



Caitlin Cherry
Dark Rhinestone (Front Shot), 2018
Oil on canvas with school desks, swivel
chairs, LCD mounts and security camera.
Photo: Scott Alario

CONTACT

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INFORMATION

Providence College Galleries
—Hunt-Cavanagh Gallery
at Hunt-Cavanagh Hall,
—Reilly Gallery at the
Smith Center for the Arts
63 Eaton Street Gate
Providence College Campus
Providence, RI 02918

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Hours During Exhibitions:
Wednesday - Saturday, 12 - 6pm

CAITLIN CHERRY'S DIRTYPOWER

Organized by Jamilee Lacy, PC–G Director & Chief Curator
Reilly Gallery, Smith Center for the Arts
December 5, 2018 - March 2, 2019

Artist Talk and Scholarly Roundtable:
Wednesday, February 27, 2019. 6 - 7:30pm
Bowab Black Box Theatre, Smith Center for the Arts

Caitlin Cherry demands more than mere painting is willing to provide. She teases the viewer with the promise of illusionistic painterly space and then she catapults her canvas into the void, forcing it to exist in real time . . . I have a sense she will continue to break apart the rules governing painting and sculpture, and tease that unsettling sweet spot that disarms viewers' expectations.

- Kara Walker, 2016

Caitlin Cherry draws as much from the traditions of art history as from the trailblazing cultural theory authored in this technology-saturated age. A solo exhibition of newly commissioned artworks, *Dirtypower* merges two of the artist's recent interests: imagery warped by Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) monitor technology, and the representation of black female bodies in institutions and media. The portrait paintings on view are rendered in kaleidoscopic color palettes, and some are displayed custom-designed wall-mounts, to look like malfunctioning flat-screen televisions. To reposition the outmoded idea of painting as a window to literal and figurative worlds, each artwork instead proposes painting as a screen—an addictively interactive and luminous surface that is central to everyday life while also mediating it. The painted figures, which Cherry uses to challenge presumptions about perception, authenticity, and beauty, visually communicate how entangled the individual, and their image-avatar, is with society and technology.

The exhibition in PC–G's Reilly Gallery at the Smith Center for the Arts includes nine commissioned artworks, which include oil paintings, many incorporating sculptural and/or installation elements such as custom-designed steel LCD mounts and functional furniture.

Dirtypower is organized by Jamilee Lacy, PC–G Director and Curator. The exhibition, conjunctive programming and fully-illustrated publication (forthcoming February 2019) is generously co-supported by Providence College's Black Studies Program, Center @ Moore Hall, Department of Art & Art History and Women's Studies Program. Additional funding is provided by The Reilly Gallery Fund, a gift of the late Robert F. Reilly (PC '42).

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Caitlin Cherry lives and works in Brooklyn. Her work has been the subject of solo exhibitions at Anderson Gallery at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, University Museum of Contemporary Art at University of Massachusetts in Amherst and The Brooklyn Art Museum. In 2019, she will present solo shows Luis de Jesus in Los Angeles, and at Luce Gallery in Turin, Italy. She has also recently exhibited work as part of significant New York group exhibitions, including *A Wild Ass Beyond: ApocalypseRN* at Performance Space, *Punch* curated by Nina Chanel Abney at Jeffrey Deitch, *Touchstone* at American Medium and *The Sun is Gone but We Have the Light* at Gavin Brown Enterprise. Cherry is a recipient of a Robert Rauschenberg Foundation Fellowship Residency and Leonore Annenberg Fellowship, among other awards and honors. She holds a Master of Fine Arts from Columbia University and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

ABOUT PC-G

Providence College Galleries (PC-G), with the support of the Department of Art & Art History at Providence College, presents exhibitions and public programs focusing on contemporary art, innovative artistic practice and interdisciplinary cultural activity. Operating within two gallery spaces and across Providence College's campus, PC-G supports the educational, service and community-oriented mission of the College with dynamic visual arts productions, including those that foster audience participation, cross-departmental collaboration for students and faculty at the College, and cultural exchange at local, national and international levels. PC-G ultimately strives to produce projects by artists and intellectuals who demonstrate how and why creative practitioners are vital forces in promoting diversity and shaping contemporary global culture.

For more information about PC-G exhibitions and events, visit <http://pcgalleries.providence.edu>

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