

Sumter County Art Gallery

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a stand-in to represent black masculinity and both the realities and fantasies projected from and onto black male bodies. I seek to challenge the expectations around black men and, to a larger extent, society in general. Adopting the traits typically associated with black men in hip hop, I appropriate their more popular associations and distort or exaggerate them by placing them within a fine art context. The end result is a parody on our obsession with celebrity, our exploitation of black masculinity and the divide that racial ignorance and stereotypes perpetuate. These ideas are expressed in paintings, videos and live performances. Each medium allows me to articulate various nuances around my themes and further distort the assumptions we tend to make about one another."



Work by Fahamu Pecou

Fader Magazine, Atlanta Peach Magazine, NY Arts Magazine and on the cover of *Artiles Magazine*. In 2008, Pecou was awarded a residency at the Caversham Centre in Kwazulu Natal, South Africa, additionally, Pecou's work was included in *DEFINITION: The Art and Design of Hip Hop*, an anthology chronicling the impact of hip-hop on visual culture, written by famed graffiti artist and designer Cey Adams. A winner of the 2009 ARTADIA award, Pecou was also featured in two international solo exhibitions; the first in Cape Town, South Africa and a second at the prestigious Volta show at Art Basel in Basel Switzerland. Pecou was selected as the first-ever Harvey B. Gantt Center for African American Arts + Culture Resident at The McColl Center for Visual Art in Charlotte, NC, in 2010.

In 2011, Pecou presented his first solo exhibition in Paris, France. Additionally Atlanta's NBAF (National Black Arts Festival) awarded Pecou the Emerging Artist Award during their inaugural Interpretations: Black Visual Art – Past, Present and

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Work by Fahamu Pecou

Pecou, who grew up in Hartsville, SC, is a fast rising star in the art world and has been featured in several solo and group exhibitions in the US and abroad. His work has been reviewed and featured in numerous publications including *Art In America, Harper's Magazine, NY Arts Magazine, Mass Appeal Magazine, The*

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"Tom," oil on panel

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