

## NEW BMA VIOLET HOUR SERIES LAUNCHES JUNE 24 FEATURING VIRTUAL ARTIST TALK WITH ZACKARY DRUCKER

*Bi-Weekly Live Events Connect Social Media Audiences with Creative Communities*

BALTIMORE, MD (June 23, 2020)—The Baltimore Museum of Art (BMA) today announced a new series of online programs designed to give visitors an opportunity to relax and connect with artists, makers, and the community. The bi-weekly BMA Violet Hour program will feature artist talks, meditations, and other interactive experiences. The first event on Wednesday, June 24, pairs artist and cultural influencer Zackary Drucker with her personal muse and mentor Rosalyne Blumenstein, LCSW, a legendary trans rights activist, for a conversation moderated by renowned photographer, curator, and educator Allen Frame.

BMA Violet Hour joins a suite of online programs launched during the COVID-19 pandemic, including [Art Break Live](#), a bi-weekly art-making program on Facebook and YouTube; Virtual Gallery Walks of *2020 Vision* exhibitions celebrating the achievements of female-identifying artists such as [Valerie Maynard](#), [Jo Smail](#), and [SHAN Wallace](#); and [Free Family Sundays at Home](#), a do-at-home craft project emailed every week. The BMA also recently initiated BMA Salon, BMA Screening Room, and BMA Studio to support artists, galleries, and local communities using its [Necessity of Tomorrow\(s\)](#) platform.

### **BMA Violet Hour: Artist Talk with Zackary Drucker**

#### **BMA Facebook Live**

**Wednesday, June 24, 2020**

**6–7:30 p.m. EST**

Artist and cultural influencer Zackary Drucker talks with her personal muse and mentor Rosalyne Blumenstein, LCSW, a legendary trans rights activist whose portraits and archival photographs comprise an important part of the BMA's exhibition *Zackary Drucker: Icons*. They discuss their approach to concepts of photographic beauty and their personal involvement in trans activism. Renowned photographer, curator, and educator Allen Frame moderates the conversation and BMA Associate Curator of Prints, Drawings, and Photographs Leslie Cozzi hosts a live Q&A following the discussion.

Drucker (born 1983, New York) is an independent artist, cultural producer, and trans woman who has performed and exhibited her work internationally in museums, galleries, and film festivals including the Whitney Biennial 2014, MoMA PS1, Hammer Museum in Los Angeles, Art Gallery of Ontario, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, and San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, among others. Drucker is also an Emmy-nominated producer for the docu-series *This Is Me*, as well as a producer on the Golden Globe- and Emmy-winning TV show *Transparent*.

### **BMA Violet Hour: Studio Time Takeover with James Williams**

#### **Instagram Takeover**

**Wednesday, July 1, 2020**

**6–9 p.m. EST**

Join artist, professor, and curator [James Williams](#) for a "Studio Time" takeover on the BMA's Instagram. "Studio Time" is a project developed by Williams in which he invites artists around the country to meet up and make art together. The project is a direct response to the COVID-19 pandemic, as a means to encourage the art community and motivate studio practice during the quarantine. For this episode of "Studio Time," Williams will be in conversation with [Leah Lewis](#), [Gabriel Amadi-Emina](#), and [Greg Brown](#).

James Williams II is a curator and interdisciplinary artist whose work encompasses painting, sculpture, and photography. His works center on topics of social and cultural identity in the United States tied together by self-portraiture narration. This year his work has been shown in New York, Chicago, and in the solo exhibition *Color of the Day* at Resort in Baltimore. Williams' most recent curatorial project, *Whatchamacallit*, was an exhibition and publication focused on the growing obsession of superimposed identities. He is the recipient of an MFA Joan Mitchell Foundation award and is a member of the Book Club art collective, which recently participated in the 2020 SPRING/BREAK art fair. Williams is originally from upstate New York and currently lives and works in Baltimore. He received his master's degree from the Mount Royal School of Art at the Maryland Institute College of Art, where he also teaches.

### **BMA Violet Hour: Out of the Blocks**

**July 15, 2020**

**6–7 p.m. EST**

*Out of the Blocks* is an award-winning immersive podcast created by Aaron Henkin and Wendel Patrick that tells the stories of a city, one block at a time. This event will explore the stories of Baltimore's own Lexington Market—a cultural staple and America's oldest operating public market. *Out of the Blocks* can be heard on the [WYPR 88.1 FM Radio website](#), [Apple Podcasts](#), or [Google Play](#).

### **THE BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART**

Founded in 1914, The Baltimore Museum of Art is a major cultural destination recognized for engaging diverse audiences through dynamic exhibitions and innovative educational and community outreach programs. The BMA's internationally renowned collection of 95,000 objects encompasses more than 1,000 works by Henri Matisse anchored by the famed Cone Collection of modern art, as well as one of the nation's finest holdings of prints, drawings, and photographs. The galleries showcase an exceptional collection of art from Africa; important works by established and emerging contemporary artists; outstanding European and American paintings, sculpture, and decorative arts; significant artworks from China; ancient Antioch mosaics; and exquisite textiles from around the world. The 210,000-square-foot museum is also distinguished by a grand historic building designed in the 1920s by renowned American architect John Russell Pope and two beautifully landscaped gardens featuring an array of 20th-century sculpture. The BMA is located in Charles Village, three miles north of the Inner Harbor, and is adjacent to the main campus of Johns Hopkins University. General admission to the BMA is free so that everyone can enjoy the power of art.

### **VISITOR INFORMATION**

The BMA is temporarily closed to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Connect with us online at [artbma.org](#) and through social media with #ARTBMA • [Stories](#) • [Facebook](#) • [Twitter](#) • [Instagram](#) • [YouTube](#)

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### **Media Contacts:**

Anne Mannix Brown / Sarah Pedroni

The Baltimore Museum of Art

410-274-9907 / 443-428-4668

[abrown@artbma.org](mailto:abrown@artbma.org) / [spedroni@artbma.org](mailto:spedroni@artbma.org)

