

## EFA Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop

NADA HOUSE 2023 | September 1 through October 1, 2023

EFA Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop will present three outdoor vinyl banners by Damali Abrams the Glitter Priestess. The works are reproduced from prints made during her 2019 fellowship, included collage, pronto plate lithography, and coffee dyed paper.

Abrams writes her collages are “combined text from the book *Metegee: The History and Culture of Guyana*, written by Ovid S. Abrams, Sr., my father. Obeah Man refers to a person who performs spiritual work for others, including removing bad luck, and attracting love or employment, and fairmaids are the mermaid figures found in the dark waters of Guyana, South America.”

### about

Damali Abrams the Glitter Priestess is a New York City based artist. Damali attended the Whitney Independent Study Program and earned an MFA from Vermont College of Fine Arts and a BA from New York University.

Damali is a member of SEQAA (Southeast Queens Artist Alliance). She is a recipient of the Women's Studio Workshop Right Now! Production Grant and the Queens Council on the Arts New Works Grant. She has been a fellow at Culture Push, the Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop, A.I.R. Gallery, and apexart in Seoul, South Korea. Damali has also been an Artist-in-Residence at RU (Residency Unlimited), Fresh Milk in Barbados, Groundation Grenada, The Center for Book Arts, Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning (JCAL), and LMCC on Governors Island. She was a Creative-In-Residence at Brooklyn Public Library.

Damali has presented her work at School of Visual Art (SVA), St. John's University, Sonoma State University, Soho House, UConn Stamford, Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC), Barbados Community College, New York University (NYU), SUNY Purchase, Hunter College School of Social Work, and Syracuse University's 601 Tully.

Damali's work has been exhibited at many spaces including El Museo del Barrio, MoCADA (Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Art), Rush Arts Gallery, Longwood Gallery, The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, JCAL, and The Point.

Her work has been featured in Artforum, Women & Performance: a journal of feminist theory, and on the blogs of art21, Fresh Milk, and Groundation Grenada. Her writing has been published by Harlequin Creature and Women's Studio Workshop.

### about NADA HOUSE

The collaborative exhibition brings together 26 art galleries and art spaces to present 26 artists, with participants engaging the unique character of the 19th century former military residence and exhibiting work in a diverse range of mediums.

NADA House

September 1–October 1, 2023

Nolan Park House 18

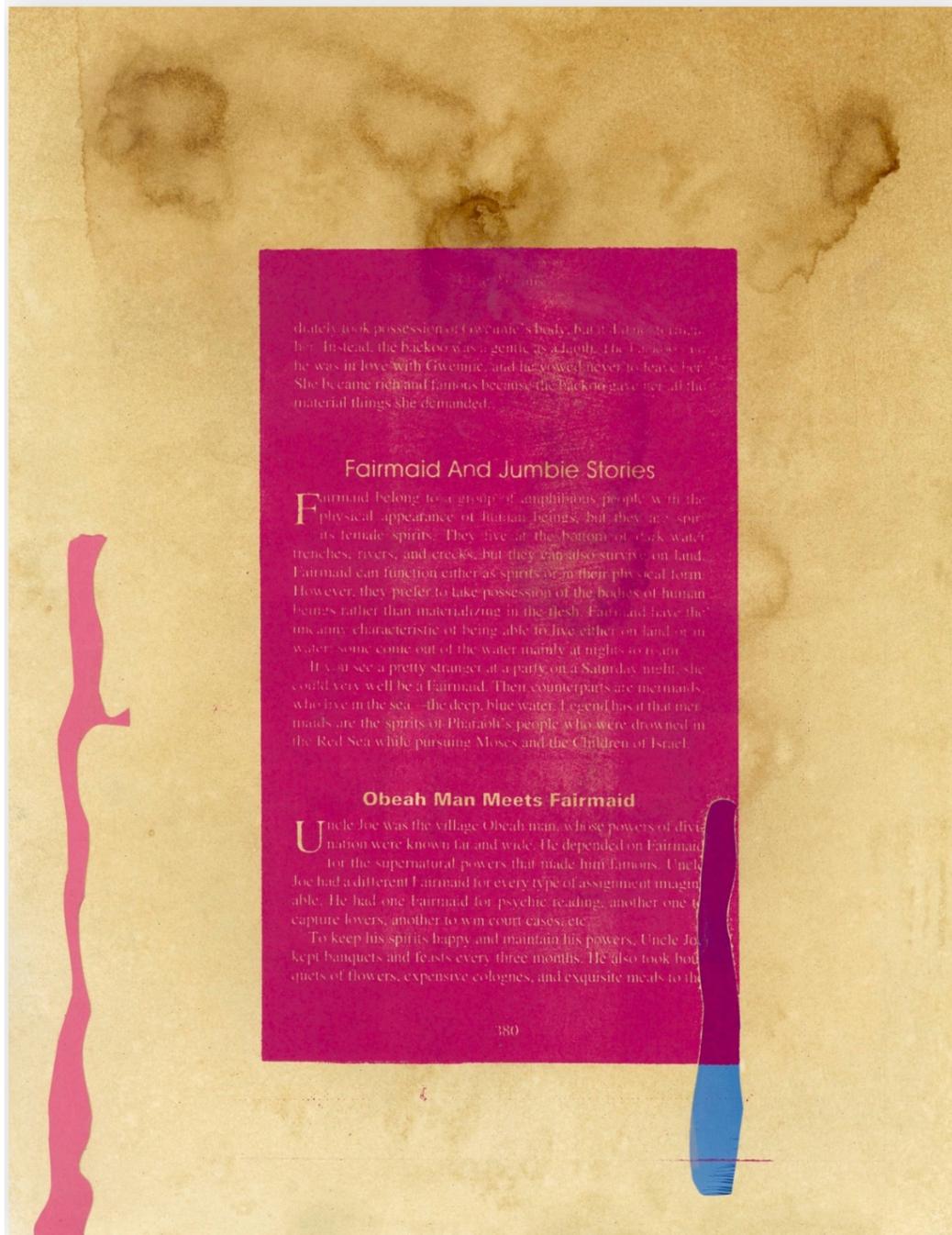
Governors Island

DAMALI ABRAMS THE GLITTER PRIESTESS



*Please Touch My Soft Pink Chakras*  
Mixed Media Collage & Pronto Plate Lithography  
Print on Coffee Dyed Paper  
2023  
Dimension: 20.5 x 23

## DAMALI ABRAMS THE GLITTER PRIESTESS



diately took possession of Gwendolyn's body, but it didn't work out for her. Instead, the backer was a gentleman named Mr. Backer. He was in love with Gwendolyn, and he vowed never to leave her. She became rich and famous because the backer gave her all the material things she demanded.

### Fairmaid And Jumbie Stories

Fairmaid belong to a group of amphibious people with the physical appearance of human beings, but they are spirits female spirits. They live at the bottom of dark water trenches, rivers, and creeks, but they can also survive on land. Fairmaid can function either as spirits or in their physical form. However, they prefer to take possession of the bodies of human beings rather than materializing in the flesh. Fairmaid have the uncanny characteristic of being able to live either on land or in water; some come out of the water mainly at nights to roam.

If you see a pretty stranger at a party on a Saturday night, she could very well be a Fairmaid. Their counterparts are mermaids, who live in the sea—the deep, blue water. Legend has it that mermaids are the spirits of Pharaoh's people who were drowned in the Red Sea while pursuing Moses and the Children of Israel.

### Obeah Man Meets Fairmaid

Uncle Joe was the village Obeah man, whose powers of divination were known far and wide. He depended on Fairmaid for the supernatural powers that made him famous. Uncle Joe had a different Fairmaid for every type of assignment imaginable. He had one Fairmaid for psychic reading, another one to capture lovers, another to win court cases, etc.

To keep his spirits happy and maintain his powers, Uncle Joe kept banquets and feasts every three months. He also took offerings of flowers, expensive colognes, and exquisite meals to the

*Obeah Man Meets Fairmaid*  
Pronto Plate Lithography Print on Coffee Dyed  
Paper with Collage Elements  
2023  
Dimension: 20.5 x 23

DAMALI ABRAMS THE GLITTER PRIESTESS



*Roses at My Lips*  
Mixed Media Collage on Coffee Dyed Paper  
2023  
Dimension: 20.5 x 23