

Contact Info

DJ Smith
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Bio

I'm a multimedia artist based in Baltimore, where I was born and raised. My roots and environment is where I draw the majority of my inspiration from. My work is the reflection of me growing up in one of the deadliest cities in America, and the everlasting impact it has on the people who live here.

“When the visual characteristics of DJ artwork are dissected one will discover its true meaning. And also discover there is usually more than one simple yet raw message being told, it flows effortlessly. The style of his work expresses the oppression of those often ignored within different societies; he implements meaning in his form, color, eccentricity and truth. While also shining a light on internal desolation, sorrow and unhealthy immunity making it relatable without the feeling of melancholy. DJ utilizes the world of art in full, never using one way to magnify the world around him. “

Without taking the aesthetic approach. His artwork possesses clear narrative while inviting his audience to create their own story. His paintings, photography and videos are usually between two worlds allegorical- reflecting social and political issues in one image. Or admirable of the plain beauty of human beings magnified by their imperfections.”

Derrick 'DJ' Smith is a Baltimore-raised visual artist creating and forging contemporary art from the scenarios of his past with discarded materials from our collective present.

Selected Exhibitions

2024 Creatively Black Baltimore Exhibition , The Baltimore Times, Light Street Pavilion, Baltimore, MD

2023 Artscape B23 Exhibition, Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts (BOPA), Baltimore, MD

2023 Born in Baltimore Film & Photography Festival, *Red 3*, Creative Alliance, Baltimore, MD

2022 Emerge Baltimore exhibition series, *Clarity*, Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts (BOPA), Baltimore, MD

2020 Virtual Exhibition, *B2020*, Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts (BOPA), Baltimore, MD

2019 Show Your Shot Film and Photography Showcase, *Wrong Place, Wrong Time.*, Baltimore, MD

2019 Born in Baltimore Film & Photography Festival, *isolation*, Creative Alliance, Baltimore, MD

2018 Born in Baltimore Film & Photography Festival, *School Days*, Creative Alliance, Baltimore, MD

2017 Photography Exhibition, *The Boundary*, MAX gallery, Baltimore, MD 2017

Student Film Showcase, *A Day in My Gloves*, Parkway Theater, Baltimore, MD

2017 BYFA (Baltimore Youth Film Arts): Heroes of the Neighborhood Workshop, *A Day in My Gloves*, John Hopkins university, Baltimore, MD

Publications

2020 Digital art display, The Baltimore LED Art Billboard,
(<https://ledbaltimore.com/featured-on-the-board/dj-smith/>)

Commissions

2016 Baltimore Writer Project, video series, (www.bmorewp.com), D. Watkins

Education

Currently attending Maryland Institute College of Art, Major in Film and Video

Nate Parker Foundation Summer Film Institute class of 2018

Grants and Awards

2017 Four Silver Key Award for the Scholastics Art and Writing Competition for Digital Art.
2017 Honorable Mention Award for the Scholastics Art and Writing Competition for Digital Art.

Professional Organizations

Baltimore United Viewfinders

References

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