TANYA WEDDEMIRE GALLERY group exhibition featuring Five Abstract Artists I'M IN MY FEELINGS opening Thursday November 12th at 6PM.





from left to right
ASHLEY COLE | The Body Remembers, 2026 | 48" x 48" | Mixed Media on Linen
TYVETTE SYMONE | Held Without Restraint, 2026 | 36" x 36" | Mixed Media on Canvas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
[OCTOBER 2026 - BROOKLYN NY] I'M IN MY FEELINGS features abstract artists Tyvette Symone, Ashley Cole, Addis Gezehagn, Cole Douglas and Lois Stone taking on a wide range of human emotions and conveys a beautiful collective showcase of what is to create the language around the feeling visually in real time through abstraction works.

The creative process of preserving the memory and experience requires such deep urgency that focusing on the finite details in search of perfectionism would mar the authenticity of the feeling itself. Archiving memory does not rely on only the crisp outlines of a face, the deepest wrinkles in a hand or perhaps the way the light source flecks in the inner irises of the eye as the subject stares back at you wistfully.

The archival process breathes deeply through the distinct color palette of the Ethiopian architecture that Gezehagn can recall through his abstract landscapes montaging his home country. The archival process can even take shape in the found materials of the earth as Symone embeds crystals and goose wings to represent the possibilities unseen through alchemy and energy that these materials embody and symbolize. Archiving in abstraction can also take form in the materiality of the canvas, as Cole takes the canvas after conception and hangs it onto a fall, allowing its natural folds and draping to emphasize points in the narrative that her brushes could not reach.

Mark making and composition allow Stone the freedom to codify language through textural accumulation and gestural mark making. Douglas allows the canvas to embody the vibrations as he states the viewer is to "feel" what he's expressing instead of hearing it. Think of sonic waves being visually transcribed on canvas

Abstraction like Blackness is expressed in multiplicity. There is no monolith that can trace the works of this collective together in an obvious sense because the feelings are unique to the artists, just as the canvas and the brush form around their very spirits to coalign in their own unique language. The only commonality is the feeling, the raw humanization of these creatives that have not ascribed to the "traditional" visual language that they may have been urged to assimilate into, but the language they've forged from their own authentic experiences and dreams, hopes and worlds they've benevolently shared with us.

about ASHLEY COLE

Ashley Cole's practice explores process, materiality, and the body as a site of memory, pressure, and transformation. Through large-scale, draped paintings, Cole investigates the intersections of personal experience, collective history, and systemic structures. Beginning with a black underpainting, Cole challenges Western narratives of beauty, purity, and aesthetics, positioning Blackness as a source of origin, depth, and grounding. Working with acrylic, interior paint, wood stains, oil pastels, and pencil, Cole builds layered surfaces informed by earth tones and melanin-rich skin palettes. Expressive marks accumulate as traces of labor, rhythm, ancestral knowledge, and presence. By cutting, shaping, and draping canvas directly onto the wall with exposed nails, Cole transforms painting into a physical, sculptural presence that explores weight, vulnerability, resistance, and containment.
Drawing from ancestral visual languages and embodied knowledge, Cole's work honors personal and collective histories while creating space for freedom, dignity, belonging, and self-determination. Through material experimentation and physical engagement, the practice remains open to ongoing growth and transformation, embracing the act of making as a way to listen to the body, engage history, and imagine new possibilities for presence and becoming.

about COLE DOUGLAS

Following an injury-induced identity crisis, Cole Douglas turned to painting and nature to find healing and explore liberation as a Black man in America. This journey became the foundation of his practice, negroes' nature nurture, which examines the intersection of Black identity and the natural world while imagining a future where Black people are healthy, thriving, and carefree. Through gestural acrylic palette knife strokes and energetic oil stick lines, Douglas creates abstract works inspired by the earth, water, flora, and personal and collective memory. Drawing on his engineering background, his process embraces experimentation and continual discovery. His work serves as a medium for healing, a vision for collective liberation, and a means of sowing seeds for future generations.

about ADDIS GEZEHAGN

Addis Gezehagn completed his BFA from Addis Ababa University Alle School of Fine Art in 2011 with a distinction. A long-time artistic presence in Addis Ababa, he is known for portraying the multifaceted characteristics of the city's residents by detailing the external facades of their homes. In his painting series he captures the chaos, charisma, artistry and harmony of his birth-country Ethiopia. The paintings are deptics dream like deconstructed and layered renderings of the urban landscape rising above the ground. These compositions made by layering magazine cut outs with acrylic paint, blend the boundaries of fantasy and reality of urban life, blurring the lines between the past, present and future. Flattened and reductive, Gezehagn's works imagine cityscapes as towers or patchworks of colorful doors and gates, the architectural structures seeming to signify a natural, organic network of living spaces. The rootless and

ephemeral nature of the layered towers call into question the lives of the inhabitants. Examining the personal and public spaces, the works archive walls, windows, files and towers destined to crumble, tracing a pattern of classism and social injustice. Gezehagn's works urge us to think beyond homes as functional entities and offer commentary on the social economic context of urban life.

about LOIS STONE

Lois Stone is an abstract artist whose practice explores transformation through intuition, color, shape, form, and movement. Working across watercolor, acrylic, mixed media, and surface design, she creates expressive works that invite viewers into experiences beyond language. Largely self-taught, Stone's artistic development has been shaped by continued study, including mentorship with Nancy Hillis, studies in visual merchandising at Ray-Vogue College of Design, African American art at the Art Institute of Chicago, and curatorial studies through the Hyde Park Art Center and the University of Chicago. Community and collaboration remain central to Stone's practice. As a member of Fulton Collective and ArtNXTLevel, she values the exchange of ideas and the support of fellow artists in cultivating creative growth. Originally from Birmingham, Alabama, Stone moved to Chicago with her family in the early 1960s and has lived and worked in Bronzeville for nearly four decades. In 1987, she received the Illinois Artisan designation, leading to her work being exhibited at Illinois Artisan gift shops in Chicago and Springfield. In 2010, she founded Stone Art Supply, an online store providing fine art, drafting, and craft materials for artists at all levels.

about TYVETTE SYMONE

Tyvette Symone is a self-taught mixed media artist based in Brooklyn, New York. She masters the use of natural materials such as crystals, taxidermy, tree bark, dirt, paper, mirror, and pressed flowers in her artwork. Each creation reflects different aspects of an emotion or principle based on its medium and her intention. She often explores the symptoms of mental illness intimately in her art. Tyvette aims to inspire and destigmatize the conversation around mental health by sharing her own personal experiences within the composition of her work."As a mixed media artist, my use of primarily natural materials defines the personality of my art style. I draw the majority of my inspiration from the textures of naturally reclaimed overgrown nature-scapes and the metaphysical meanings behind the materials I select. My art's intention is to evoke the subconscious feelings that go beyond one's mental perception about the meaning of a piece of art. The evolution of the pieces' design is paramount to my overall expression.

about TANYA WEDDEMIRE GALLERY

Tanya Weddemire Gallery is a Brooklyn-based contemporary art gallery, established in 2022 and located in Industry City, Brooklyn. Founded by Tanya Weddemire, the gallery is dedicated to presenting the work of emerging and established artists whose practices explore identity, heritage, and contemporary narratives. Through thoughtful curatorial programming and strong community engagement, the gallery presents exhibitions, artist projects, and collaborations that connect cultural and historical perspectives with current artistic practices. Its programming is also supported by philanthropic initiatives that reinforce the gallery's commitment to cultural access and impact. Exhibitions highlight a range of mediums including painting, sculpture, and mixed media allowing artists to communicate layered stories and lived experiences through material and form. Tanya Weddemire Gallery has presented artists through both in-gallery exhibitions and international art fairs, including The Armory Show, EXPO Chicago, 1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair, INSCOPE Art Show, Atlanta Art Fair and the Affordable Art Fair. Anchored in the philosophy of community, culture, and legacy, the gallery remains committed to building meaningful connections between artists, collectors, and global audiences.

OPENING RECEPTION | Thursday November 12th at 6PM – 9PM
254 36th STREET | SUITE C257 | BROOKLYN NY 11232