

**Library
Street
Collective**

BASIE ALLEN

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Basie Allen uses poetry and painting to explore the space between living in cities and being in nature. Through a process of layering written text, paint, décollage, and transfer, Allen experientially mimics the sensation of putting on boots and walking into a landscape. The work is accentuated by cultural and personal identity, memory, and gestural abstraction.

Allen's use of carpentry and the grid brings his work into direct communication with the city itself through ideas of the architecture of form. By painting on his own camping tarps and then transferring the image onto muslin and linen, Allen is metaphorically and literally pulling from his past, asking the viewer to wonder, "Is nature a bigoted term?" His work attempts to deepen this question.

His work has been exhibited at Eric Firestone (2024), V1 (Copenhagen, 2024), MoMA PS1 (Queens, 2023), Massimodecarlo (Milan, 2022), Olympia (NYC, 2021), and Marlborough Contemporary (NYC, 2018). Art fairs include The Armory Show (NYC 2024) and NADA (Miami 2024). EXPO (Chicago 2024) He's been an artist in residency at Modern ancient Brown (Detroit 2022) and Mount Lebanon (NY 2019).

b. 1989, New York, New York
Lives and works in Mexico City, Mexico

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EDUCATION

2018 M.F.A., Poetry, Columbia University, New York, NY

2013 B.A., Prison Reform, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025 Dallas Art Fair, Library Street Collective, Dallas, TX
Smorgasbord, Eric Firestone Gallery, New York, NY
EXPO Chicago, Eric Firestone Gallery, Chicago, IL

2024 NADA, Olympia Art, Miami, FL
The Armory Show, Eric Firestone Gallery, New York, NY
Some Histories, Eric Firestone Gallery, New York, NY
Alright, Alright, Alright, Eric Firestone Gallery, New York, NY
City Life, V1, Copenhagen, Denmark

2022 *McArthur's Pick*, Massimo De Carlo, VSpace, Milan, Italy

2021 *Let Me Answer With A Question*, Olympia Art, New York, NY

2020 *Beneath Maps*, LA Salita, New York, NY

2018 *Burnt*, Marlborough Contemporary, New York, NY

2017 *Reveres for Bleecker Street Cherry Trees*, 110 Bleecker St. Apt 26b, New York, NY

SELECTED RESIDENCIES

2022 Modern Ancient Brown, Detroit, MI

2019 Mount Lebanon Residency at the Shaker Museum, New Lebanon, NY

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SELECTED PRESS / PUBLICATIONS

Basie Allen in conversation with Marcus Leslie Singleton, BOMB Magazine
Newly Published Poetry, From Gaza to Zoom Rooms and More, The New York Times
Palm-Lined with Potience, Ugly Ducking Press (2022)