

DEVIN ALLEN

Devin Allen (b. 1988, Baltimore, Maryland) is an accomplished photographer and author, who adeptly captures the experiences of African Americans, encompassing their joys, struggles, and realities. Allen's dynamic imagery often portrays scenes from his hometown, presenting an alternative narrative to the prevalent depictions of the city and its inhabitants in the media. His work encapsulates the complexity and nuances of Black life while advocating for social equity through documenting civil demonstrations.

Devin Allen, *Untitled - 1*

A Beautiful Ghetto Series, 2018

Archival Pigment Print on Canvas

24 x 36" (unframed)

30.25 x 42.25 x 2.5" (framed)

Edition 1 of 5, USD 6,900

Contact Sales Director, Noel Bedolla

at noel@galeriemyrtis.com

for sales inquiries.



Devin Allen, *Around Da Way Cowgirl - The Texture That Made US Series*, 2023, Archival Pigment Print on Canvas, 60 x 40" (unframed) 66.5 x 44.25 x 2.5" (framed) Edition 1 of 5, USD 11,500



PITCH BLACK

We and the lenses through which we view are not inconsequential when it comes to the making, reception, and interpretation of Black photographers' works. We are not absolved of our responsibility to approach any image with care and curiosity. Our warped perceptions are not free to run amok interposing our biases and judgments into the photographs we behold.

We have to discern the fullness of Black people's quotidian existences, beyond spectacle, such that we, like the artist, might see Black people through a lens of love rather than negation in the works. Doing so fosters a profundity for the everydayness of Black life in such a way that we discover, over and over again, how breathtaking it can be.

That is why a day or so after the crowd of mostly young people rose up and stopped time in their city as they chanted and held signs so close to law enforcement that masked officers could almost smell the ink still drying, neighbors returned to their stoops, porches, corners, windows, living rooms, and backyards.

On one corner, a young woman kneeled down to tie her little boy's loosened shoestring as he used his hand to wipe the snot from his nose. And on another, the homies were shooting craps, raucous and vying for a win.

In the middle of one block, a few teens were blasting beats on a portable speaker as they vogued, spinning their hair and arms and necks and legs to the concrete ground. The corner store was open and buzzing. The owner never felt the need to keep the store gated during the protest, because she was clear: "Listen, these kids know me. We from the same hood. We the same shit."

And as neighbors walked in and out of the store on the same street where a repulsive killing took place that engendered an uprising, folks in the hood were still watching TV; scrolling down their social media pages; looking for jobs; cooking for their families; taking a shit; reeling from a breakup; taking meds because of chronic illnesses; gossiping with friends; drinking too much whiskey; whispering verses of the Qur'an; remembering; hurting; dreaming; praying to Jesus; living even in the wake of pain; healing from the hurt they'd carried; caring for their elders; recovering from a breakup; recovering from addiction; recovering from self-abjection; making new worlds with their words; remaking themselves; and making photographs that contemplate and cast back the eloquent textures of Black everydayness.

- Darnell Moore

Essay expert was taken from Allen's most recent book titled *Devin Allen: Baltimore*.

Black people and the varied experiences that shape us are not achromatic. And Black life is not pitch black. We do not exist in a void. Even in the dark, a visual field that exists only by virtue of the collusion of multiple properties, the eyes, when able, have a way of adjusting just enough to make out that which is within its expansive sphere. - Darnell Moore



Devin Allen, Untitled - 10
A Beautiful Ghetto Series, 2016
Archival Pigment Print on Canvas
12 x 18" (unframed), 18.25 x 24.25 x 2.5" (framed)
Edition 1 of 5, USD 1,750

Devin Allen, Untitled 6 -
The Texture That Made
US Series, 2021, Archival
Pigment Print on Canvas,
36 x 24" (unframed)
42.25 x 30 x 2.5" (framed)
Edition 1 of 5, USD 6,900



Devin Allen, Untitled 7 -
The Texture That Made US
Series, 2023, Archival
Pigment Print on Canvas,
60 x 40" (unframed)
66.5 x 44.25 x 2.5" (framed)
Edition 2 of 5, USD 11,500



Devin Allen taking photos in his hometown of Baltimore, Maryland. Still from PICTURE AMERICA, a docuseries presented by AdoramaTV.



RESUME

SELECT SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Heavy with History: Devin Allen and the Baltimore Uprising, The Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD
- 2024 - 25 The Textures of Us, Galerie Myrtis, Baltimore, MD, Curator Dr. Myrtis Bedolla
- 2024 A Piece of Me Died With You, Julio Fine Arts Gallery, Loyola University, Baltimore, MD
- 2023 No Justice, No Peace: From the Civil Rights Movement to Black Lives Matter, Leica Store, Washington, DC

SELECT GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 Flashback: Two Centuries of Baltimore Photography, The Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD, Co curators Leslie Cozzi and Antoinette Roberts
Stars and Stripes: Pride or Despair, Galerie Myrtis, Baltimore, MD, Curator Dr. Myrtis Bedolla
Devin Allen & D. Watkins: Baltimore, The Gordon Parks Foundation, Pleasantville, NY
EXPO CHICAGO, Navy Pier, Chicago, IL, Curator Dr. Myrtis Bedolla
- 2025 In the Wake of: Resilience and Revolution, Traveling exhibition, Curator Joy Davis
- Creative Alliance, Baltimore, MD
- Gormley Gallery, Notre Dame of Maryland University, Baltimore, MD
- 2024 - 25 We Are Here: Scenes from the Streets, International Center of Photography, New York, NY
- 2024 As We Rise in Times, World Trade Center, Organized by NYC Culture Club, Port Authority of New York, & The World Trade Center, Curator Nidaa Hanifa Elhassan
- 2023-25 The Culture: Hip Hop & Contemporary Art in the 21st Century, Traveling exhibition, Curators Asma Naeem, Gamynne Guillotte, Hannah Klemm, and Andréa Purnell
- Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD
- Saint Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, MI
- Schirn Kunsthalle Frankfurt, Frankfurt, Germany
- Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, OH
- Art Gallery of Ontario, Ontario, Canada

SELECT COLLECTIONS

The Studio Museum in Harlem
The Gordon Parks Foundation
The Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture

BIO

Devin Allen (b. 1988, Baltimore, MD) is an award-winning, self-taught photographer and artist. He gained international acclaim in May 2015 when one of his photographs of the Baltimore Uprising was published on the cover of TIME magazine, making him the third amateur photographer to have his work featured in the publication.

Allen is also the founder of Through Their Eyes, a youth photography educational program, and was recognized by the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture in 2019 for his arts and activism leadership. In 2020, he was named an ambassador for Leica Camera AG—an international, premium manufacturer of cameras and sports optics. His book, No Justice, No Peace: From the Civil Rights Movement to Black Lives Matter, was released in 2022 under the Legacy Lit imprint of Hachette Book Group. His most recent book, Devin Allen: Baltimore, was published by Steidl in September 2025.

