

# Bockley Gallery



## Bockley Gallery Welcomes Lissa Karpeh for her First Solo Exhibition, *For the Love of Liberty*

Exhibition: November 20 through December 31, 2021

Gallery Hours: Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 5pm

Bockley Gallery is pleased to welcome Minneapolis-based painter Lissa Karpeh for her premier solo exhibition titled *For the Love of Liberty*. Characterized by bold colors and a commanding presence, Karpeh's paintings will fill the gallery at the end of this fall season. The show will include a series of figural paintings featuring family, friends, and artists from the Liberian-American community in Minneapolis, as well as still lifes of objects that hint at themes greater than their literal import.

As a first-generation Liberian-American, Karpeh uses painting as a means to tell stories that have been forgotten. The deeply complex narratives of oppression, freedom, and identity shape the imagery of her paintings in strokes of primary color. Her use of symbolism—the color red, an empty chair, a fufu box, an apple—highlight conversations around public attention, home, and education among other things. On color and symbolism, the artist says, “I’ve been drawn to the colors blue and red, these patriotic colors, because they’re very loud and always around. And so I wanted to bring them next to Black bodies.” Karpeh’s paintings grasp at a sense of belonging as her opposing identities straddle two worlds.

### About Lissa Karpeh

Karpeh received her BFA from Saint Cloud State University in Saint Cloud, Minnesota. Her work has been featured in group exhibitions for the Hive Salon, Burn Something Zine, LightBox Studio, Ridgewater College, and Vanity Fair magazine. She is a member of the Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association (NEMAA) and currently works from her studio in the Northrup King Building in Northeast Minneapolis. Her work is in public collections at DIFFA Chicago and Saint Cloud State University.

## **About Bockley Gallery**

Founded in 1984, Bockley Gallery represents artists from across Minnesota and North America, including Leslie Barlow, Andrea Carlson, Jim Denomie, Pao Houa Her, Postcommodity, Cara Romero, and the estate of George Morrison. Residing in Minneapolis's Kenwood neighborhood since 2005, the gallery offers an intimate experience with art. Meanwhile, its local, national, and international outreach programs expand the dialogue around what it believes to be the most relevant ideas in art today.

## **Media Inquiries**

For further information, please contact Bockley Gallery.

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