JAMES BANTONE

FRANCESCA MININI

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JAMES BANTONE

b. 1992 in Geneva, Switzerland
Lives and works in Geneva (Switzerland) and Paris (France)

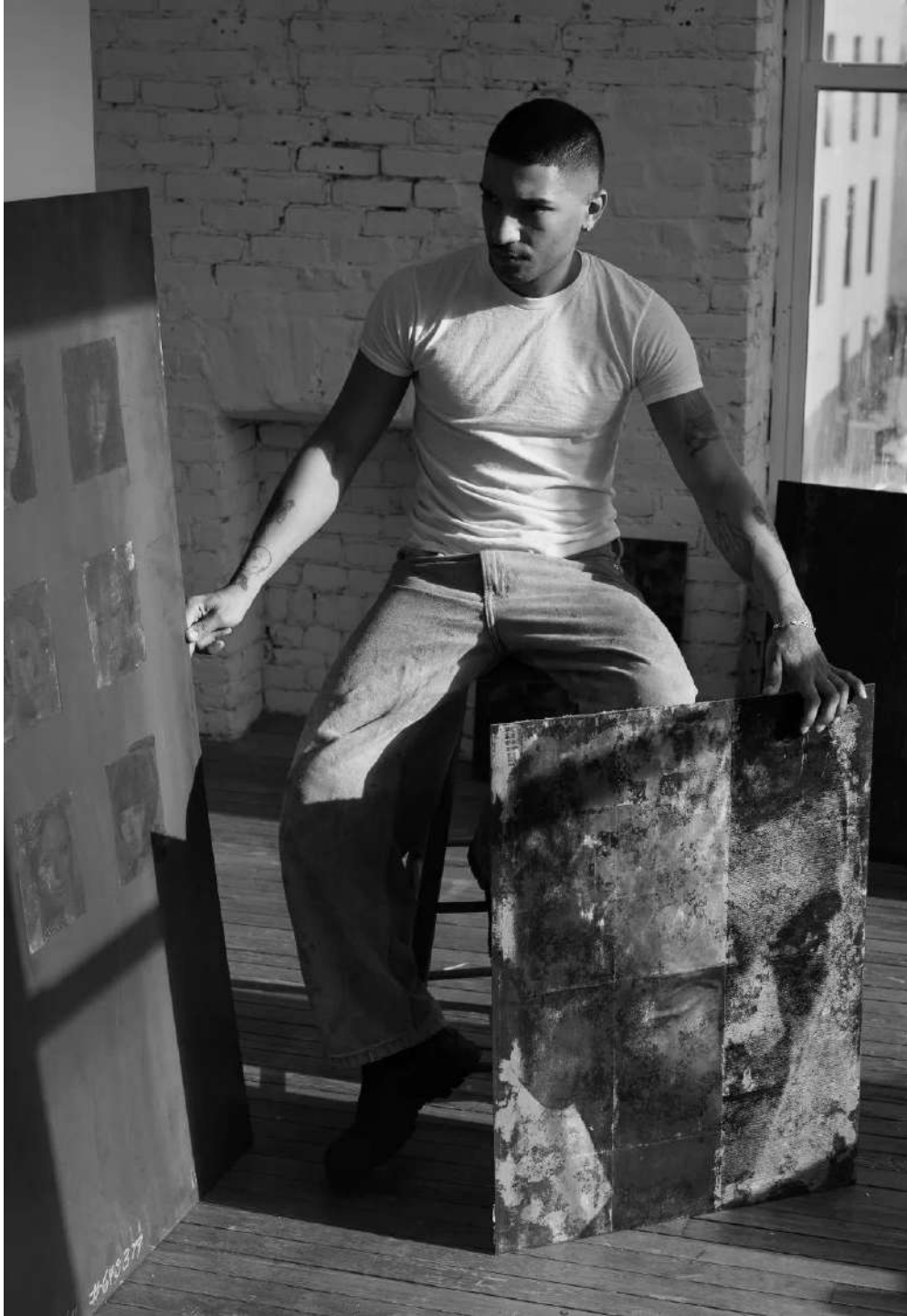
The artist attended the ECAL-École cantonale d'art de Lausanne in 2017 and graduated with a Bachelor of Art & Media – Video at the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK) in 2019 and completed the Work.Master – Contemporary Artistic Practices at the Geneva University of Art and Design (HEAD) in 2021.

James Bantone's practice moves across photography, sculpture, painting, and video, treating the image as a surface where desire, classification, and projection accumulate. Working with found and self-produced imagery, he is less interested in representation as likeness than in the conditions through which a subject becomes readable: how a surface is charged, misrecognized, circulated, and made available to fantasy, value, and consumption.

Through transfer, fragmentation, corrosion, and overpainting, Bantone interrupts the apparent coherence of the image. Photographs are displaced across supports such as steel and aluminium, strained through processes of reproduction, and made to behave less like windows than skins: handled, marked, unstable, and exposed. In recent works, Bantone turns this logic onto himself. His own body enters the work not as confession, but as material, a surface through which agency, objecthood, exposure, and control become difficult to separate.

His work begins from the condition of being looked at before one has fully appeared.

He has had solo exhibitions at Francesca Minini, Milan (2026), Tunnel Tunnel, Lausanne (2026), Spazio Maiocchi, Milan (2024), Swiss Institute, New York (2024), Karma International, Zurich (2023), Coalmine, Winterthur (2020), and participated in group exhibitions at Kunstraum Niederösterreich, Vienna (2024), Kunsthalle Zurich (2023), Simian, Copenhagen (2023), Klemm's Gallery, Berlin (2023), Espace Niemeyer, Paris (2023), Salts, Basel (2023), Museum Morsbroich, Leverkusen (2023), Centre d'Art Contemporain de Genève (2022) Cordova, Barcelona (2021), Kunsthalle Fribourg (2020), and UV Estudios, Buenos Aires (2019).



Gallery exhibition



JAMES BANTONE
SKIN GAME

16 September – 31 October 2026

Francesca Minini
Milan, Italy



***Skin Game,* 2026**
Exhibition view at Francesca Minini, Milan, Italy



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Exhibition view at Francesca Minini, Milan, Italy



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***Skin Game,* 2026**
Exhibition view at Francesca Minini, Milan, Italy



JAMES BANTONE
INTERGENERATIONAL FORMS

Group show
Carla Accardi, James Bantone, Becky Beasley,
Pascale Birchler, Azize Ferizi, Sheila Hicks,
Simone Holliger, Deborah-Joyce Holman, PRICE

Curated by Eleonora Milani

17 May - 26 July 2024

Francesca Minini
Milan, Italy



Intergenerational forms, 2024
Exhibition view at Francesca Minini, Milan, Italy



Intergenerational forms, 2024
Exhibition view at Francesca Minini, Milan, Italy

Other exhibitions and projects



JAMES BANTONE
HIER & JETZT

2026

Group show

Curated by Eveline Suter

Kunstmuseum
Luzern, Switzerland



***hier & jetzt*, 2026**
Exhibition view at Kunstmuseum Luzern, Switzerland



JAMES BANTONE
AXIAL DESIRE

2026

Tunnel Tunnel
Lausanne, Switzerland



***Axial Desire*, 2026**
Exhibition view at Tunnel Tunnel, Lausanne, Switzerland



***Axial Desire*, 2026**
Exhibition view at Tunnel Tunnel, Lausanne, Switzerland



***Axial Desire*, 2026**
Exhibition view at Tunnel Tunnel, Lausanne, Switzerland



JAMES BANTONE
COMMUNAUTÉS EN RÉSONNANCE

2026

Group show

Curated by Danniel Tostes

Société Des Arts
Geneve, Switzerland



***Communautés en Résonnance,* 2026**
Exhibition view at Société Des Arts, Geneve, Switzerland



JAMES BANTONE
UNCANNY GARDEN

2026

Group show

Curated by Benedikt Wyss and Samuel Leuenberger

Salts
Basel, Switzerland



JAMES BANTONE
SWISS ART AWARDS

2025

Group show

Messe Basel
Basel, Switzerland



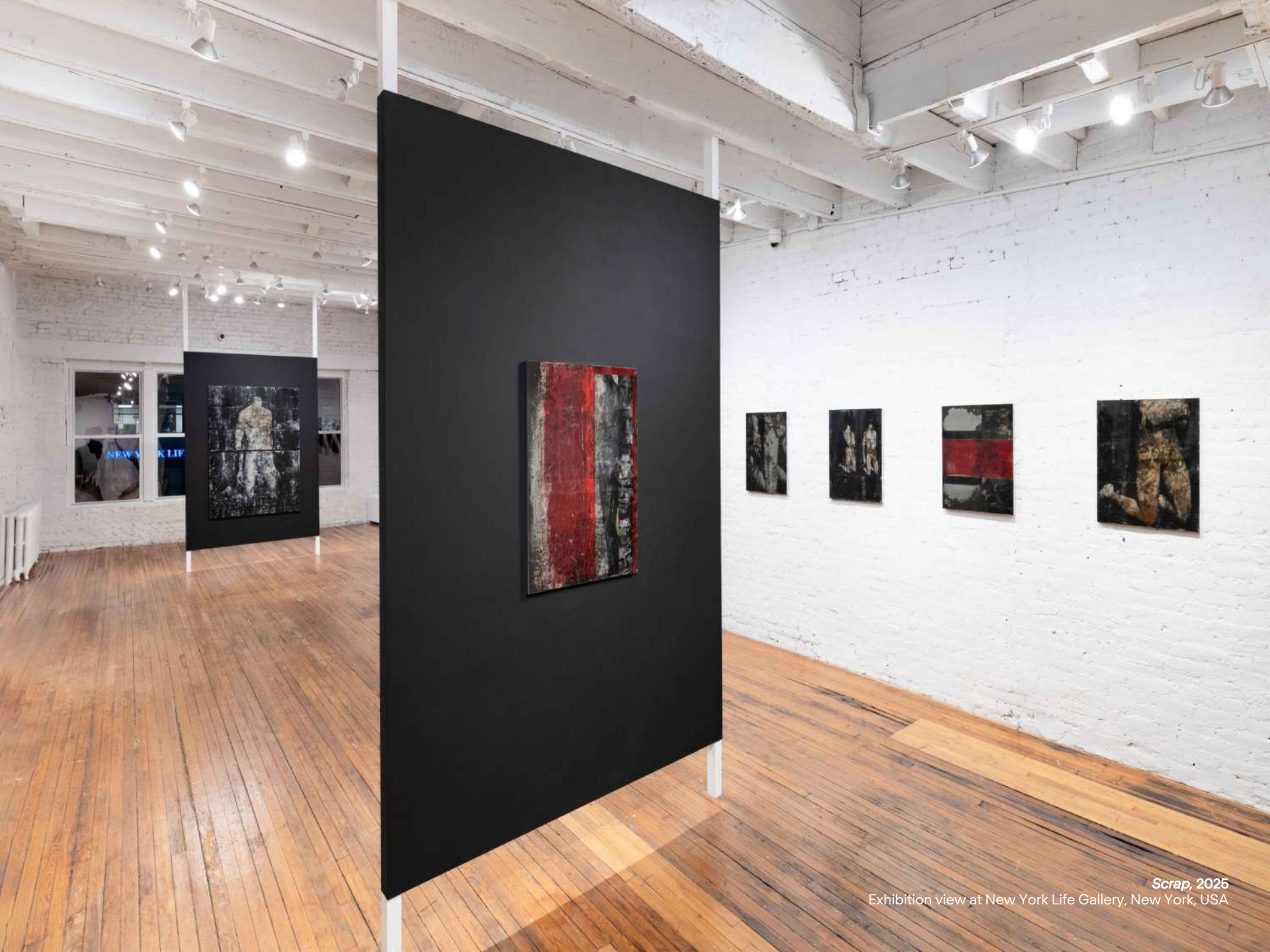
Swiss Art Awards, 2025
Exhibition view at Messe Basel, Basel, Switzerland



JAMES BANTONE
SCRAP

2025

New York Life Gallery
New York, USA



***Scrap*, 2025**
Exhibition view at New York Life Gallery, New York, USA



***Scrap*, 2025**
Exhibition view at New York Life Gallery, New York, USA



JAMES BANTONE
UNDERCURRENTS

2024

Curated by Claire Koron Elat and Shelly Reich

032c Gallery
Berlin, Germany



Undercurrents, 2024
Exhibition view at 032c Gallery, Berlin, Germany



JAMES BANTONE
If you (see me, see me, see me)

2024

Spazio Maiocchi
Milan, Italy



If you (see me, see me, see me), 2024
Exhibition view at Spazio Maiocchi, Milan, Italy



If you (see me, see me, see me), 2024
Exhibition view at Spazio Maiocchi, Milan, Italy



JAMES BANTONE
202420242024

2024

Swiss Institute
New York, USA



***202420242024*, 2024**
Installation view at Swiss Institute, New York, USA



***202420242024*, 2024**
Installation view at Swiss Institute, New York, USA



***202420242024*, 2024**
Installation view at Swiss Institute, New York, USA



***202420242024*, 2024**
Installation view at Swiss Institute, New York, USA



JAMES BANTONE
STRANGER IN THE VILLAGE

2023

Group show

Advisory Board of the exhibition:
Mandy Abou Shoak, Joshua Amissah, Sasha Huber, Laura Arminda Kingsley, Nayansaku Mufwankolo

Aargauer Kunsthaus
Aargau, Switzerland



***Stranger in the Village*, 2023**
Exhibition view at Aargauer Kunsthaus, Aargau, Switzerland



JAMES BANTONE
ProtoZone 13

2023

Group show

Curated by Phila Bergmann & Thea Reifler,
assistant curator Vanessa Bosch

Shedhalle
Zurich, Switzerland



ProtoZone 13, 2023
Exhibition view at Shedhalle, Zurich, Switzerland



ProtoZone 13, 2023
Exhibition view at Shedhalle, Zurich, Switzerland



JAMES BANTONE
HORRIPILATIONS

2023

Karma International
Zurich, Switzerland



***Horripilations*, 2023**
Exhibition view at Karma International, Zurich, Switzerland



JAMES BANTONE
Bodiesbodies

2022

Group show

Curated by Lucrezia Galeotti and Giacomo Pigliapoco

La Rada
Locarno, Switzerland



***Bodiesbodies,* 2022**
Exhibition view at La Rada, Locarno, Switzerland



JAMES BANTONE
Cuts of Love

2021

Karma International
Zurich, Switzerland



***Cuts of Love*, 2021**
Exhibition view at Karma International, Zurich, Switzerland



JAMES BANTONE
He Said, They Said

2020

Coalmine
Winterthur, Switzerland



He Said, They Said, 2020
Exhibition view at Coalmine, Winterthur, Switzerland

JAMES BANTONE

b. 1992 Geneva (CH)
Lives and works in Geneva and Paris

EDUCATION

2021
Work.Master Contemporary Artistic Practices, Geneva School of Art and Design HEAD, CH
2019
BA Kunst & Medien (Video) Zurich University of the Arts ZHdK, CH
2017
ECAL-École cantonale d'art de Lausanne, CH

RESIDENCIES

2024
Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris, FR
2023
Swiss Institute, New York, USA

CURATORIAL WORK

2019-2023
Cherish, artist run space with Mohamed Almusibli, Ser Serpas, Thomas Liu Le Lann & Marguerite Mikanowski, Geneva, CH

AWARDS

2025: Swiss Art Awards, Basel, CH
2023: Prix La Mobilière, Art Genève, Genève, CH
2023: Bourses de la Ville de Genève, Centre d'art Contemporain de Genève, CH
2022: Kiefer Hablitzel/Göhner Art Prize, Basel, CH
2020: Helvetia Art Prize, CH
2019: Young European Photography Award, Cité des Arts, Paris, FR

COLLECTION

Burger Collection, Hong Kong, HK
Fond Cantonal d'Art Contemporain, Geneva, CH
Fondation Grandur pour l'Art, Geneva, CH
Tichyocean Collection, Zurich, CH

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2026
Skin Game, Francesca Minini, Milan, IT
Axial Desire, Tunnel Tunnel, Lausanne, CH
2025
Scrap, New York Life Gallery, New York, USA
2024
Undercurrents, 032c Gallery, Berlin, DE
If you (see me, see me, see me), Spazio Maiocchi, Milan, IT
202420242024, Swiss Institute, New York, USA
2023
HORRIPILATIONS, Karma International, Zurich, CH
2021
Cuts of Love, Karma International, Zurich, CH
2020
He Said, They Said, Coalmine, Winterthur, CH
2019
IM LIVIN, Dynamo Project Room, Zurich, CH

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026
Hier & Jetzt, Kunstmuseum Luzern, CH
Communautés en Résonnance, Palais de l'Athénée, Geneva, CH
2025
Basement Art Assembly Biennial, Basement, Rome, IT
Deviations, James Fuentes, New York, USA
2024
intergenerational forms, curated by Eleonora Milani, Francesca Minini, Milan, IT
Vom Koerper im Digitalen Leben, Kunsthaus Langenthal, CH
Bliss, bliss, bliss, Kunstraum Niederoesterreich, Wien, AT
Creatures & Masks, Fabian Lang, Zurich, CH
2023
Feels Like... ProtoZone 13, Shedhalle, Zurich, CH
Zurich Biennale, Kunsthalle Zurich, CH
Stranger in the Village, Aargauer Kunsthaus, Aargau, CH
CRY ME A RIVER, Simian, Copenhagen, DK
Yours Truly, Museum Morsbroich, Leverkusen, DE
Obselfed, Klemm's Gallery, Berlin, DE
Fallen Angels, City SALTS, Basel, CH
MANIFESTO XIII, Espace Niemeyer, Paris, FR

Genitoculture, Forde, Geneva, CH
2022
BodiesBodies, La Rada, Locarno, CH
2021
Face Control, Foto Colectania, Barcelona, ES
Les Urbaines, Espace Arlaud, Lausanne, CH
Nuit Blanche, Centre Culturel Suisse, Paris, FR
Cry Me A River, Cordova, Barcelona, ES
Mala x Galerias Municipais of Lisbon, ARCO Madrid, Madrid, ES
Lemaniana, Centre d'art Contemporain de Genève, CH
Haunted Haus, Swiss Institute, New York, USA
2020
Haunted Haus, Swiss Institute, New York, USA
Decode Dress Code, Goethe Institut, Paris, FR
Plattform20, Kunsthalle Fribourg, CH
Plat(t)tform 2020, Fotomuseum, Winterthur, CH
2019
CAMP FIRES, UV Estudios, Buenos Aires, AR
Goodbye Plastic, Longtang, Zurich, CH
Nouveaux Sacrés, Voiture 14, Marseille, FR
Tesla of Justice, NEST, Zurich, CH