

## NEWS RELEASE

Exhibition: D'Angelo Lovell Williams, *Papa Don't Preach*

Date: March 15 - May 9, 2020

Opening: Sunday, March 15, 3-6 pm

Location: Janice Guy at MBnb, 520 West 143<sup>rd</sup> Street #2, New York NY 10031

Hours: Friday – Saturday, 1-6pm

Janice Guy and Higher Pictures present *Papa Don't Preach* by D'Angelo Lovell Williams. This is the artist's first exhibition with Janice Guy and fourth solo presentation with Higher Pictures.

*January 7th, 2020, I was diagnosed with HIV. Only a handful of chosen family knew up until now. I'm on Biktarvy, taken once a day to suppress the virus. Soon I'll be undetectable. Discovery is one of the driving forces behind the work. Drawing from moments of love, intimacy and kinship, I use my body in the home and the landscape to reconcile with our history. In the images, I aim to puncture the realm of self-awareness, creating a space where the spirits of Black bodies can live freely in their encounters with one another. My father and my mama's mama, both reborn and never to sin again, provoke a renewed existence. The earth engulfs me as I pull the love of my life into the unknown. Confident, tender hands cradle the flesh of loved ones, immediate family, and the self, embodying gestures of both defiance and care. The demanding scenes mimic portals, delivering us to the parts of our own history that still linger in the every day.*

- D'Angelo Lovell Williams

D'Angelo Lovell Williams (b. 1992, Jackson, Mississippi) is a Black, HIV-positive artist expanding narratives of Black and queer intimacy through photography. They earned their BFA in photography from Memphis College of Art in 2015 and an MFA in photography from Syracuse University in 2018. They are a 2018 Skowhegan School of Art alum. They have had solo exhibitions at Higher Pictures in 2017, 2018, and 2019. D'Angelo Lovell Williams lives and works in New York City.

For more information, please contact Julia Curl at 212-249-6100.