

OLIVIER SOUFFRANT

THIS HOUSE IS NOT A HOME

08 SEPTEMBER – 10 OCTOBER 2026



Olivier Souffrant, *An allegory*, 2026
Acrylic, collage and archival CMYK ink on canvas
167.6 x 182.9 cm (66 x 72 in)

The title *This House Is Not Home* for the exhibition for me, conceptualizes the house as both a real place and a metaphor. It can be the body, the mind, a family history, a homeland, or the memories we carry with us.

As someone who left Haiti at a young age, I've often found myself existing between places, cultures, and versions of myself. Home becomes something difficult to locate. It is remembered, imagined, longed for, and constantly reconstructed. In that sense, the paintings are not about a specific house, but about the feeling of searching for belonging while moving through unfamiliar landscapes, both physical and psychological.

Many of the works take place in dreamlike interiors and exteriors where reality, memory, folklore, and personal history collapse into one another. Figures appear as if caught between waking and sleeping, between past and present. Rooms become stages for encounters with ancestors, spirits, desires, fears, and fragments of memory. The familiar becomes strange, and the strange begins to feel familiar. *This House Is Not Home* speaks to that condition of in-betweenness. It reflects the experience of displacement, migration, and transformation, but also the possibility of creating new forms of belonging.

The house in these paintings is never fixed; it shifts, fractures, and reassembles itself, much like identity itself. What remains is the ongoing search for a place, real or imagined; that can finally feel like home.

About the artist

Olivier Souffrant (b. 1994 in Port-au-Prince, HT, Lives and works between New York City, NY, USA and Chicago, IL, USA) is known for his exploration of memory, identity, and cultural narratives through a multidisciplinary practice that spans painting, drawing, collage, and printmaking. His work often reflects on personal and collective histories, weaving together fragments of experience to construct layered visual worlds.

He studied at the University of Illinois in Chicago and has exhibited in institutions such as The Carr Center in Detroit, MI, and the Harvey Museum in Talladega, AL. Souffrant presented his first solo exhibition at Zidoun-Bossuyt Dubai in April 2024, followed by a second solo exhibition at Zidoun-Bossuyt Luxembourg in February 2025.

His work is held in several private and institutional collections, including the Reiffers Art Initiatives Collection (France) and the Charles Riva Collection (Belgium).

His work is currently on view at Liljevalchs Konsthall in Stockholm as part of *When We See Us: A Century of Black Figuration in Painting*, conceived and organized by Zeitz MOCAA, alongside artists such as Akinola Lasekan, Kehinde Wiley, Michael Armitage, Njideka Akunyili Crosby, Lynette Yiadom-Boakye, and Amy Sherald.