



CONCEPT <sup>NV</sup>

CONCEPT NV PRESENTS BLACK EYE

# BLACK EYE

CURATED BY NICOLA VASSELL

MAY 2ND – MAY 24TH, 2014 / 57 WALKER STREET / BLACKYEART.COM

OPENING RECEPTION: FRIDAY MAY 2ND, 6 TO 9PM

HOURS: 10AM TO 6PM (MAY 3RD THROUGH MAY 25TH) TUESDAY- SATURDAY

EXHIBITING ARTISTS:

DERRICK ADAMS

JAYSON MUSSON

SANFORD BIGGERS

KERRY JAMES MARSHALL

LYNETTE YIADOM BOAKYE

STEVE MCQUEEN

MARIA MAGDALENA CAMPOS PONS

WANGECHI MUTU

NICK CAVE

RASHAAD NEWSOME

KUDZANAI CHIURAI

TOYIN ODUTOLA

LATOYA RUBY FRAZIER

CHRISTIAN ROSA

DAVID HAMMONS

JACOLBY SATTERWHITE

DURON JACKSON

GARY SIMMONS

RASHID JOHNSON

XAVIERA SIMMONS

DEANA LAWSON

HANK WILLIS THOMAS

SIMONE LEIGH

NARI WARD

TONY LEWIS

KEHINDE WILEY

BLACK EYE is an exhibition focused on the 21st century black identity experience. It is a multi-generational journey through the shifting dynamics of race over the last 20 years. The apex of the show's concept lives in a new idealism forged from the millennial mindset which highlights the definition of "self" as a limitless, layered and wonderfully fragmented whole. Gender, sexuality, transculturalism and political proclamation become far more fitting identifiers of self than the color of one's skin.

The successes and narratives of the Black Original have driven the cultural perception of race from a feared, forlorn place to the default wellspring of inspiration and innovation. Using the Obama era as a touchstone, Black Eye will explore contemporary notions of blackness through the minds of the world's leading black artists.

They embody the spirit of new social terrain by creating and living unconventionally—but that is what is expected of great artists. We look to them to help describe some tenable if tenuous social utopia where race occupies a less tempestuous mental turf; where in the prioritization of what constitutes the self—race— even with contemporary society's strides forward, operates as an archaic binary.

BLACK EYE IS CURATED BY NICOLA VASSELL. Vassell is Founder of Concept NV, an art ideation lab specialized in the development of fine art exhibitions and art-integrated projects that articulate cultural and social phenomena. Formerly a Director at Pace Gallery and Deitch Projects, NY, Vassell managed the careers of emerging and established artists. Vassell organized numerous exhibition and book projects including, Jean-Michel Basquiat 1981: The Studio of the Street; Substraction; Francesco Clemente, Works 1971 - 1979; Tauba Auerbach: Here and Now/And Nowhere and Kehinde Wiley: Black Light.