

PATRICK ALSTON BIOGRAPHY

Patrick Alston is a painter whose painting practice focuses on gesture and materiality. Through abstraction, Patrick Alston's work forms a reflection on socio-politics, identity, language and the psychology of color. His re-contextualized subjects, rich and complex compositions are expressed through gestural mark making and the combination of various materials.

In his work, the artist draws on the relation between image and language. The selection of his titles plays a crucial role within the artist's process. Comparing the abstraction of painting to Black English Vernacular as a form of language abstraction, Patrick Alston investigates different forms of language, understanding and perception. Alston's visual language relates to painting, and traditional New York graffiti culture with interwoven materials and fabrics which generates a medium to project the unwritten aesthetic of the deconstructed landscape. Aware of traditional art history, Alston refers to Raymond Saunders, Cy Twombly, Mark Bradford and Basquiat as influential artistic figures.

The artist employs varied materials including oil, acrylic and spray paint, resin, fabric and plastic on canvas. Patrick Alston's technique forms an intersection of various layers with different textures which inform tension and balance in his work, often in the form of grids and squares.

"Painting, specifically abstraction, can express emotions and feelings inexpressible by words or iconography. It is a language unto itself. A way in which I can express aspects of myself only understood by my core inner being."
– Patrick Alston

Patrick Alston (b. in 1991 in New York, NY, US) grew up in the South Bronx of New York. Alston attended Wabash College in Crawfordsville, IN, US, studying Art and Psychology. Patrick Alston had various solo and group exhibitions throughout the US, and debuted with Bode Projects in various shows in Berlin, DE. He recently held a solo show in London, UK. Patrick Alston lives and works in NY, New York, US.