Ming Smith

b. 1947, Detroit, MI Lives and works in New York, NY

EDUCATION

1973 B.S. Howard University, Washington, D.C.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 Ming Smith: On the Road, Nicola Vassell Gallery, New York, NY
- 2023 Ming Smith: Feeling the Future, Contemporary Arts Museum Houston (CAMH), Houston, TX; Ming Smith: Feeling the Future, The International African American Museum (IAAM), Charleston, SC (2024) Ming Smith: Catching the Light, ART IS BOND and Barbara Davis Gallery, Houston, TX Projects: Ming Smith, curated by Thelma Golden and Oluremi C. Onabanjo, The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, NY
- 2022 A Dream Deferred, Pippy Houldsworth Gallery, London, UK
- 2021 *Ming Smith: Here For a Reason*, Nicola Vassell Gallery, New York, NY *Ming Smith: Evidence*, Nicola Vassell Gallery, New York, NY
- 2020 *Painting with Light: The Photography of Ming Smith,* Pippy Houldsworth Gallery, London, UK (online)
- 2017 Ming Smith, Steven Kasher Gallery, New York, NY
- 2013 *Ming Smith: Works from the Paul R. Jones Collection*, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
- 2010 Ming: Photographs: 1977-2008, June Kelly Gallery, New York, NY



- 2007 Celebration Life: Photography as Fine Art, Pounder-Kone Art Space, Atwater Village, CA
- 2003 *Ming Smith: Ming's Room*, Rush Arts Gallery, New York, NY *Ming Smith: In the Spirit: Invisible Woman*, African American Museum in Philadelphia (AAMP), Philadelphia, PA
- 2002 In the Spirit of Jazz, Ming Smith: 30 Year Retrospective, Concourse Gallery, Upper Arlington, OH
- 2001 *Ming Smith: In the Spirit of Jazz*, Tribes Gallery, New York, NY *Ming's Room*, Porter Troupe Gallery, San Diego, CA
- 2000 Ming, Watt's Tower Art Center, Los Angeles, CA
- 1993 Ming Smith: in a Minor Key, Crawford and Sloan Gallery, New York, NY
- 1982 Ming Smith, Eric Turner Salon, New York, NY

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Iconoclasts: Selections from Glenstone's Collection, Glenstone, Potomac, MD Going Dark: The Contemporary Figure at the Edge of Visibility, curated by Ashley James and Faith Hunter, Soloman R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY
- 2022 ROCK MY SOUL II, curated by Sir Isaac Julien, Royal Institute of Art, Stockholm, SE
 BLACK VENUS, curated by Aindrea Emelife, Fotografsika, New York, NY;
 BLACK VENUS, curated by Aindrea Emelife, Museum of the African Diaspora (MoAD), San Francisco, CA (2023); BLACK VENUS, curated by Aindrea Emelife, Somerset House, London, UK (2023)
 Image Gardeners, McEvoy Foundation for the Arts, San Francisco, CA
- 2021 South South Veza, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, New York, NY (online)
- 2020 Working Together: The Photographers of the Kamoinge Workshop, Virginia Museum of Fine Art, Richmond, VA; Working Together: The Photographers of



the Kamoinge Workshop, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY (2021); *Working Together: The Photographers of the Kamoinge Workshop*, Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, OH (2022); *Working Together: The Photographers of the Kamoinge Workshop*, The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA (2022) *Winter Salon Part II*, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco, CA

- 2019 Winter Salon Part I, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco, CA Down Time: On the Art of Retreat, Smart Museum of Art, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL Women's Work: Art & Activism in the 21st Century, Pen + Brush, New York, NY Dreamweavers, UTA Artist Space, Beverly Hills, CA
- 2018 *Family Pictures,* Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH; *Family Pictures,* Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, WI
- 2017 Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power, Tate Modern, London, UK; Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, AR (2018); Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY (2018); Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power, The Broad, Los Angeles, CA (2019); Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power, de Young Museum, San Francisco, CA (2019); Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power, The Age of Black Power, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Houston, TX (2020)

We Wanted a Revolution: Black Radical Women 1965-85, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY; We Wanted a Revolution: Black Radical Women 1965-85, California African American Museum (CAAM), Los Angeles, CA (2017); We Wanted a Revolution: Black Radical Women 1965-85, Buffalo AKG Art Museum, Buffalo, NY (2018); We Wanted a Revolution: Black Radical Women 1965-85, Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA), Boston, MA (2018)

States of America: Photography from the Civil Rights Movement to the Reagan Era, Nottingham Contemporary, Nottingham, UK

Art of Rebellion: Black Art of the Civil Rights Movement, Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, MI

Arthur Jafa: A Series of Utterly Improbable, Yet Extraordinary Renditions, Serpentine Sackler Gallery, London, UK; Arthur Jafa: A Series of Utterly Improbable, Yet Extraordinary Renditions, Julia Stoschek Foundation, Berlin, DE (2018); Arthur Jafa: A Series of Utterly Improbable, Yet Extraordinary Renditions, Galerie Rudolfinum, Prague, CZ (2019); Arthur Jafa: A Series of Utterly Improbable, Yet Extraordinary Renditions, Moderna Museet, Stockholm,



SE (2019); Arthur Jafa: A Series of Utterly Improbable, Yet Extraordinary Renditions, Serralves Museum of Contemporary Art, Porto, PT (2020) A Commitment to the Community: Black Photographers Annual, Volume I, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (VMFA), Richmond, VA

- 2014 An Eye for Jazz: Featuring Hugh Bell, Jill Freedman, Ming Smith, Ken Van Sickle, Curated by Yulia Tikhonova, Tikhonova & Wintner Fine Art, New York, NY
- 2010 Pictures by Women: A History of Modern Photography, organized by Roxana Marcoci, curated by Sarah Meister and Eva Respini, The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, NY Kamoinge: In the Moment, HP Gallery at Calumet Photo, New York, NY
- 2009 *Sound:Print:Record: African American Legacies,* Mechanical Hall, University of Delaware, Newark, DE
- 2008 New York City: In Focus, Bellevue Hospital Center Atrium, New York, NY Creative Destination: 16th Annual Exhibition of African American Art, curated by Russell A. Murray, Art in the Atrium, Morristown, NJ
- 2007 BLACK and White on Black, Photographic Gallery, New York, NY Contemporary Afro-American Photography, Hilliard University Art Museum, Lafayette, LA
- 2006 Kamoinge Inc. Black Music: From Bebop to Hip Hop, co-curated by Danny Simmons and Mark Lee Blackshear, Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM), Brooklyn, NY Harlem Photographers Present Images Dating Back to the Civil Rights Movement, Columbia College, Chicago, IL
- 2005 *Contemporary Afro-American Photography*, Spelman College Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
- 2004 A Century of African American Art: The Paul R Jones Collection, University Museum, University of Delaware, Newark, DE
- 2003 *Generations: An Exhibit of African American Art*, curated by Russell A. Murray, Art in the Atrium, Morristown, NJ
- 2002 Original Acts: Photographs of African-American Performers from the Paul R.

Jones Collection, University of Delaware, Newark, DE Life of the City, An Exhibition in Answer to 2001, The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, NY

- 2000 Reflections In Black: A History of Black Photographers 1840 to the Present, curated by Deborah Willis, Smithsonian Institution, Anacostia Museum and Center for African American Identity and Culture Washington, DC; Reflections In Black: A History of Black Photographers 1840 to the Present, curated by Deborah Willis, America's Black Holocaust Museum, Milwaukee, WI (2000); Reflections In Black: A History of Black Photographers 1840 to the Present, curated by Deborah Willis, American Jazz Museum, Kansas City, MO (2000); Reflections In Black: A History of Black Photographers 1840 to the Present, curated by Deborah Willis, Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, MI (2001); Reflections In Black: A History of Black Photographers 1840 to the Present, curated by Deborah Willis, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY (2001); Reflections In Black: A History of Black Photographers 1840 to the Present, curated by Deborah Willis, Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH (2002); Reflections In Black: A History of Black Photographers 1840 to the Present, curated by Deborah Willis, DuSable Museum, Chicago, IL (2002); Reflections In Black: A History of Black Photographers 1840 to the Present, curated by Deborah Willis, First Center for Visual Arts, Nashville, TN (2003); Reflections In Black: A History of Black Photographers 1840 to the Present, curated by Deborah Willis, African American Museum, Philadelphia, PA (2004)
- 1999 Black New York Photographers of the Twentieth Century: Selections from the Schomburg Center Collections, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York, NY
- 1995 *Cultural Images: Sweet Potato Pie*, curated by Russell A. Murray, Art in the Atrium, Morristown, NJ
- 1989 *Ming Smith, Anthony Barboza, Adger W Cowans, Robert Hale and Deborah Willis*, Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, New York, NY
- 1984 *14 Photographers*, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York, NY
- 1983 *Contemporary Afro-American Photography*, Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College, OH



- 1981 Artists Who Do Other Art Forms, Just Above Midtown Gallery, New York, NY
- 1980 *Self-Portrait*, The Studio Museum of Harlem, New York, NY; *Self-Portrait*, Springfield Museum of Fine Arts, Springfield, MA
- 1976 Exposure: Work by Ten Photographers, Creative Artists Public Service Program (CAPS), New York, NY
 18 CAPS Photographers, Columbia University, New York, NY
- 1974 Kamoinge group show, International Center of Photography (ICP), New York, NY
- 1972 *Kamoinge group show*, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY *Kamoinge group show*, The University of Guyana, Georgetown, GY

AWARDS

2023 Honoree, Achievement in Portraiture, Lucie Awards Lifetime Achievement, The New York International Center of Photography (ICP)



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2024 Boyle, Meka. "A Shine and a Song," *Family Style,* 3 May 2024, https://www.family.style/art/ming-smith-nicola-vassell-early-photography.

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2023 Holiday, Harmony. "When did Black American music become an out-of-reach luxury?," *Los Angeles Times,* 1 December 2023, https://www.latimes.com/lifestyle/image/story/2023-12-01/beyoncerenaissance-black-music-as-luxury-item.

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https://www.nytimes.com/2023/10/18/arts/design/museum-exhibitions-fallwinter.html, 1 November 2023.

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"Ming Smith, Wangechi Mutu, Richard Avedon, and More Must-See Shows in New York" *Whitewall*, May 2023, https://whitewall.art/art/ming-smith-wangechi-mutu-richard-avedon-and-more-must-see-shows-in-new-york/.

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https://www.nytimes.com/2023/02/16/arts/design/ming-smith-photographermuseum-of-modern-art.html, 16 February 2023.



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"Ming Smith Receives Lifetime Achievement Award by International Center of Photography," *Contemporary And,* 11 January 2023, https://contemporaryand.com/magazines/ming-smith-receives-lifetime-achievement-award-by-icp/.

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https://www.studiointernational.com/index.php/ming-smith-interview-photographys-the-only-thing-i-know-a-dream-deferred-pippy-houldsworth.

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Fateman, Johanna. "AT THE GALLERIES," *The New Yorker*, 14 June 2021, pp. 8, "MING SMITH," https://www.newyorker.com/goings-on-about-town/art/ming-smith-vassell, 4 June 2021.

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https://www.culturedmag.com/article/2021/03/08/feminine-mystique-six-powerhouse-females-from-the-cultured-archives.

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