

# OKTP

O K A Y T O P R I N T

JANUARY 2022

WILLIAM SCOTT



William Scott  
 Untitled (Future Inner Limits), 2021  
 Color aquatint and hardground etching with gold leaf  
 Edition of 35  
 Paper Size: 21.5" x 26.75"

In 1974, the husband and wife, Elias Katz and Florence Ludins-Katz founded Creative Growth in their garage in Berkeley. Ludins-Katz was an artist and Katz was a psychologist. The center moved in 1978 to a former auto-repair shop in downtown Oakland where it currently operates. Between the 1950s and 1960s, the mass closure of psychiatric hospitals in California caused many patients to be deinstitutionalized. Creative Growth Art Center was founded primarily with the goal of supporting former state-hospital patients with therapeutic support, artistic/creative support, and vocational training. The Katz's went on to found Creativity Explored in San Francisco as well as NIAD in Richmond, CA. In 2001, a good friend first introduced me to the Creative

Growth community. It was a vibrant place to witness, full of amazing energy and sharing. At the time, I lived across the street from Gerone Spruill who was a longtime Creative Growth client and artist. Inspired by my friendship with Gerone, I joined the board at NIAD a few years ago where I learned more about how such an organization supports and nurtures the talent of many artists coming from some of the most vulnerable positions in our society. Pam Paulson and I are dedicated to supporting artists who've been traditionally marginalized in the art world, and this publication by William Scott marks our first edition by a contemporary artist with developmental disabilities.





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William was born in San Francisco in 1964 and has been working in the Creative Growth's Studio since 1992. His aspirational and utopian works painted with bright colors depict famous figures as well portraits of himself. Ortuzar Projects recently wrote: "The exaltation of Black women recurs in a series of dancing church ladies and sensitive portraits of icons like Janet Jackson and Angela Bassett--voluptuous figures rendered with a reverence equaling that of Zap Comix's R. Crumb." The word 'exalt' means to raise to a higher rank or a position of greater power and it is a perfect word to describe what William does to the figures in his work. Our new etching together is titled, Untitled (Future Inner Limits), and it is a beautiful and joyful vision of our shared humanity and voyage into the future.

–Rhea Fontaine



William in the PFP studio

Bio:

Scott has had an exemplary roster of exhibitions and acquisitions including the MoMA, the Studio Museum of Harlem, SFMoMA, the Oakland Museum of California, and MADmusée in Belgium.

*William Scott is among the most important artists working today. His profoundly empathetic paintings should be in the collections of every contemporary art museum.*

–Matthew Higgs  
Director/Chief Curator White Columns