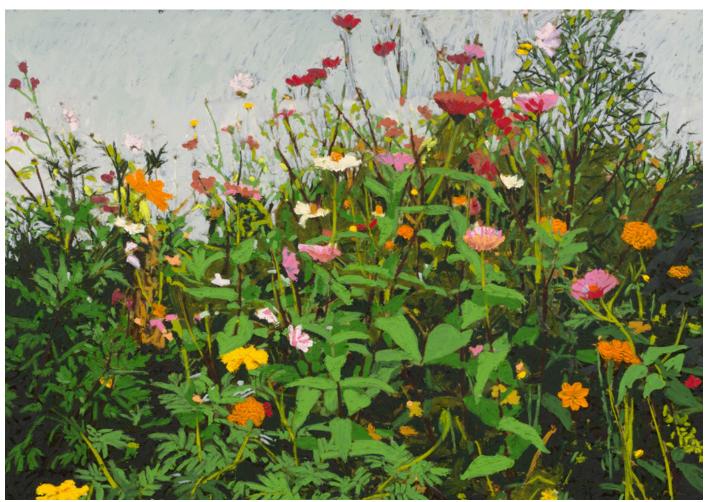


Frieze London 2024 Paul Anthony Smith



Paul Anthony Smith, *Dreams Deferred #78* (detail), 2024. Oil stick on inkjet print mounted on Dibond, 40×50 in. (101.6×127 cm) © Paul Anthony Smith

Frieze London Paul Anthony Smith

Booth B12 9 — 13 October 2024 The Regent's Park, London

Timothy Taylor is pleased to return to Frieze London with a solo presentation of new works by Paul Anthony Smith (b. 1988, St. Ann's Bay, Jamaica), marking the artist's first presentation with the gallery since joining in 2023. Centring on two ongoing series, *Dreams Deferred* and *Eye Fi Di Tropics*, Smith will feature large-scale oil paintings and *picotage* works that reflect on diasporic identity, cultural memory, and the landscape.

The paintings in *Dreams Deferred* offer scenes of abundant gardens with hydrangeas, marigolds, anemones, and tiger lilies rendered in verdant and sun-kissed hues. Across the impasto works, Smith variously places the viewer inside and outside of these lush spaces, some of which are obscured and abstracted by a foregrounded chain link fence. These works summon notions of calm, respite, and prosperity, as well as the foreclosure of these experiences.

Titled after a line from Langston Hughes's iconic 1951 poem "Harlem," the series draws a comparison between gardens and dreams, which, if not tended to, Smith suggests both dry up and wither or become unruly and unrecognisable. The works were inspired in part by the artist's reflection on the fraught pathways to success for many Black men in America and the idea that to create and preserve a legacy, it's important to avoid destructive cultural narratives—to stay in and nurture the garden. Smith paints with oil stick over photographs he has taken in significant gardens including Queen Mary's Gardens, Central Park, as well as wild, surprising plots along highways and in dense neighbourhoods. Eternalizing vibrant, ephemeral scenes in paint, he asks what the natural spaces that surround us tell us about ourselves.

Initiated in 2018, *Eye Fi Di Tropics* considers the relationship between cultural perceptions of the Caribbean and the region's landscape, tourism industry, and colonial history. Smith's grandfather emigrated from Cuba to Jamaica, and his parents both worked on cruise ships in the 1980s, sailing between Miami and the Bahamas, Puerto Rico, and Jamaica. The artist considers all of these crossings and various imaginaries of the tropics in his own representations. The series features a technique Smith adopted in 2012 called *picotage*, wherein the artist uses a retrofitted wooden needle to puncture the surface of inkjet pigment prints, introducing a sculptural lenticular effect. The resulting multifaceted image embodies the idea that photographic documentation is always incomplete, contingent, and contextual, bearing a complicated relationship to the notion of truth.

In this series, stippled marks are used to frame images Smith has taken of the water at sunrise from the vantage of various islands. In each landscape, the crisp horizon is set aglow. The *picotage* frame designs draw on elements of Saint Lucia's architecture, which itself incorporates architectural traditions from Asia and Africa. Like the fencing that veils the landscape in Smith's paintings, these frames introduce a sense of removal from the depicted natural environment. With these works, Smith approaches themes of migration, travel, and influence by seeking to appreciate familiar landscapes from a distant perspective. He asks: how are we to reckon with the enduring narratives about the islands that emerged from European exploration and were enshrined by the ensuing colonisation? What do we do with the beauty—the intercultural architecture, art, and design—that was borne from occupation and violence?

Together, *Dreams Deferred* and *Eye Fi Di Tropics* offer a meditation on Smith's relationship to his experiences of home in Jamaica and the United States, one that confronts the duality of being an outsider looking in and an insider looking out.



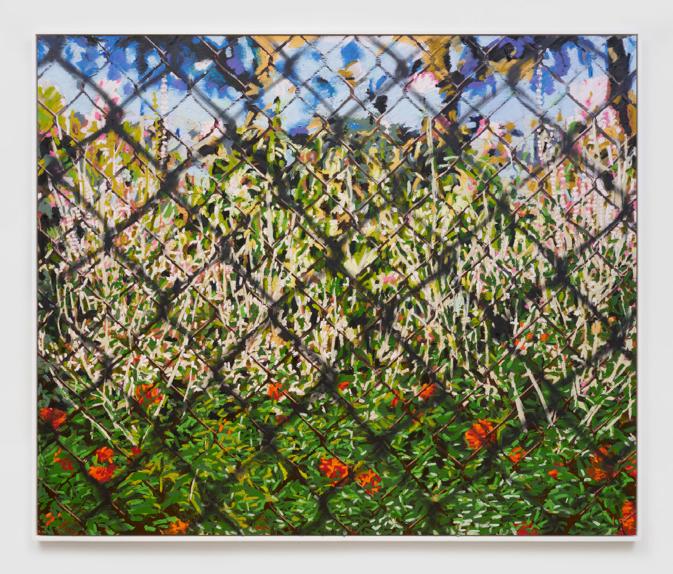


Paul Anthony Smith Dreams Deferred #77, 2024 Signed and dated (verso) Oil stick on inkjet print mounted on Dibond 40×50 in. (101.6 × 127 cm) Framed: $40 \frac{1}{2} \times 50 \frac{1}{2}$ in. (102.9 × 128.3 cm) T0015182



Paul Anthony Smith Dreams Deferred #70, 2024 Signed and dated (verso) Oil stick on inkjet print mounted on Dibond 40×50 in. (101.6 \times 127 cm) Framed: $40 \frac{1}{2} \times 50 \frac{1}{2}$ in. (102.9 \times 128.3 cm) T0015177





Paul Anthony Smith $Dreams\ Deferred\ \#61$, 2023 Signed, titled, and dated (verso) Oil stick and spray paint on inkjet print mounted on Dibond 80×90 in. (203 × 229 cm) Framed: $81\ ^3\!\!/4 \times 97\ ^7\!\!/8$ in. (207.6 × 248.6 cm) T0014535





Paul Anthony Smith

Dreams Deferred #82, 2024

Signed, titled, and dated (verso)

Oil stick on inkjet print mounted on Dibond 60 × 80 in. (152.4 × 203.2 cm)

Framed: 81 x 61 in. (205.7 x 154.9 cm)

T0015325



Paul Anthony Smith Dreams Deferred #71, 2024 Signed and dated (verso) Oil stick on inkjet print mounted on Dibond 40×50 in. (101.6×127 cm) Framed: $40 \frac{1}{2} \times 50 \frac{1}{2}$ in. (102.9×128.3 cm) T0015178





Paul Anthony Smith Dreams Deferred #78, 2024 Signed and dated (verso) Oil stick on inkjet print mounted on Dibond 40×50 in. (101.6 × 127 cm) Framed: $40 \frac{1}{2} \times 50 \frac{1}{2}$ in. (102.9 × 128.3 cm) T0015183



Paul Anthony Smith $Dreams\ Deferred\ \#65$, 2023 Signed, titled, and dated (verso) Oil stick and spray paint on inkjet print mounted on Dibond 80×90 in. (203 × 229 cm) Framed: $81\ ^3\!4\times97\ ^3\!8$ in. (207.6 × 248.6 cm) T0014532





Paul Anthony Smith Dreams Deferred #69, 2024 Signed and dated (verso) Oil stick on inkjet print mounted on Dibond 40×50 in. (101.6 × 127 cm) Framed: $40 \frac{1}{2} \times 50 \frac{1}{2}$ in. (102.9 × 128.3 cm) T0015176

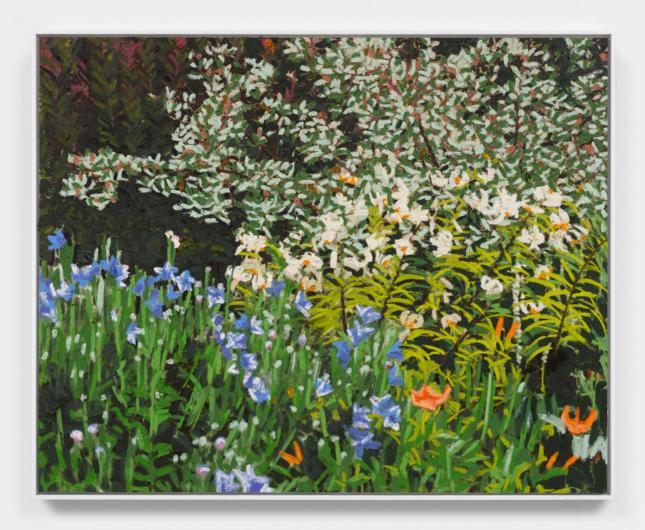


Paul Anthony Smith Dreams Deferred #72, 2024 Signed and dated (verso) Oil stick on inkjet print mounted on Dibond 40×50 in. (101.6 × 127 cm) Framed: $40 \frac{1}{2} \times 50 \frac{1}{2}$ in. (102.9 × 128.3 cm) T0015179



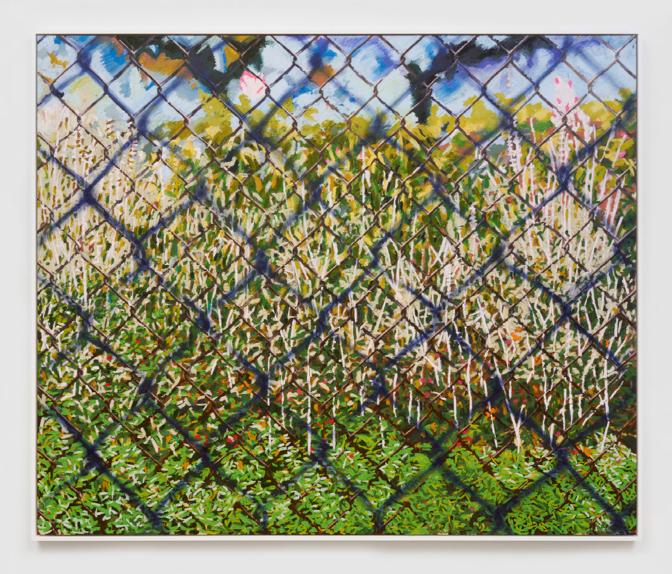


Paul Anthony Smith Dreams Deferred #75, 2024 Signed and dated (verso) Oil stick on inkjet print mounted on Dibond 40×50 in. (101.6 \times 127 cm) Framed: $40 \frac{1}{2} \times 50 \frac{1}{2}$ in. (102.9 \times 128.3 cm) T0015181



Paul Anthony Smith Dreams Deferred #74, 2024 Signed and dated (verso) Oil stick on inkjet print mounted on Dibond 40×50 in. (101.6 × 127 cm) Framed: $40 \frac{1}{2} \times 50 \frac{1}{2}$ in. (102.9 × 128.3 cm) T0015180





Paul Anthony Smith Dreams Deferred #64, 2023 Signed, titled, and dated (verso) Oil stick and spray paint on inkjet print mounted on Dibond 80×90 in. $(203 \times 229$ cm) Framed: $81 \frac{3}{4} \times 97 \frac{1}{8}$ in. $(207.6 \times 248.6$ cm) T0014533



Paul Anthony Smith Dreams Deferred #79, 2024 Signed and dated (verso) Oil stick on inkjet print mounted on Dibond 40×50 in. (101.6 × 127 cm) Framed: $40 \frac{1}{2} \times 50 \frac{1}{2}$ in. (102.9 × 128.3 cm) T0015184





Paul Anthony Smith Dreams Deferred #80, 2024 Signed and dated (verso) Oil stick on inkjet print mounted on Dibond 40×50 in. (101.6 \times 127 cm) Framed: $40 \frac{1}{2} \times 50 \frac{1}{2}$ in. (102.9 \times 128.3 cm) T0015185



Paul Anthony Smith

Dreams Deferred #81, 2024

Signed, titled, and dated (verso)

Oil stick on inkjet print mounted on Dibond
60 × 80 in. (152.4 × 203.2 cm)

Framed: 81 x 61 in. (205.7 x 154.9 cm)

T0015324





Paul Anthony Smith Eye Fi Di Tropics, Jamaica, 2024 Signed and dated (verso) Unique picotage and spray paint on inkjet print mounted on Dibond 40×60 in. $(101.6\times152.4~\text{cm})$ Framed: $40\,^{3}\!\!/_{4}\times60\,^{3}\!\!/_{4}$ in. $(103.5\times154.3~\text{cm})$ T0015187



Paul Anthony Smith Eye Fi Di Tropics, Grand Cayman, 2024 Signed and dated (verso) Unique picotage and spray paint on inkjet print mounted on Dibond 40×60 in. $(101.6\times152.4~\text{cm})$ Framed: $40\,\%\times60\,\%$ in. $(103.5\times154.3~\text{cm})$ T0015186





Paul Anthony Smith Eye Fi Di Tropics, Barbados, 2024 Signed and dated (verso) Unique picotage on inkjet print mounted on Dibond 40×60 in. $(101.6 \times 152.4 \text{ cm})$ Framed: $40 \% \times 60 \%$ in. $(103.5 \times 154.3 \text{ cm})$ T0015342





Paul Anthony Smith Eye Fi Di Tropics, Saint Martin, 2024 Signed and dated (verso) Unique picotage on inkjet print mounted on Dibond 40×60 in. $(101.6 \times 152.4 \text{ cm})$ Framed: $40 \% \times 60 \%$ in. $(103.5 \times 154.3 \text{ cm})$ T0015188





Portrait of Paul Anthony Smith. Photo: Atisha Paulson

Paul Anthony Smith

(b. 1988, St. Ann's Bay, Jamaica)

Paul Anthony Smith is a Jamaica-born, New York-based artist who explores themes of post-diasporic identity, community, and cultural memory through his paintings and photography. In candid scenes of friends and family, he introduces an element of subjectivity and personal history to photographic documentation. Often with oil or spray paint, the artist inserts borders, fences, barriers, or masks onto images printed on Dibond sheets, emphasising the architectural and psychological impact of these oppressive forms. In 2012, Smith began incorporating a technique called "picotage," in which he uses a retrofitted wooden needle to puncture and disrupt the surface of his inkjet prints, heightening depth and texture while further complicating our notions of truth and memory.

After studying ceramics at the Kansas City Art Institute, Smith moved to New York City in 2014, where he now lives and works. His recent *Dreams Deferred* series, which draws its inspiration and title from Langston Hughes's seminal long-form poem, depicts the vacant lots and urban neighborhoods he encounters regularly in his life today. By overlaying shadowy fences on these familiar environments, he captures the collective disillusionment that pervaded the African American experience during the early 20th century and calls to mind social, cultural, and physical restrictions to access and equality. In January 2024, a collection of his large-scale picotage works that wrestle with these themes were featured in *Passage*, a solo exhibition at the Hyde Collection in Glen Falls, New York.

Paul Anthony Smith

b. 1988, St. Ann's Bay, Jamaica Lives and works in New York, New York, USA

Education

2010

BFA, Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO, USA

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2024

Paul Anthony Smith: Passage, Hyde Collection, Glens Falls, NY, USA

2022

Paul Anthony Smith: Standing In, Blaffer Art Museum, Houston, TX, USA Searching, Kemper Museum of Art, Kansas City, MO,

USA

2021

Tradewinds, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, NY, USA

2019

Paul Anthony Smith, Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, NE, USA

Junction, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, NY, USA

2018

Paul Anthony Smith: Containment, Luis De Jesus Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, USA Paul Anthony Smith, The Green Gallery, Milwaukee, WI, USA

2017

Walls Without Borders, Atlanta Contemporary, Atlanta, GA, USA Procession, Zieher Smith, New York, NY, USA

2016

Blurred lines, Brand New Gallery, Milan, Italy
On the Wall: Paul Anthony Smith, Reilly Gallery at the
Smith Center for the Arts, Providence College,

Providence, RI, USA

2015

Yellow Tail Never Kick Rocks, Zieher Smith, New York, NY, USA

2014

Paul Anthony Smith: Mangos and Crab, Carrie Secrist Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA

2013

Walk Bout, The McKinney Avenue Contemporary (The MAC), Dallas, TX, USA

Transience, Zieher Smith, New York, NY, USA

Selected Group Exhibitions

2024

In the Garden, Helen Day Art Center, Stowe VT, USA

2023

Multiplicity: Blackness in Contemporary American Collage, Frist Art Museum, Nashville, TN, USA.
Traveled to Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Houston, TX; The Phillips Collection, Washington, DC, USA Fragments of Epic Memory, Portland Museum of Art, ME, USA

Men of Change: Power. Triumph. Truth., International African American Museum, Charleston, SC, USA. Traveled to: Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, Birmingham, AL, USA

2022

Stressed World, The School, Jack Shainman Gallery, Kinderhook, NY, USA

Ghosts of Empires, Ben Brown Fine Arts, Wong Chuk Hang, Hong Kong

g1–*98 jfk*–*lax border*, Blum and Poe, Los Angeles, CA, USA

Black, The Known Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA, USA

2021

Fragments of Epic Memory, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Canada

Today and Tomorrow, Gana Art Gallery, Seoul, South Korea

2020

Men of Change, Thomas Gilcrease Institute of American History and Art, Tulsa, OK, USA

2019

Men of Change, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C., USA

Get Up, Stand Up Now: Generations of Black Creative Pioneers, West Wing Galleries, Somerset House, London, UK

2018

Parking on Pavement, Jack Shainman Gallery, The School, Kinderhook, NY, USA

A Recounting, Guerrero Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, USA

Open Spaces Biennial, Kansas City, MO, USA GDPR: Group Display of Paintings and Renderings, Signal, Brooklyn, NY, USA

Reclamation! Pan-African Works from the Beth Rudin DeWoody Collection, Taubman Museum of Art, Roanoke, VA, USA

2017

In Order of Appearance, Charles James Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, USA

Harlem Postcards, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY, USA

The Coffins of Paa Joe and the Pursuit of Happiness, Jack Shainman Gallery, The School, Kinderhook, NY, USA

Water & Dreams, The Green Gallery, Milwaukee, WI, USA

Art Work: An Exploration of Labor, Love Apple Art Space, Ghent, NY, USA

Double Edged, Circuit12, Dallas, TX, USA

RAGGA NYC: All the Threatened and Delicious Things Joined One Another, New Museum, New York, NY, USA

Interference, Philadelphia Photo Arts Center, Philadelphia, PA, USA

Politicizing Space, Anya and Andrew Shiva Gallery, New York, NY, USA

2016

Oceans Without Surfers, Cowboys Without Marlboros, PM/AM, London, UK

Jamaican Pulse: Art and Politics from Jamaica and the Diaspora, Royal West Academy, Montreal, Canada

Disguise: Masks and Global African Art, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY, USA

2015

Devotion, Catinca Tabacaru Gallery, New York, NY, USA Reality of My Surroundings: The Contemporary Collection, Nasher Museum of Art, Durham, NC, USA Between History and the Body, The 8th Floor, New York, NY, USA

Disguise: Masks & Global African Art, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA, USA

Concealed: Selections from the Permanent Collection, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY, USA a curious blindness, Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery, New York, NY, USA

2014

Prophetic Diagrams II, Cheymore Gallery, Tuxedo Park, NY, USA

g, Haw Contemporary, Kansas City, MO, USA

2013

New Work from Kansas City, Carrie Secrist Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA

Thanks for the Warning, Dolphin Gallery, Kansas City, MO, USA

2012

(No) Vacancy, Carrie Secrist Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA

2011

LUSH, Spray Booth Gallery, Kansas City, MO, USA Beyond Bounds Brilliant!, Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, KS, USA

Selected Residencies, Awards, Prizes, Grants and Honours

2017

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, MO, USA

MacDowell Colony Residency, Peterborough, NH, USA Visiting Artist, Anderson Ranch Arts Center, Snowmass Village, CO, USA

2015

Visiting Artist, Anderson Ranch Arts Center, Snowmass Village, CO, USA

2014

Art In Buildings, New York, NY, USA Visiting Artist, Anderson Ranch Arts Center, Snowmass Village, CO, USA

2013

Arts KC Inspiration grant (Fund Art Omi International Residency)

Visual Artist Fellow, The Charlotte Street Foundation Kansas City, MO, USA

Omi International Artists Residency, Ghent, NY, USA

2012

The Kansas City Collection II, Kansas City, MO, USA A.I.R Program, Anderson Ranch Arts Center, Snowmass Village, CO, USA

2010 - 12

Urban Culture Projects Studio Residency, Charlotte Street Foundation Kansas City, MO, USA

2009

Copaken Scholarship, Anderson Ranch Arts Center, Snowmass Village, CO, USA

2008

The Kenneth R. Ferguson Scholarship, Kansas City, MO, USA

Selected Public and Private Collections

21C Museum, Louisville, KY, USA Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Canada Blanton Museum of Art, University of Texas at Austin, TX, USA

Belger Arts Center, Kansas City, MO, USA
Colby Museum of Art, Waterville, ME, USA
The Dean Collection, New York, NY, USA
Ferguson Ceramic Teaching Collection, Kansas City
Art Institute, Kansas City, MO, USA
Joslyn Museum, Omaha, NE, USA
Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO, USA

Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis, MN, USA Minnesota Museum of Art, St. Paul, MN, USA Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham, NC, USA

Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, KS, USA

Pilara Foundation Collection, Pier 24, San Francisco, CA, USA

The Rockwell Museum, Corning, NY, USA Speed Museum of Art, Louisville, KY, USA Sheldon Museum of Art, Lincoln, NE, USA Worcester Art Museum, Worcester, MA, USA

