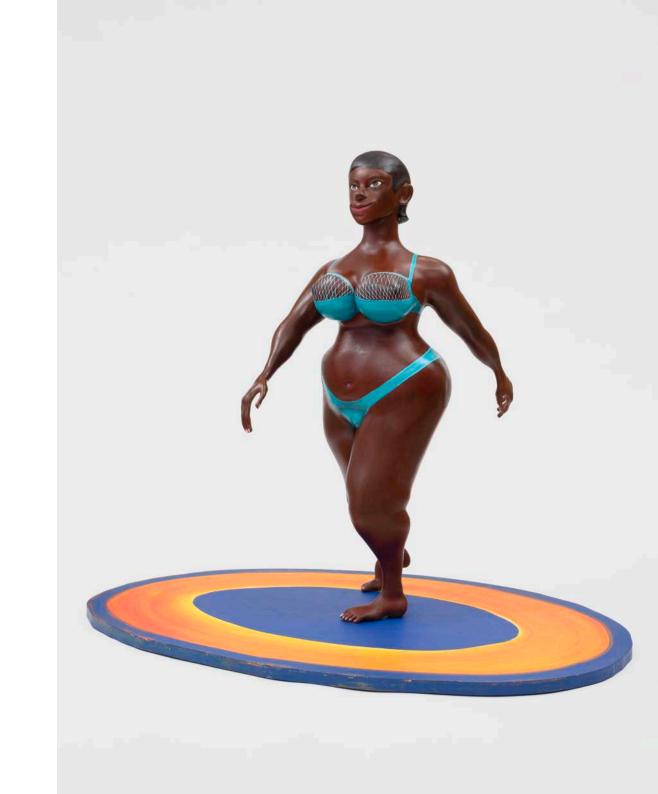
3D printed PLA, epoxy resin, oil primer, acrylic, steel and MDF stand (Figures), 3D printed PLA, epoxy resin, MDF, oil primer, acrylic (Chair) Sculpture 155.5 x 66 x 89 cm / 61 1/4 x 26 x 35 in Pedestal 5 x 244 x 152 cm / 2 x 96 1/8 x 59 7/8 in SELF 57937







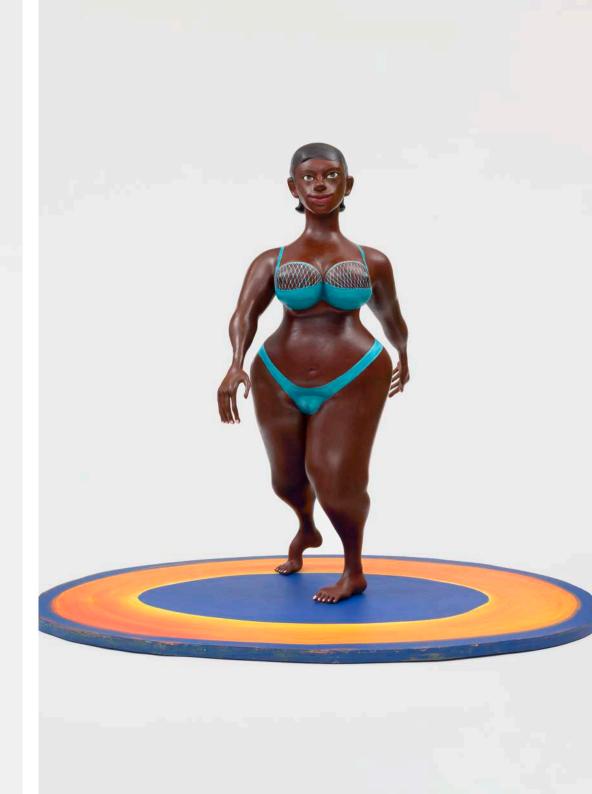




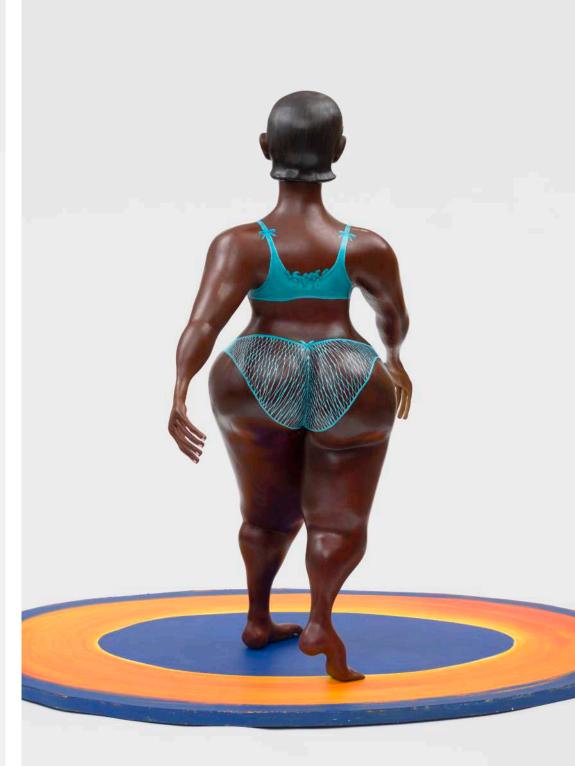
Heroine inspired by the fantasy of Saartjie Bartmann in Paris 2 $2023\,$

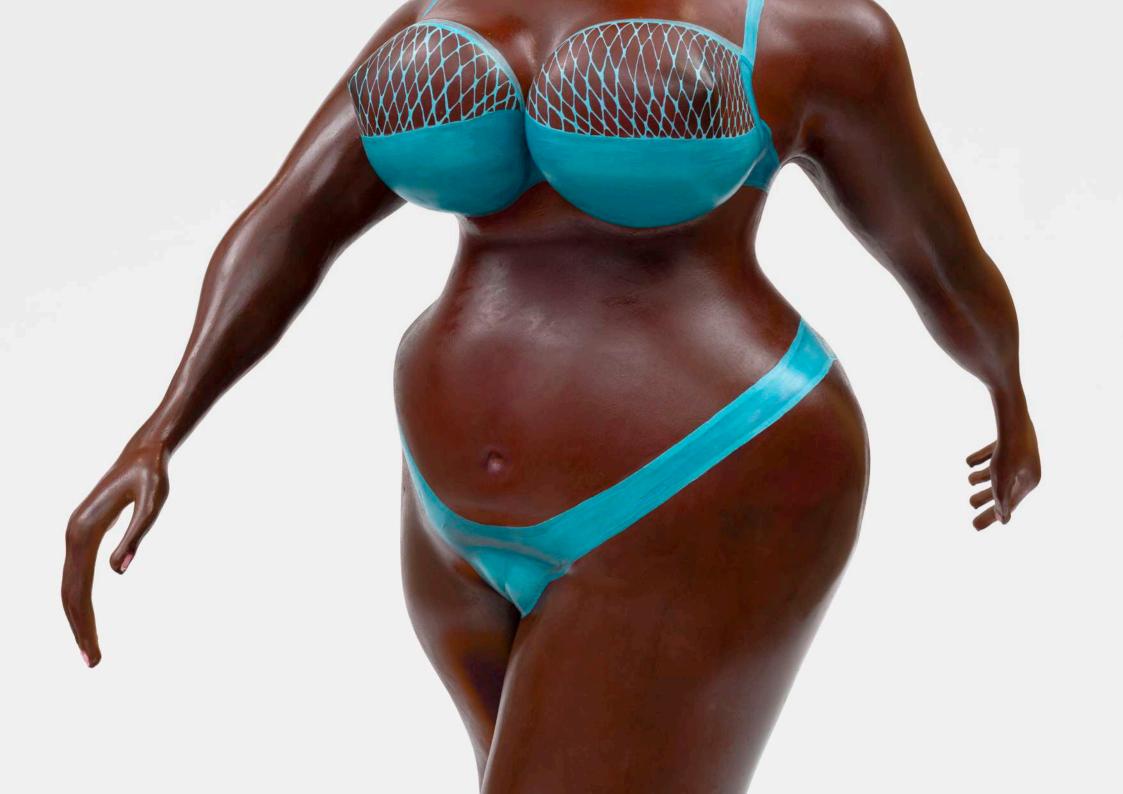
3D printed PLA, epoxy resin, oil primer, acrylic, steel and MDF stand Sculpture 172.5 x 73.5 x 93.5 cm / 67 7/8 x 29 x 36 3/4 in Pedestal 5 x 244 x 152 cm / 2 x 96 1/8 x 59 7/8 in SELF 60635

















Spiral Wooden Chair 2024 Oil on African Mahogany Open edition 110.5 x 53 x 49.5 cm / 43 1/2 x 20 7/8 x 19 1/2 in SELF 60451



Spiral Wooden Chair

2024 Oil on African Mahogany Open edition 110.5 x 53 x 49.5 cm / 43 1/2 x 20 7/8 x 19 1/2 in SELF 60452



Spiral Wooden Chair 2024 Oil on African Mahogany Open edition 110.5 x 53 x 49.5 cm / 43 1/2 x 20 7/8 x 19 1/2 in SELF 60453



Spiral Wooden Chair

2024 Oil on African Mahogany Open edition 110.5 x 53 x 49.5 cm / 43 1/2 x 20 7/8 x 19 1/2 in SELF 60454



Spiral Wooden Table 2024 Oil on African Mahogany Open edition 80 x 92 x 122 cm / 31 1/2 x 36 1/8 x 48 in SELF 60501



Spiral Wooden Side-Table

2024 Oil on African Mahogany Open edition 53.5 x 57.5 x 54 cm / 21 x 22 5/8 x 21 1/8 in SELF 60825

In process and presentation, Tschabalala Self's work explores the agency involved in myth creation and the psychological and emotional effects of projected fantasy. Self has sustained a practice wholly concerned with Black life and embodiment, with an intended audience from within that same community. In a flurry of stitches, Self assembles fully formed characters who, individually and situationally, hold power over their self-presentation and external perception. A power frequently denied to Black American people in their daily lives.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

Spotlight: Tschabalala Self, FLAG Art Foundation, New York, NY, US (2024)
Bodega Run, Swiss Institute, New York, NY, US (2024)
Around the Way, EMMA I ESPOO Museum of Modern Art, Espoo, FI (2024)
Feed Me, Kiss Me, Need Me, CC Strombeek, Grimbergen, BE (2023)
Spaces and Places, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zurich, CH (2023)
Inside Out, Kunstmuseum St. Gallen, St. Gallen, CH (2023)
Make Room, Consortium Museum, Dijon, FR (2022)
Tschabalala Self: By My Self, Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD, US (2021)
Tschabalala Self: Out of Body, ICA Boston, Boston, MA, US (2020)
Bodega Run, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA, US (2019)

SELECTED PUBLIC AND INSTITUTIONAL COLLECTIONS

Aishti Foundation, Beirut, LB Albertina Museum, Vienna, AT Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD, US Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX, US Detroit Institute of the Arts, Detroit, MI, US Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA, US The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D.C., US Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA, US Kunstmuseum St. Gallen, St. Gallen, CH Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA, US Luma Foundation, Zurich, CH Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, US Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, San Diego, CA, US The New Museum, New York, NY, US Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, PA, US Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich, DE Sammlung Goetz, Munich, DE Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY, US Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, NL Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, US Yuz Museum, Shanghai, CN

