



Robert Freeman

Winter Term Visiting Artist

THE ROBERT LEHMAN ART CENTER AT BROOKS SCHOOL
1160 Great Pond Road • North Andover, MA • 01845
www.brooksschool.org/arts/lehman-art-center

Struggle

January 5 through February 17, 2024

Artist's Reception: January 5, 2024, 6 – 8 p.m.

As an artist who has spent his creative energy celebrating positive and joyful images of Black life on canvas, it is difficult to ignore this country's current racial reckoning. The George Floyd and Breonna Taylor murders capped off a history of police brutality terrorizing our lives, which has forever affected African Americans' very existence. The deaths of Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd and Breonna Taylor exemplified what Black Americans already knew about their own history. These times, cellphone videos secured these horrific events for the whole world to witness. All too soon after came January 6, when again the world observed how divisive and violent our racial politics are. On the third anniversary of the Capitol insurrection, my paintings represent the division that continues to rip at our nation's seams. Releasing my feelings — anger, outrage and sadness — has resulted in these canvases. "Struggle" is a creative eruption of deep and vast emotional frustration. The paintings can be seen as a visual metaphor of adults playing children's games. These paintings represent the struggle for the soul of our nation. You can explore more of my work at <https://robertfreemanart.com/>.