

ARTISTIC LICENSE

In honor of Black History Month, *Luxe* goes beyond the canvas with three contemporary artists.

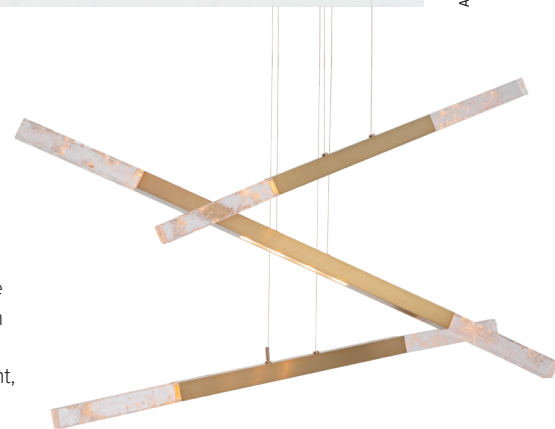
WRITTEN AND PRODUCED BY SARAH SHELTON



ARTWORK: IN AN ALTERNATE REALITY, COURTESY CARMEN NEELY.

Gestural Meaning

Carmen Neely's artwork is not just a purely aesthetic object. Personal experiences, including being female, Black and American, all inform her work. Behind every brushstroke and color choice is intention and intuition, which stem directly from those experiences. Emotions of heartbreak (the impetus for the work shown above), disappointment, optimism, anger and joy are all equally important tools she employs in her work, as are the oil paints and physical ephemera that adorn her canvases.



*Read our in-depth interviews with the artists on luxesource.com.

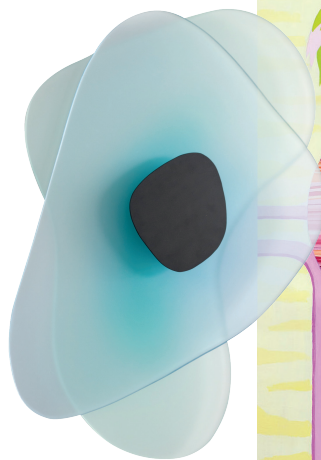
Clockwise from top: *In an Alternate Reality* by Carmen Neely / carmeneliz.com. Axis Moda 3-Rod Linear Chandelier / \$4,995 / studio.hammerton.com. Embrace Cuddle Chair / Price upon request / nafurniture.com. Trinity Console Table / \$5,488 / southandenglish.com. Stroke Rug by Sabine Marcelis / Price upon request / cc-tapis.com. Fresco Wallpaper in Mist / Price upon request / hollyhunt.com. Boule Vase by Christiane Perrochon / From \$350 / marchsf.com. Spinning Top Line Long Earrings in Amethyst / \$4,900 / yaelsonia.com.



Connective Threads

By creating and exploring various artforms, Basil Kincaid is on a quest for self-understanding in a culture that has quelled the Black experience. Kincaid comes from generations of female quilt makers, and years ago, dreamt of his grandmother standing in front of a house that was wrapped in a quilt. Shortly thereafter, he began sewing. These textural masterpieces honor a family tradition connecting him to his past and giving overdue recognition to those before him.

Clockwise from top: *The Long Arc of Memory* by Basil Kincaid / basilkincaid.com. Illinois and Kansas Dinner Plate / \$68 for four / sirensongcuriosities.com. Fringes Bucket Bag / \$2,100 / loewe.com. Italian Velvet Patchwork Ottoman by Marian Paquette / \$745 / choixhome.com. Kepner Lounge Chair / \$2,775 / stickley.com. Swedish Kilim / From \$3,500 / mansour.com. Edelweiss Tile / Price upon request / newravenna.com. Cecil Table Light / \$689 / originalbtc.com.

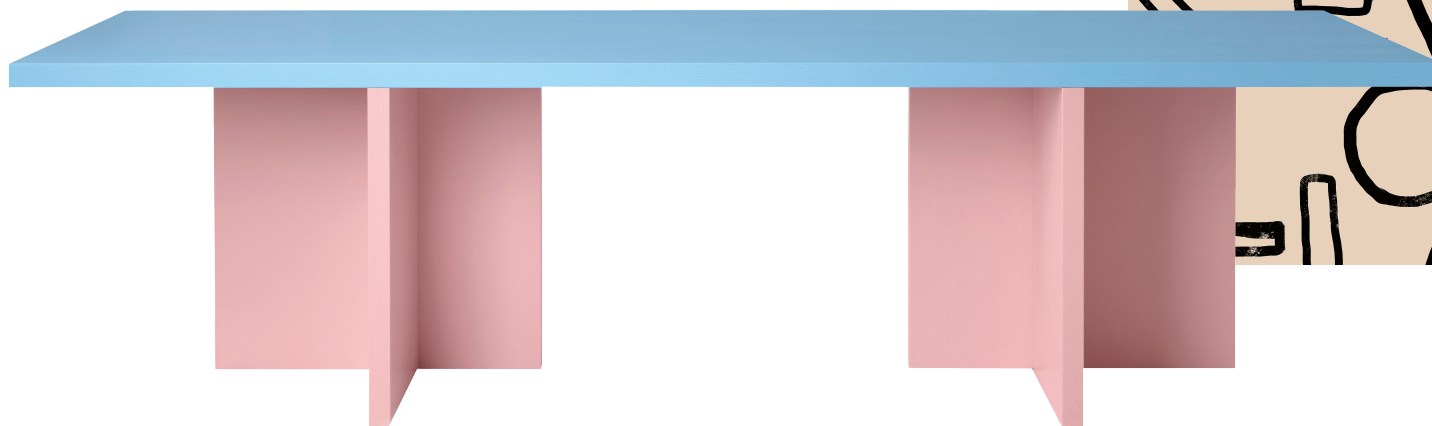
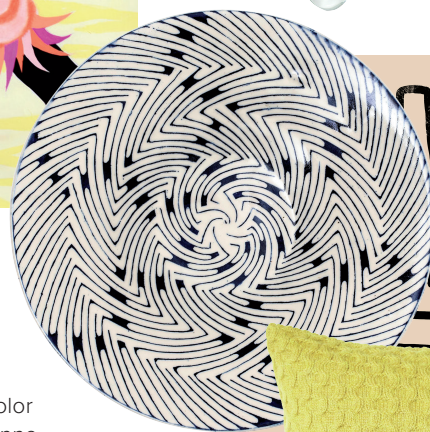


ARTWORK: UNTITLED, COURTESY GRACE LYNNE HAYNES.



Portrait Mode

The formation of bold, rich contrasts of color depict beautiful Black women in Grace Lynne Haynes' paintings. While learned visual rhetoric often associates light and dark with good and evil, Haynes sees the disparity in the shades on the canvas as more harmonious than divisive. As for the subjects, the artist is determined to show her figures as graceful, demure and strong—the kind of complex attributes that Black women traditionally have not been afforded.



Clockwise from top: *Untitled* by Grace Lynne Haynes / bygracelynne.com. Desert Pass Necklace / \$380 / lizziefortunato.com. Binga Serving Platter by Mutapo / \$245 / 54kibo.com. Naples Fabric in Blush / Price upon request / anniecoop.com. Theo Square Pillow / \$210 / johannahoward.com. Color-blocked Lacquered Elio Table by Bannach / \$8,462 / 1stdibs.com. Chartreuse Twist Goblet and Latticino Tumbler by Tracy Glover / \$98 each / housesandparties.com. Aurora Sconce / \$1,810 / rclarkson.com.