

***Our Mothers' Garden: an exhibition by Ibtisam
Tasnim Zaman & Damali Abrams***

Oct 5, 2022 | 7-9 PM

The Gallery at Ace Hotel Brooklyn
252 Schermerhorn St, Brooklyn, NY 11217



Photo by Kuo-Heng Huang

This duo show, adorned with Black divinity and magic, “Our Mothers’ Garden,” is the exploration of Damali Abrams’ and Ibtisam Tasnim Zaman’s striving for tenderness. Painted and collaged into these artists’ works is a sense of restorative medicine for the generations who came before. With an exhibition title inspired by Alice Walker, Zaman and Abrams seek to fill in historical gaps, channeling the untold stories of their foremothers by reclaiming the image of the Black Femme.

Both artists work from their own archives in order to create an intimate view of the sacred feminine. In the manifestation of this show, the artists have intentionally woven a healing atmosphere that will be challenging to some and a gentle balm to others.



Photos by Kuo-Heng Huang

Damali Abrams is a New York City based artist. She attended the Whitney Independent Study Program and earned an MFA from Vermont College of Fine Arts and a BA from New York University. Damali is a member of SEQAA (Southeast Queens Artist Alliance). She is a recipient of the Women's Studio Workshop Right Now! Production Grant and the Queens Council on the Arts New Works Grant. She has been a fellow at Culture Push, the Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop, A.I.R. Gallery, and apexart in Seoul, South Korea. Damali has also been an Artist-in-Residence at RU (Residency Unlimited), Fresh Milk in Barbados, Groundation Grenada, The Center for Book Arts, Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning (JCAL), and LMCC on Governors Island. She was a Creative-In-Residence at Brooklyn Public Library.



Top right: Damali Abrams - *Roses at My Lips, Roses at My Lips*, 2019. Mixed media collage on coffee stained paper, 11" x 14"

Bottom left: Ibtisam Tasnim Zaman - *All I Promise*, 2022. Oil paint on canvas, 3x2.5 feet.

Ibtisam Tasnim Zaman is a Black Lesbian American Multidisciplinary feminist and self-taught artist. Her art practice consists of creative writing, spoken word poetry performance, narrative painting of BIPOC people, and community art projects. Her work draws inspiration from Persian Islamic geometric art, Indian classical art, surrealism, and magical realism. Originally from Tulsa, Oklahoma, Ibtisam moved at age six to England, followed by the UAE. Her mother made the decision shortly after 9/11 to escape the violence that Muslims and BIPOC are still facing today. By thirteen, she would live between the UAE and India over the next nine years. Ibtisam's work has been exhibited nationally with New York Health and Hospitals Arts and Medicine Program in collaboration with Residency Unlimited, funded by the Laurie M Tisch Illumination Fund. She has also exhibited in group and duo exhibitions. In 2022 she completed a residency at the Peter Bullough Foundation in VA.

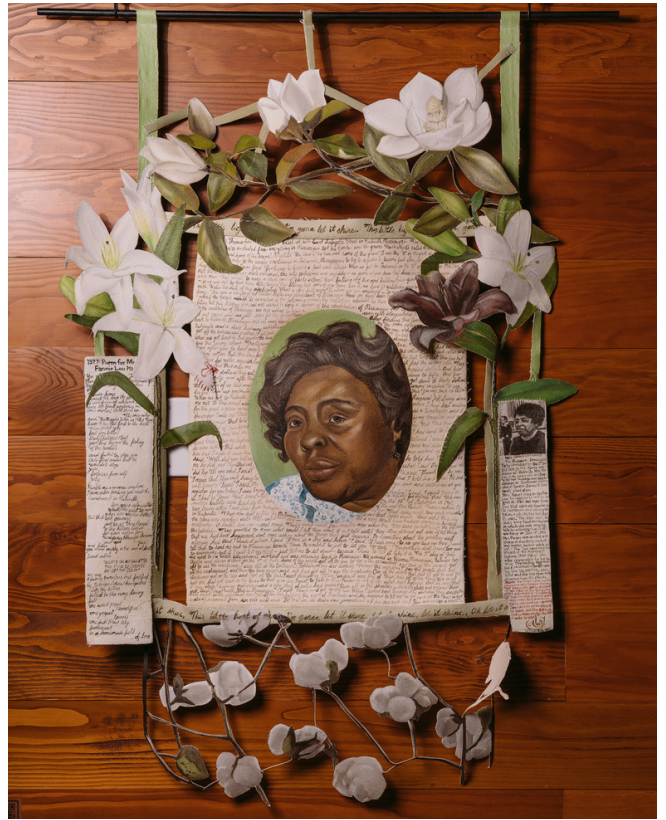
Works by Ibtisam Tasnim Zaman



"Child of The Fall; Neither White Nor Black "

*Oil and acrylic paint on sewn canvas,
Portrait center 2 ft. x 1.5 ft.*

*Top, bottom borders (1 ft. x 1.5 ft.) x2
Side Borders (2 ft. x 1 ft.) x2 , 2020*



"Black Lily"

Oil painting on canvas 38"x 44", 2022



"In Memory of Mamie Till and Her Son Emmett"

Oil painting on wood 20.5"x33.5" inches, 2021



Untitled Sketch, 2018

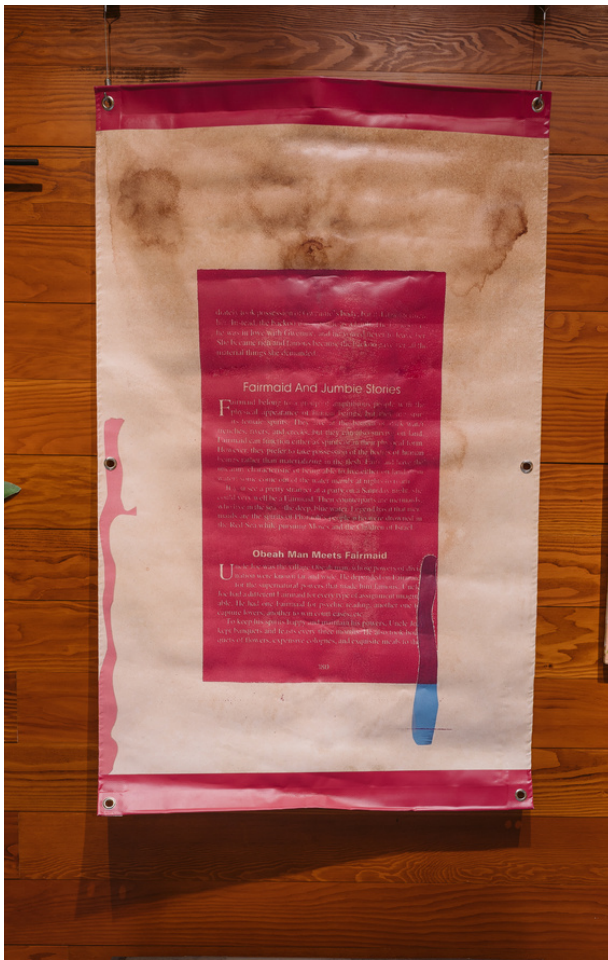


But I Am Free 2022
 44"x41" Mixed media
 Oil paint on hand sewn canvas,
 Beads, and shells



Top: Untitled sketch, 2019
Bottom: Untitled sketch, 2018

Works by Damali Abrams



"Fairmaid and Jumbie Stories," 2019, pronto plate lithography print on coffee dyed paper with collage on, 11" x 14"

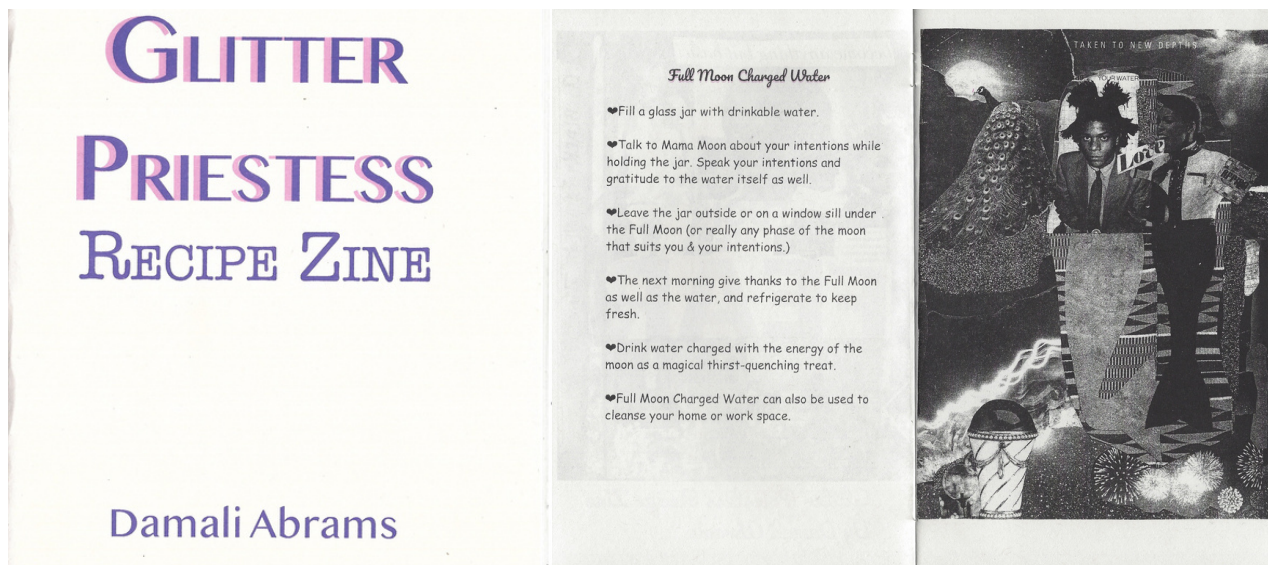


"Please Touch My Soft Pink Chakras," 2019, pronto plate lithography print and paper on coffee dyed paper, 11" x 14"



"A Brief People's Art History of Southeast Queens," 2021.

Artist book (scroll) published by Women's Studio Workshop, writing by Damali Abrams the Glitter Priestess, Graphic Design by Lisa Saldivar and Damali Abrams, Handmade paper sleeve by Chris Petrone



Glitter Priestess Recipe Zine, published by Harlequin Creature, digital and risograph printing on printer paper, 2019, 5.5" x 11"

**Residency Unlimited (RU) thanks the Ace Hotel Brooklyn
for hosting "Our Mothers' Garden."**

**Ace Hotel
Brooklyn**