

## THE 6 RISING ARTISTS YOU MUST KNOW IN 2018

By Diane Solway



Walter Price.

With his debut solo show at New York's Karma in 2016, Walter Price, 28, became an artist to watch. At first glance, his small-scaled paintings pull you in through the intimacy of their domestic narratives. Look closer, however, and you'll see that his figures live in no identifiable world, the scenes, objects, and vignettes often at odds with each other. As Price sees them, his paintings are also translations of experience into line, color, and lately, of texture. "Several newer works are a bit crunchy looking," says the artist, who grew up in Georgia and enlisted in the Navy to pay his way through art school. Now based in New York, Price, who already has a work in the collection of the Whitney Museum, is currently included in the Studio Museum of Harlem's "Fictions" group show of emerging artists and on the roster of the forthcoming Cleveland Triennial, opening next July. Then in August, he'll set off for a residency at the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation in Captiva, Florida, before opening fall 2018 gallery shows at Karma and the Modern Institute in Glasgow.

Price has spent the past few months focusing on drawing in a sketchpad, though he prefers to paint directly on the canvas. He gets to work early, after rising at 4:40 a.m. to exercise. "I've been trying to teach myself to become ambidextrous," he says of his goal to paint with both hands, "so I figure basketball is a good way to speed up the process because it's such a fast game. Since I work out of my apartment, I also find it helpful to start painting first thing in the a.m. I read that studies have shown that the moment when we first wake up, our alpha brainwaves are at peak levels—but only for a short period of time. I try and capitalize on that, or maybe it's just a placebo effect. I don't know, but it feels good."