

## KHALIF TAHIR THOMPSON

*Beautiful Land*

29 May – 18 July 2026



Khalif Tahir Thompson, *Under The Brooklyn Bridge*, 2026  
Oil, Acrylic, handmade paper on canvas  
153 x 153 cm (60 1/4 x 60 1/4 in)

*Beautiful Land*, the second solo exhibition in France by Khalif Tahir Thompson at Zidoun-Bossuyt, explores how early twentieth-century movements – Fauvism, German Expressionism, and the Harlem Renaissance – continue to resonate today.

Through research into the work of Henri Matisse, André Derain, Emil Nolde, and Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, Thompson traces the influence of these European avant-gardes on African American artists of the Harlem Renaissance, particularly Beauford Delaney.

Born in 1995 and based in New York, Thompson works across painting, collage, printmaking, and handmade paper. His portraits and figurative compositions examine identity, memory, and cultural inheritance through richly layered surfaces and textures.

In *Beautiful Land*, figures – family members, friends, or imagined subjects – emerge through dense patterns and materials, suspended between visibility and disappearance. Thompson reclaims painting as a space of introspection and spiritual resonance, where identity is understood as fluid and continuously shaped by personal and collective memory.

**About the artist**

Khalif Tahir Thompson (b. 1995, lives and works in New York, NY) obtained his MFA in 2024 Painting/ Printmaking from Yale University School of Art, following a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Purchase College and completed a fellowship at the EFA Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop in NYC, the Vermont Studio Center, and the Jerome Emerging Artist residency at The Anderson Center. He was selected as a member of Kehinde Wiley's Black Rock Senegal residency in 2022.

His recent projects include the solo exhibition *Cherry* at the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture in North Carolina; his participation in the group exhibition *The Stories We Tell* at Victoria Miro in London; and, most recently, his participation in *Bold: New Voices in Contemporary Art* at the Indianapolis Museum of Art at Newfields, on view until 28 June 2026.

His work is held in numerous public and private collections, including the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture, Washington, D.C.; The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH), TX; The Pérez Art Museum Miami, FL; The Saint Louis Art Museum (SLAM), St. Louis, MO; The Nelson Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, MO; The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA; The Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, IN; The Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, OH; The Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH; The Rubell Museum, Miami, FL; The Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita State University, Wichita, KS; the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, MI; AMOCA – The Artistic Museum of Contemporary Art, Cardiff, UK; the Amoako Bofo Foundation, Accra, Ghana; Black Art in America LLC, Atlanta, GA; Colección Rolando Jiménez, Puerto Rico; the Pritzker School of Law at Northwestern University, IL; The Grant Hill Collection, Orlando, FL; and the Collection d'art Société Générale, Paris, France.

Khalif Tahir Thompson is represented by Zidoun-Bossuyt Gallery in partnership with Victoria Miro.