

### *Latrell Broughton Bio*

For much of my childhood in Washington, North Carolina, the region where my matrilineal heritage stretches back 6 generations, I found home in a room with no windows. Inside this room was a space so drenched in darkness that I began to see shapes in the shadows. Running my hands over the walls, I found no exits. Feelings of hopelessness, placelessness converged over me being like buzzards over a corpse. The only escape I could find was within my dreams, which came to me so vivid that they were more akin to visions. Within them I saw myself exploring beautiful worlds of lush greenery, and I felt what it meant to have freedom and fulfillment live inside of my body. These visions are what allowed me to live, run, and dream of a reality brighter than what was in front of me.

Photography became my way of finding paths outside of dark places. Beginning as a means of survival through self-reconciliation, it has since evolved into an exercise of community building across the Africa Diaspora by sharing a vision. Through a variety of techniques including portraiture, landscapes, abstractions, collages, and animations, I encourage my audience to continue to seek beauty in the world even when beauty is denied to them. My goal is to use my practice to bridge connections across many disparate cultures in ways that highlight our many commonalities while appreciating our many differences.

### *Artist Statement*

Latrell Broughton is an artist academic within the field of transnationalism who is interested in the intersections between geography and identity. Through his work, he interrogates how travel allows us to reinterpret our perceptions of what home is and could be, how our movements can be used to build more resilient and equitable global communities, and how visual mediums can be used to bridge connections across cultures.