

moniquemeloche LES

2 RIVINGTON, NEW YORK

March 2 – 5, 2017

AMY SHERALD

Opening Reception:
Friday, March 3, 6 to 9pm

Gallery Hours:
11am to 6pm

Armory Week LES Sunday Morning +
Brunch Hours:
Sunday, March 5, 10am-noon



Following her much-lauded first exhibition with the gallery's Chicago space in summer 2016, moniquemeloche is pleased to present the New York debut of Baltimore-based **Amy Sherald (American, b. 1973)**. Inspired by artists such as Bo Bartlett, Barkley Hendricks, and Kerry James Marshall, Sherald creates arresting portraits of imagined figures based on real-life interactions, subverting and exploring notions of black identity through her unique sense of visual culture, color and line. The new works on view present a continuation of these otherworldly figures, whose charged presence is only emphasized by the current political climate. Sherald received her MFA in Painting from the Maryland Institute College of Art (2004). Her work is included in the public collections of the United States Embassy, Dakar, Senegal; the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.; the Smithsonian Museum of African American Art and Culture, Washington, D.C.; and the National Portrait Gallery, Washington, D.C. Her recent group exhibitions include *Southern Accent* at the Nasher Museum of Art, Duke University, Durham, NC (2016), which travels to The Speed Museum, Louisville, KY (2017), and *The Outwin 2016* at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery, for which she won the grand prize in 2016, currently on view at Tacoma Art Museum, WA; traveling to Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO later this year.

Image: Amy Sherald, 2017

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also on view

BRENDAN FERNANDES

Book Signing:

Saturday, March 4, 1 to 3pm

Rooted in his experience of classical dance, Chicago- and New York-based **Brendan Fernandes (Canadian, b. 1979, Kenya)** creates works across a variety of media that explore unexpected clashes of culture. In his recent series of unique prints, Fernandes combines images of ballet dancers' limbs with images of ethnographic objects culled from Western museum collections, offering a visual commentary on post-colonial notions of culture and fine art in the West.



On view alongside these prints will be a selection of hand-pulled crystal coat hangers, created during his 2016 residency at Tacoma's Museum of Glass and recently presented in his solo debut at moniquemeloche, *Free Fall*, January 2017. Continuing his ongoing interest in the gesture and symbolism of falling, these works speak to contemporary notions of loss and desire through their visual treatment of the Orland massacre. Fernandes received his MFA from the University of Western Ontario (2005). His work is currently on view in his solo show *Lost Bodies*, a traveling exhibition at the Textile Museum of Canada, Toronto, which originated at the Agnes Etherton Art Centre at Queen's University, Ontario (2016). He is currently artist in residence and faculty in the Department of Art Theory and Practice, Northwestern University, Chicago.

Fernandes will produce a series of performances titled *Clean Labor* during Armory Week 2017. A collaboration with the Wythe hotel's cleaning staff, the resulting performances will explore the similarities between the graceful and methodical movements of cleaning and those of dance, establishing a dialogue between the two, physically demanding professions. *Clean Labor* will also be performed at the VIP opening of the Armory Show.

Please also join us on Saturday, March 4th from 1-3pm, as we celebrate the release of Fernandes' latest monograph *Still Move*, for which the artist will be on hand to sign available copies. This event is presented with in conjunction with More Art.

Image: Brendan Fernandes, *Imitating the Seven I*, 2015