

Artist: Stan Burnside  
Title: *Quarantino's Lullaby*  
Curated by: Tavares Strachan

*"The way you get to know yourself is by the expressions on other people's faces, because that's the only thing that you can see, unless you carry a mirror about."*

- Gil Scott-Heron

In his new body of work, the exhibition titled "QUARANTINO'S LULLABY," the artist binds the physical with the metaphysical, grounding that which is weightless. In a way that only Stan Burnside can express, this new body of work holds a certain record of our time in "lockdown." From a palette of purple, he extends this idea as a metaphor that speaks of a timeless, interconnected struggle of the people who inhabit this island. This isolation only leaves humanity when we accept a universal language of togetherness. It's a kind of isolation that lasts beyond a pandemic, if we allow it. Burnside pulls this exact feeling of pandemic-era isolation from the ground, like a seed sprouting into the air.

As you stare at each figure in these paintings, let them reflect their deep inner affection that goes from mother to child, brother to sister. With paint, the artist empowers his subjects with human dignity. Their stories manifest the rainbow of human experience and conveys an enduring truth: To everything there is a cycle. To light, there is the dark, and with the morning, night follows. Born through isolation, these characters are painted into a world of power and gratification.

In the words of the artist, "The pandemic brought me face to face with time, and how valuable time is. In one sense, it allowed me the absolute freedom to work in my studio space because there was less pressure from the outside world, even though it was a rough, rough period. But it also made me cognizant of how limited time is and how valuable time is, and how I have to take advantage of what time I have left."

With time, a painter reveals the souls of our people with eloquence. In these paintings we can find the joy to counter our tragedy. We counter the loss of time, and we discover timelessness.

- Tavares Strachan