

KERRY JAMES MARSHALL

Presence is a prelude to power.

Everything I do is meant to foreground the image and the idea of Black people in the narrative of painting as a conversation about art history. Figure representation is crucial to my goal because a critical mass of multinational and multiracial images in museums and art history, produced by artists of color, can correct an imbalance that suggests only white artists produce important, and meaningful, work. It also demonstrates that black bodies can be representative for broadly aesthetic considerations.

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