

ANNA ZORINA GALLERY

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ALVIN ARMSTRONG

Race

September 8–11, 2022

Location: The Armory Show at Javits Center, 429 11th Avenue, New York City
Armory Presents Booth P35

Anna Zorina Gallery is pleased to announce *Race* by Alvin Armstrong. With his solo Armory presentation, Armstrong places the viewer in direct confrontation with horses in the midst of a dynamic running movement that emphasizes each horse's muscularity and power as well as the tension and conviction of the rider.

This series continues Armstrong's theme of investigating the many nuances of Black American culture and history. This body of work takes on a deeply personal trajectory for the artist as he draws inspiration from memories of horse riding on his grandfather's ranch as a child. Rooted in the personal nostalgia of open land, ridership, freedom, speed, the paintings further portray the broader associations of horses including the advantageous use of their immense power as beasts of burden. The Americana lyric titles are a nod to the fact that Black Americans have never been afforded the liberties of justice and freedom.

A catalog documenting this *Race* series will be released Autumn 2022.

ALVIN ARMSTRONG was born in San Diego, CA. Lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. Armstrong is a painter whose work explores the social and political landscape of Black American culture. His paintings are often filled with real and fictional subjects, culled from archival material, his community and lived experiences. He has lived in Hawaii, Japan, and California all of which have informed his art practice.

Armstrong received an MS in Eastern Medicine and is a licensed acupuncturist. The self-taught artist had his New York solo debut exhibition *This Place Looks Different* with Medium Tings in Fall 2020. His first Chelsea solo exhibition *To Give and Take* was presented at Anna Zorina Gallery in May 2021, curated by Stephanie Baptiste. He was included in the Let Freedom Ring installation curated by Larry Ossei-Mensah at Brooklyn Academy of Music in January 2021. Armstrong's work has been featured in the New York Times, reviewed in Brooklyn Rail, Hyperallergic, Juxtapose Magazine, Something Curated, Artsy and Epiphany Magazine. He is currently a Visual Arts Resident at Pioneer Works in Brooklyn.

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