

AMIRA BROWN

Though born in New York, I have resided in New Haven for a majority of my life and started reading and drawing in my youth. With my family's influence I was inspired to work hard and think outside of the box to achieve my goals, leading me to pursue art through self research until I could take college art classes as a teen. After receiving my BFA at Paier College of Art in 2016 I have been working and living in New Haven.

My paintings are inspired by the psychological aspects and factors that drive and liberate black consciousness and articulate their depth. Academic essays and poetry such as *Blue Clerk* by Dionne Brand and Christina Sharpe's *In the Wake*, largely inspire my work. I focus on capturing the ambiguities of life, furthering the representational ideals of diversity and moving into unresolved and imaginative aspects of blackness. By layering personal, psychological, social and recorded histories into my work I document the liminal minutiae of daily life and investigate the ambiguity and complexity of my existence through the black imaginative lens. I believe by focusing and sifting through the daily trials, triumphs and troughs I can pin the ontological fluidity of black being and its sophisticated nuances in myself and therefore others.