



## LaNia ROBERTS

### Bio:

LaNia Roberts, born in 1996, resides and works in her hometown of Louisville, Kentucky. Striving to empower marginalized individuals through a fine art career and online social practice, she uses her voice to visually tell the stories of her family, friends, and community. Inspired by Cubism, Fauvism, and Afrofuturism, LaNia channels her experiences into large-scale figurative paintings. Her process involves painting and collaging illustrated bodily elements or “perspectives,” into singular compositions that visually translate the complexity of one’s identity.

LaNia works to extend her impact through an online-based social practice, inspiring millions worldwide with messages of radical self-compassion, love, and acceptance. Holding a BFA in painting from Syracuse University, LaNia’s global studies include researching identity politics and multiculturalism in South Africa, as well as art in Florence, Italy. While in Italy, she interned for Black History Month Florence, expanding her community to many artists across the African Diaspora.

LaNia has been recognized with grants such as the Bill Fischer Award and a Great Meadows Foundation Travel Grant, which enabled her to attend the Venice Biennale in 2022. The 21c Museum Hotels have collected her work, Her artistic practice is represented by the Claire Oliver Gallery in Harlem.

### Public Collections:

- 21c Museum
- Goodwill Industries KY
- Syracuse University Florence Sculpture Garden Collection
- Syracuse University Printmaking Collection



### **Selected Group Exhibitions:**

- 2023: SCOPE Art Show, Claire Oliver, Gallery, Miami, FL  
Group Exhibition, Claire Oliver Gallery, Harlem, NY  
*We Don't Wither*, Muhammad Ali Center, Louisville, KY  
*Go Far, Go Together*, The Cabbage Patch Settlement House, Louisville, KY  
*Sweet Fire*, Play Cousins Collective, Louisville, KY
- 2022 *ARTFUL CONNECTIONS*, Owensboro Museum of Fine Art, Owensboro, KY  
*Congregation*, Living Arts and Science Center, Lexington, KY  
*Reflections*, Living Arts and Science Center, Lexington, KY
- 2021 *The Art of Goodwill*, Artist in Residence, Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft, Louisville, KY
- 2019 *Art [squared]*, Featured Artist, Louisville Visual Art, Louisville, KY
- 2018 *BFA Exhibition*, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY  
*Phoenix Rising*, Parlor Room Sessions, Brooklyn, NY
- 2017 *Meet Your Neighbors*, 1619 Flux Art + Activism, Louisville, KY  
*#BlackArtMatters*, Carnegie Center for Art and History, New Albany, IN  
*Advance Painting Exhibition*, Syracuse University Florence, Florence, Italy

### **Awards and Scholarships:**

- 2023 Bill Fischer Award for Visual Artists, Louisville, KY
- 2022 Great Meadows Foundation Travel Grant, Louisville, KY
- 2021 Goodwill Artist in Residence, Selected by world renowned sculptor Ed Hamilton
- 2019 Featured Artist, *Art [squared]*, Louisville Visual Art, Louisville, KY  
Co-Juror, African American Art Exhibition at Actors Theatre, Louisville, KY
- 2018 Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship, USA Department of State  
Mark & Pearle Clements Internship Award, Syracuse University
- 2015 Primo Award for Outstanding Freshman Student, Syracuse University
- 2014 Mayors Citation Award, Mayor Greg Fischer, Louisville, KY



## **Bibliography:**

- 2023 Louisville Visual Art, "Bill Fischer Award for Visual Artists," *Louisvillevisualart.org*, June 2023
- 2022 Seckman, Megan, "7 Black Women to Watch," *Today's Woman*, February 2022
- Weis, Natalie, "How local Black artists of the 1970's helped form Louisville's art landscape today", *WFPL.org*, March 30, 2022
- 2021 "The Art of Goodwill", Broadcasted on WBKI, December 2021
- 2019 McLaren, Mandy "JCPS Overlooked its Talented Kids," *The Courier Journal*, September 5, 2019
- Waits, Keith, "2019 Art [squared] Featured Artist: LaNia Roberts," *Louisvillevisualart.org*, April 10, 2019
- 2018 Sampah, Jony, "Here's why SU senior LaNia Roberts wears a crown every day," *Dailyorange.com*, February 18, 2018
- 2016 "Resolutions by LaNia", *The Huffington Post*, January 2016
- 2015 "Love Yourself: Opinions by LaNia", *The Huffington Post*, December 2015
- "A College Girl Gets the Surprise of a Lifetime", *The Huffington Post*, December 2015
- "Confidence by LaNia", *The Huffington Post*, November 2015
- Siebert, Valerie, "I Didn't Know Love Was Conditional," *Dailymail.co.uk*, April 24, 2015
- Malia, Michelle, "This College Freshman Really Wants You to Love Yourself," *Cosmopolitan.com*, April 23, 2015
- 2014 Nuemeyer, Carrie, "A Third Eye And A Mouth Piece", *LEO WEEKLY* Cover Story, May, 2014

## **Education:**

- 2019 Syracuse University, School of Visual & Performing Arts, Syracuse, NY
- Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting
- Mark & Pearle Clements Internship Award Recipient*
- Abrams Scholarship Recipient*
- Omega Psi Phi Scholarship Recipient*
- 2018 School of International Training, Syracuse University, Cape Town, South Africa
- Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Recipient*
- 2017 Syracuse University Florence, Florence, Tuscany, Italy