

# FIRELEI BÁEZ

## *To See Beyond*

Identity is something we're constantly exploring, and this May the CAC is presenting Firelei Báez in the first Ohio exhibition for the Caribbean-born, Brooklyn-based artist. Báez' exhibition highlights the intricacies of being Afro-Latina through a collection of her work through painting, sculpture and murals. There will be 12-15 works in this show from both past and present, including the premiere of never before seen paintings.

"There's a fluidity of color of race, in the Caribbean...in America, you're black," says Báez. She creates magical worlds with colorful avatars in her work to "disrupt the current system of social categorization through creation of characters that refuse definition. As more people become multiracial, skin tone is no longer a sufficient signifier."

"Firelei Baez is poised to take the next major step in her rapidly ascending career," says Curator Steven Matijcio. "The pantheon of powerful women she imagines and depicts is growing increasingly boundless in her newest paintings as well, to the point they are transcending figurative contours and swelling into abstract terrain."