

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Walter Price
Pearl Lines

May 12 – June 18, 2022
Ground Floor

When You See a Good Move, Find a Better One reads the title of a recent work by Walter Price—as if to summarize the restless experimentation at the core of his lush, irreducible approach to painting. Price’s second solo show at Greene Naftali intensifies the brisk blend of representation and avid formalism for which he is known, creating a singular style in which figuration and abstraction cannot be cleaved apart.

This new body of work often expands Price’s dense mental landscapes to a more ambitious, near-panoramic scale, in which swathes of vibrant color give way to recurring motifs, still legible but increasingly unmoored. Contoured planes of dark pigment sport curled eyelashes that transform them into faces in silhouette, observing the picture plane; plush sofas (a symbol of interiority and comfort) dissolve at their edges or burst into flames.

“Location is as indeterminate as qualities are abundant in Price’s settings,” Darby English has written, and these latest works portray a borderless space largely governed by the action of paint itself, which Price applies to the canvas in ingenious ways and keeps moving while it’s wet. Circular skids trace the path and speed of the artist’s hand at work, and his paint-covered footprints likewise bear physical witness to his passage. Indeed, motion and mobility (in various guises) are at stake in each of the works: from the push-pull of matte and metallic colors to directional vectors of dotted line, or the preponderance of chess pieces across his canvases—objects strategically defined by how they can move. Those stray pawns, knights, and rooks (like all the imagery Price favors) are both playful and vaguely portentous: lures for the eye that also allude to more consequential theaters of conflict.

Price’s roving sensibility also extends to the viewer, whose senses and mind are urged to wander—ambiguity is cultivated in his work, but for reasons more generous than evasive. The exhibition’s title, *Pearl Lines*, underscores the centrality of drawing to his practice, evidenced in two galleries dedicated to works on panel and on paper that celebrate his skills as a draughtsman. Narrative ties seem to adhere between works but break down on close inspection; each scene is strange and self-contained, a holdout from interpretive closure. *Pearl Lines* collects these fresh attempts to bring emblem and gesture into wayward alignment, ceding resolution to pursue instead what English calls a certain “aboutness, deeply trustful of loose connection, preferred to landing.”

Walter Price lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. Recent solo exhibitions include Camden Art Centre, London (2021); Greene Naftali, New York (2020); Aspen Art Museum (2019); MoMA PS1, New York (2018); and Kölnischer Kunstverein, Cologne (2018). His work was included in the 2019 Whitney Biennial and is currently on view in *Drawing in the Continuous Present* at The Drawing Center, New York (through May 22). Price’s work is in the collections of the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; The Museum of Modern Art, New York; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Astrup Fearnley Museet, Oslo; Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris; Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin; and Hessel Museum of Art, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York, among others.

GREENE NAFTALI

Walter Price: *Pearl Lines*

May 12 – June 18

Ground Floor

Front Gallery, clockwise:



Rules of social proof, 2021
Acrylic, gesso, and Flashe on canvas
56 x 102 x 1 1/2 inches (142.2 x 259.1 x 3.8 cm)
(WPR.793)



To see the world whole, 2020
Acrylic and gesso on wood
10 x 8 inches (25.4 x 20.3 cm)
(WPR.944)



BK knight, 2022
Acrylic and gesso on canvas
61 x 55 x 1 1/2 inches (154.9 x 139.7 x 3.8 cm)
(WPR.848)



Knitting together the story, 2021
Acrylic, staples, photos, and glue on wood
60 x 80 x 2 inches (152.4 x 203.2 x 5.1 cm)
(WPR.833)



Spin the block, 2021
Acrylic and gesso on wood
30 x 30 x 1 1/2 inches (76.2 x 76.2 x 3.8 cm)
(WPR.855)

Main Gallery, clockwise:



Getting house, 2022
Acrylic, vinyl, and gesso on fabric
56 x 102 x 1 1/2 inches (142.2 x 259.1 x 3.8 cm)
(WPR.846)



Myths make language, 2022
Acrylic, enamel, staples, glue, zip ties, paint brushes, photo, and screws on wood
30 x 40 x 5 1/2 inches (76.2 x 101.6 x 14 cm)
(WPR.858)



I don't wanna make somebody else. I wanna make myself., 2022
Acrylic, gesso, vinyl, tacky glue, and clothes pegs on fabric
56 x 102 x 1 1/2 inches (142.2 x 259.1 x 3.8 cm)
(WPR.847)



Its the fire that holds our attention 2, 2022
Acrylic, gesso, and drawing ink on wood
60 x 80 x 2 inches (152.4 x 203.2 x 5.1 cm)
(WPR.852)



Retrograde analysis, 2021
Acrylic, gesso, and oil pastel on canvas
61 1/2 x 93 x 1 1/2 inches (156.2 x 236.2 x 3.8 cm)
(WPR.790)



Even speech corrodes, 2022
Acrylic and gesso on canvas
47 1/2 x 61 x 1 1/2 inches (120.7 x 154.9 x 3.8 cm)
(WPR.856)



I done had some fire fights, Soon as I kick door, I ran through smoke, 2021
Acrylic and gesso on fabric
31 x 45 x 1 1/2 inches (78.7 x 114.3 x 3.8 cm)
(WPR.857)



I was really in the field you just skip bayless, 2022
Acrylic, gesso, Flashe, drawing ink, and graphite on canvas
65 x 156 x 1 1/2 inches (165.1 x 396.2 x 3.8 cm)
(WPR.837)



Wherever you go there you are, 2021-22
Acrylic and gesso on wood
12 x 9 inches (30.5 x 22.9 cm)
(WPR.853)



Strabus, 2022
Acrylic, gesso, and oil pastel on canvas
53 1/2 x 61 x 1 1/2 inches (135.9 x 154.9 x 3.8 cm)
(WPR.859)



Every play is a battle, 2022
Acrylic, gesso, vinyl, and chrome pen on wood
50 x 102 x 3 inches (127 x 259.1 x 7.6 cm)
(WPR.928)



You are your best thing, 2021-22
Acrylic and gesso on wood
12 x 9 inches (30.5 x 22.9 cm)
(WPR.854)



When you see a good move, find a better one, 2022
Acrylic, screws, plexiglass and gesso on wood
48 x 72 x 2 1/4 inches (121.9 x 182.9 x 5.7 cm)
(WPR.904)

Rear Gallery 1, counterclockwise:



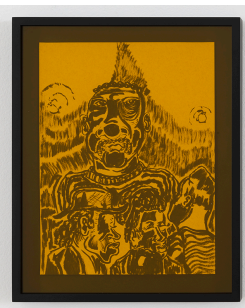
Expound on your own, 2022
Acrylic, drawing ink, and gesso on wood
30 x 30 x 1 1/2 inches (76.2 x 76.2 x 3.8 cm)
(WPR.850)



Cis Stems, 2022
Acrylic, pigment, and gesso on wood
30 x 30 x 1 1/2 inches (76.2 x 76.2 x 3.8 cm)
(WPR.851)



Its gonna be ok. Right?, 2022
Ink on paper and color plexi frame
Paper: 11 3/4 x 8 7/8 inches (29.8 x 22.5 cm)
Frame: 14 1/2 x 11 1/2 x 1 3/8 inches
(36.8 x 29.2 x 3.5 cm)
(WPR.882)



"there he go!", 2022
Ink on paper and color plexi frame
Paper: 12 x 9 inches (30.5 x 22.9 cm)
Frame: 14 1/2 x 11 1/2 x 1 3/8 inches
(36.8 x 29.2 x 3.5 cm)
(WPR.938)



Circus, 2022
Ink on paper and color plexi frame
Paper: 11 3/4 x 8 7/8 inches (29.8 x 22.5 cm)
Frame: 14 1/2 x 11 1/2 x 1 3/8 inches
(36.8 x 29.2 x 3.5 cm)
(WPR.875)



"Help dat man, he aint seen breast before.", 2022

Ink on paper and color plexi frame

Paper: 9 x 12 inches (22.9 x 30.5 cm)

Frame: 11 1/2 x 14 1/2 x 1 3/8 inches

(29.2 x 36.8 x 3.5 cm)

(WPR.935)



"Want some?", 2022

Ink on paper and color plexi frame

Paper: 11 3/4 x 8 7/8 inches (29.8 x 22.5 cm)

Frame: 14 1/2 x 11 1/2 x 1 3/8 inches

(36.8 x 29.2 x 3.5 cm)

(WPR.874)



"Baby baby bay baaay!", 2022

Ink on paper and color plexi frame

Paper: 11 3/4 x 8 7/8 inches (29.8 x 22.5 cm)

Frame: 14 1/2 x 11 1/2 x 1 3/8 inches

(36.8 x 29.2 x 3.5 cm)

(WPR.878)



"And you better not be scared!", 2022

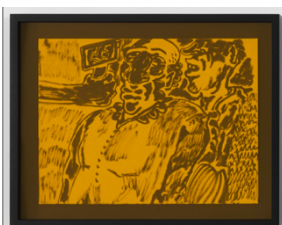
Ink on paper and color plexi frame

Paper: 11 3/4 x 8 7/8 inches (29.8 x 22.5 cm)

Frame: 14 1/2 x 11 1/2 x 1 3/8 inches

(36.8 x 29.2 x 3.5 cm)

(WPR.879)



"Look at dat nose! Who business you in?", 2022

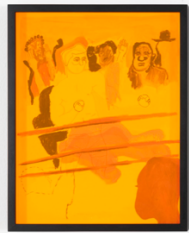
Ink on paper and color plexi frame

Paper: 11 3/4 x 8 7/8 inches (29.8 x 22.5 cm)

Frame: 14 1/2 x 11 1/2 x 1 3/8 inches

(36.8 x 29.2 x 3.5 cm)

(WPR.936)



Celebrating without wins makes you weak, 2022
Collage, graphite, oil pastel, pen, acrylic, and ink on paper with color plexi frame
Paper: 13 3/4 x 10 5/8 inches (34.9 x 27 cm)
Frame: 14 3/4 x 11 5/8 x 1 1/2 inches (37.5 x 29.5 x 3.8 cm)
(WPR.873)



Atlien, 2022
Collage, graphite, oil pastel, pen, acrylic, and ink on paper with color plexi frame
Paper: 9 x 8 3/4 inches (22.9 x 22.2 cm)
Frame: 11 3/4 x 11 1/4 inches (29.8 x 28.6 cm)
(WPR.883)



Atlien 2, 2022
Collage, photo, colored pencil, and graphite on paper and color plexi frame
Paper: 12 1/4 x 7 1/2 inches (31.1 x 19.1 cm)
Frame: 15 x 10 1/2 inches (38.1 x 26.7 cm)
(WPR.943)



So a boxer and mother stop at a gas station, 2021
Acrylic, photo collage, and gesso on wood
47 3/4 x 72 x 2 1/8 inches
(WPR.849)



Atlien, 2021-22
Collage, drawing ink, PVC glue, and acrylic on wood
10 x 8 inches (25.4 x 20.3 cm)
(WPR.914)



Atlien, 2021-22
Collage, drawing ink, PVC glue, and acrylic on wood
10 x 8 inches (25.4 x 20.3 cm)
(WPR.913)



Atlien, 2021–22
 Collage, drawing ink, PVC glue, and acrylic on wood
 10 x 8 inches (25.4 x 20.3 cm)
 (WPR.912)



Atlien, 2021–22
 Collage, drawing ink, PVC glue, and acrylic on wood
 10 x 8 inches (25.4 x 20.3 cm)
 (WPR.911)

Rear Gallery 2, counterclockwise:



"Is this the leader?", 2021–22
 Acrylic and ink on wood
 12 x 9 x 1 5/8 inches (30.5 x 22.9 x 4.1 cm)
 (WPR.898)



Body, 2022
 Acrylic and ink on wood
 10 x 8 x 1 inches (25.4 x 20.3 x 2.5 cm)
 (WPR.933)



Phi, 2022
Acrylic on wood
10 x 8 x 1 inches (25.4 x 20.3 x 2.5 cm)
(WPR.930)



"You better sang!", 2021-22
Acrylic and ink on wood
12 x 9 x 1 inches (30.5 x 22.9 x 2.5 cm)
(WPR.903)



Chest day, 2022
Acrylic, staples, and ink on wood
11 x 14 x 1 5/8 inches (27.9 x 35.6 x 4.1 cm)
(WPR.888)



Foot rub, 2022
Acrylic, marker, and ink on wood
10 x 8 x 3/4 inches (25.4 x 20.3 x 1.9 cm)
(WPR.894)



Clown shoes 2, 2022
Acrylic and ink on wood
12 x 9 x 1 5/8 inches (30.5 x 22.9 x 4.1 cm)
(WPR.899)



"Woo woo woo woooo!", 2022
Acrylic and ink on wood
12 x 9 x 1 inches (30.5 x 22.9 x 2.5 cm)
(WPR.901)



Out of the box like HB, 2022
Acrylic and ink on wood
12 x 9 x 1 inches (30.5 x 22.9 x 2.5 cm)
(WPR.902)



Flames, 2022
Acrylic and lacquer on wood
10 x 8 x 1 inches (25.4 x 20.3 x 2.5 cm)
(WPR.939)



"Girl, men dont think.", 2022
Acrylic and ink on wood
12 x 9 x 7/8 inches (30.5 x 22.9 x 2.2 cm)
(WPR.885)



PTO, 2022
Acrylic and ink on wood
12 x 9 x 1 inches (30.5 x 22.9 x 2.5 cm)
(WPR.890)



Haaay!, 2022
Acrylic, lacquer, graphite, and ink on wood
10 x 8 x 3/4 inches (25.4 x 20.3 x 1.9 cm)
(WPR.895)



"Is that echoes & latte?", 2022
Ink on wood
10 x 8 x 3/4 inches (25.4 x 20.3 x 1.9 cm)
(WPR.893)



Hazmat, 2022
Acrylic and ink on wood
12 x 9 x 1 5/8 inches (30.5 x 22.9 x 4.1 cm)
(WPR.897)



"Can i sang my song?", 2021–22
Acrylic and ink on wood
12 x 9 x 1 5/8 inches (30.5 x 22.9 x 4.1 cm)
(WPR.896)



"Is dis the cap tin?", 2022
Ink and acrylic on wood
10 x 8 x 1 inches (25.4 x 20.3 x 2.5 cm)
(WPR.932)



"Man, What!" (Lil durk voi), 2022
Acrylic and ink on wood
12 x 9 x 1 5/8 inches (30.5 x 22.9 x 4.1 cm)
(WPR.891)



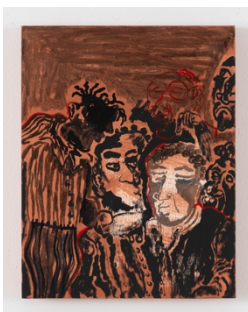
"Goliath gets slayed everyday, B!", 2022
Ink on wood
14 x 11 x 1 5/8 inches (35.6 x 27.9 x 4.1 cm)
(WPR.889)



E flame, 2022
Acrylic on wood
10 x 8 x 3/4 inches (25.4 x 20.3 x 1.9 cm)
(WPR.892)



Thick, 2022
Acrylic and ink on wood
10 x 8 x 1 inches (25.4 x 20.3 x 2.5 cm)
(WPR.940)



Ooo de light, 2022
Acrylic and ink on wood
14 x 11 x 2 inches (35.6 x 27.9 x 5.1 cm)
(WPR.886)



Cost co, 2022
Acrylic and ink on wood
10 x 8 x 1 inches (25.4 x 20.3 x 2.5 cm)
(WPR.931)



Dog park violence, 2022
Acrylic and ink on wood
10 x 7 7/8 x 3/4 inches (25.4 x 20 x 1.9 cm)
(WPR.900)



Mhmm, 2022
Acrylic and ink on wood
12 x 9 x 1 5/8 inches (30.5 x 22.9 x 4.1 cm)
(WPR.884)



Captain?, 2022
Acrylic and ink on wood
10 x 8 x 1 inches (25.4 x 20.3 x 2.5 cm)
(WPR.941)



Heavy smoke, 2022
Ink on wood
10 x 8 x 1 inches (25.4 x 20.3 x 2.5 cm)
(WPR.942)



My name is, 2022
 Acrylic and ink on wood
 14 x 11 x 2 inches (35.6 x 27.9 x 5.1 cm)
 (WPR.887)



The Protector, 2022
 Bronze
 26 1/4 x 24 x 17 inches (66.7 x 61 x 43.2 cm)
 (WPR.918)