

**CALIDA RAWLES**

Born Wilmington, DE, 1976  
Lives Los Angeles, CA

**EDUCATION**

2000 M.A., New York University, New York, NY  
1998 B.A., Spelman College, Atlanta, GA

**SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

2026 *Away with the Tides*, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA  
2025 *Away with the Tides*, Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens, Jacksonville, FL  
*This Time Before Tomorrow*, Lehmann Maupin, London, United Kingdom  
*Away with the Tides*, Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, Memphis, TN  
2024 *Away with the Tides*, Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), Miami, FL  
The Delaware Contemporary, Wilmington, DE  
2023 *A Certain Oblivion*, Lehmann Maupin, New York, NY  
2021 *On the Other Side of Everything*, Lehmann Maupin, New York, NY  
2020 *A Dream for My Lilith*, Various Small Fires, Los Angeles, CA  
Standard Vision, Los Angeles, CA

**GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

2025 *Giving You The Best That I Got*, Art + Practice and California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA  
2024 *Ordinary People: Photorealism and the Work of Art Since 1968*, Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA  
*L.A. Story*, Hauser & Wirth, Los Angeles, CA  
*Imagining Black Diasporas: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Art and Poetics*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), Los Angeles, CA  
*The Swimmer*, The FLAG Art Foundation, New York, NY  
*A Superlative Palette: Contemporary Black Women Artists*, Harvey B. Gantt Center for African American Arts + Culture, Charlotte, NC  
2023 *Generation\*: Jugend trotz(t) Krise*, Kunsthalle Bremen, Bremen, Germany  
*Rose in the Concrete*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA  
*Black American Portraits*, Spelman College Museum of Fine Art, Atlanta, GA  
*Beneath the Surface*, Lehmann Maupin, London, United Kingdom  
*Currents*, Lehmann Maupin, Palm Beach, FL  
The Bunker Art Space, Palm Beach, FL  
2022 12th Berlin Biennale for Contemporary Art, Berlin, Germany  
*Dark Light, Realism in the Age of Post Truth*, Aishti Foundation, Jal el Dib, Lebanon  
2022 *Revolve: Spotlight on the Permanent Collection*, Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens, Jacksonville, FL  
2021 *Black American Portraits*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), Los Angeles, CA  
*A Shared Body*, FSU Museum of Fine Arts, Tallahassee, FL  
*Art Finds a Way*, Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, FL

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# LEHMAN MAUPIN

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- 2020 *View From Here*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), Los Angeles, CA  
*Visions in Light: Windows on The Wallis*, The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, Beverly Hills, CA  
*Next of Kin*, Various Small Fires, Seoul, South Korea
- 2019 *Presence*, Fullerton College Art Gallery, Fullerton, CA
- 2017 *With Liberty and Justice For Some*, Walter Maciel Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
*Sanctuary City: With Liberty and Justice for Some*, San Francisco Arts Commission, San Francisco, CA  
*Artist/Mother*, South Bay Contemporary, San Pedro, CA
- 2016 LA Times Festival of Books, Los Angeles, CA  
Inglewood Public Library, Inglewood, CA
- 2015 *American Survey Pt: I*, Papillion Art, Los Angeles, CA
- 2014 LACMA Inglewood Art + Film Lab, Inglewood, CA  
*1019 West Artist Studio Group Show*, Zero Down, Los Angeles, CA  
*From Her: An Exhibition by Women about Women*, Pico House Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2013 Ebell of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
- 2003 Tilford Art Group, Los Angeles, CA  
Philadelphia International Art Expo, Philadelphia, PA
- 2002 *Black In America Showcase*, Boston, MA  
*Fine Art at the Riverfront*, Wilmington, DE  
*Living Off Experience*, Rush Arts Gallery, New York, NY
- 2001 *Spirited and Free*, Art Jaz Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
- 1998 *Black Dimension Art Showcase*, The Horizon Collective, Slingerlands, NY
- 1997 Education Gallery, Museum of Panama, Panama City, Panama

## COMMISSIONS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

- 2022 *The Way of Time*, SoFi Stadium, Inglewood, CA
- 2021 *2021 LA Billboard Exhibition*, The Billboard Creative, Los Angeles, CA

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2022 Visiting Artist, Anderson Ranch Arts Center, Snowmass Village, CO
- 2002 Artist-In-Residence, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA
- 1998 Opportunity Fellowship, New York University School of Education, New York, NY
- 1997 Amalia Amaki Scholarship, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA  
Spelman College Summer Art Colony, Portobello, Panama

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2024 Lacayo, Maritza M., et al. *Calida Rawles: Away with the Tides*, New York and Miami: DelMonico Books and Pérez Art Museum Miami.  
Lawson, Dhyandra. *Imagining Black Diasporas: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Art & Poetics*. Los Angeles: LACMA and Delmonico D.A.P.  
Gardner, Tia-Simone and Shana M. Griffin. *A Nation Takes Place: Migrating Race and Water in Contemporary Art*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press and The Minnesota Marine Art Museum.
- 2023 Godfrey, Mark, et al. *Making their Mark: Art by Women in the Shah Garg Collection*. New York: Gregory Miller and Company.
- 2022 *Berlin Biennale for Contemporary Art: Still Present!*. Berlin: Berlin Biennale for Contemporary Art.

**SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- 2025 Ebbert, Grace. "In Ethereal Paintings, Calida Rawles Plunges into the Dark Depths of Water." *Colossal*, September 19.  
Anand, Keshav. "Liquid Histories: Calida Rawles on "Black Americans' Complicated Relationship with Water"." *Something Curated*, September 16.  
Boyle, Meka. "From the Depths." *Family Style*, August 26.  
Rubenstein, Dan. "Calida Rawles: "Once You Put a Black Figure in Water, There's Context"." *The Grand Tourist Podcast*. February 26
- 2024 Sheets, Hilarie. "The Artist Calida Rawles and Her Subjects Find Hope in the Water." *The New York Times*, December 2.  
Goyanes, Rob. "Swimming for Life: Water as Redemption in the Art of Calida Rawles." *Harper's Bazaar Italy*, November 13.  
Waddoups, Ryan. "Calida Rawles Pictures the Healing Potential of Water." *Surface Magazine*, July 31.  
Gould, Mia. "Here Are the 9 Unmissable Exhibitions On View From Coast to Coast This Summer." *Cultured*, July 29.  
Markowitz, Douglas. "Calida Rawles brings Overtown to the water." *The Miami Times*, July 23.  
Piejko, Jennifer. "'The Water Is a Washing Away: The Salvation of Calida Rawles's Aquatic Portraits.'" *Artnet News*, July 19.  
Féraud, Jade. "Holy Water: Calida Rawles' debut solo museum exhibition in the U.S. celebrates the rich heritage and culture of Miami's historically black neighborhood, Overtown." *Family Style*, June 24.  
Greenberger, Alex. "44 Museum Shows to See This Summer." *ARTnews*, May 31.  
Johnson, Lacy M. "Downstream: Houston's efforts to suppress its waters creates a culture of flooding." *Orion*, May 10.
- 2023 Veitch, Maria. "Calida Rawles and Deborah Roberts Have Major New York Solo Shows This Fall. Here's How They Arrived at Their Moment." *Cultured*, November 9.  
Haynes, Suyin. "The painter submerging viewers into hyperrealistic water worlds." *CNN Style*, December 13.  
Weir, Keziah. "A Dystopian Thriller, Political Deep Dives, and More Books to Read in November." *Vanity Fair*, October 23.  
Dozier, Ayanna. "Why Atlanta's Art Scene is Making Waves." *Artsy*. April 5.  
Drew, Kimberly. "Calida Rawles's Final White Dress Offers the Grace and Buoyancy We So Desperately Need." *Cultured Magazine*. February 8.
- 2022 "Anderson Ranch Fall Series: Calida Rawles.", *Aspen Public Radio*, November 15.  
Cheng, Scarlett. "Fire and Water The Beautiful Tragedies of Calida Rawles.", *Artillery Mag*. November 8.  
Mackey, Ashley. "Art program at Hollywood Park celebrates diversity and culture in the community." *ABC News*, April 6.  
Gavin, Francesca. "Something in the water – the rise of aquatic art." *Financial Times*, February 28.
- 2021 Eckhardt, Stephanie. "Preview the Best of Frieze LA Week 2022." *W Magazine*, February 14.  
Patterson-West, JaBrea. "The Paintings of Calida Rawles Offer a Space for Healing and Self-Reflection." *Cero*, October 21.  
Gay, Roxane. "Roxane Gay on How Artist Calida Rawles Shows Us a New, and More Humane, Way of Bearing Witness." *Artnet News*, October 13.  
Ebert, Grace. "Metaphorical Paintings by Calida Garcia Rawles Obscure Black Subjects with Gleaming Ripples of Water." *Colossal*. October 6.

- Valentine, Victoria L. "New York: 5 Gallery Exhibitions Explore Work of Artists Dawoud Bey, Mickalene Thomas, John Akomfrah, Zanele Muholi, and Calida Rawles." *The New York Times*, September 28.
- Gay, Roxane. "The Art Angle Podcast: Writer Roxane Gay on What Art Can Teach Us About Trauma and Healing." *Artnet News*, September 24.
- Okoro, Enuma. "Calida Rawles: 'I Use Soft Colors People Wouldn't Associate with Black Men.'" *Financial Times*, September 3.
- Zheng, Elaine YJ. "The Armory Show: New York Exhibitions to See." *Ocula Magazine*, September 2.
- "Calida Rawles: On the Other Side of Everything." *Whitewaller*.
- Gyarkye, Lovia. "Beneath the Water's Surface, a Moment of Repose." *T Magazine*, April 9.
- Valentine, Victoria L. "Water Works: Los Angeles-Based Artist Calida Rawles is Now Represented by Lehmann Maupin Gallery." *Culture Type*, February 19.
- Solomon, Tessa. "Calida Rawles's Ethereal Paintings of Water Push the Boundaries of Portraiture." *ARTnews*, February 19.
- 2020 "The Year in Figuration." *Cultured Magazine*, December 25.
- Chukwu, Chianasa. "Parlance: Calida Rawles." *Postscript London Magazine*, November 28.
- Brara, Noor. "We're Coming Out From Under': Rising-Star Artist Calida Rawles on How Her Transfixing Water Paintings Address a Year of Mourning." *Artnet News*, November 25.
- Brara, Noor. "Here Are 25 Inspiring Women in the Art World Who Overcame Obstacles to Accomplish Incredible Things in This Surreal Year." *Artnet News*, November 24, 2020
- Waddoups, Ryan. "At Art Basel's Latest Virtual Edition, Timely Works Abound." *Surface Magazine*, September 25.
- "From New Faces to Hug Art, Here are 5 Major Trends to Be Found in Art Basel's New Online Fair Devoted to Work Made During Lockdown." *Artnet News*, September 25.
- Easter, Makeda. "How Do You Get Out the Vote in the Instagram Age? Ask Big Name Artists to Help." *Los Angeles Times*, September 16.
- Okoro, Enuma. "How Three Artists Are Exploring Mythology and Race." *New York Times*, September 10.
- Ward, Jesmyn. "On Witness and Respair: A Personal Tragedy Followed by Pandemic." *Vanity Fair Magazine*, September 1.
- Farr, Kristen. "Wade in the Water." *Juxtapoz Art & Culture*, Summer.
- Ebert, Grace. "Bodies Breach Water's Surface in Ethereal Paintings by Artist Calida Garcia Rawles." *Colossal*, June 8.
- Kim, Min Hyung. "Memorized in Water." *Milk*, May.
- Nys Dambrot, Shana. "Meet An Artist Monday: Calida Rawles." *LA Weekly*, March 9.
- Furman, Anna. "The Artist Whose Paintings Have Captivated Ta-Nehisi Coates." *The Cut*, March 4.
- Zappas, Lindsay Preston. "Art Insider Feb. 18: Decaying fruit, witches, water dancers." *KCRW*, February 18.
- Whittle, Andrea. "The Most Talked-About Moments From Frieze Los Angeles 2020." *W*, February 18.
- "Head First." *Cultured*, February 12.
- Finkel, Jori. "Ta-Nehisi Coates Talks Toni Morrison With Artist Calida Rawles." *W*, February 12.
- Griffin, Johnathan. "Into the Deep with Calida Rawles." *Cultured*, February 10.
- 2019 de León, Concepción. "A First Look at the Cover of Ta-Nehisi Coates's Forthcoming Novel." *New York Times*, February 12.
- 2017 Pleasant, Amy. "Artist's Mobilize: With Liberty and Justice for Some...An Exhibition Honoring Immigrants." *Huffington Post*, January 19.

**PUBLIC COLLECTIONS**

Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX

Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), Los Angeles, CA

The National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.

Pérez Art Museum Miami, Miami, FL

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA), San Francisco, CA

Spelman College Museum of Fine Art, Atlanta, GA

Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY