

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***BLKMRKTCLT HONORS LOCAL BLACK WOMEN ARTISTS IN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION***

--Nu Growth is a Series That Showcases Artists of Color Throughout Their Development--

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – BLKMRKTCLT is celebrating their four-year anniversary a little differently this year by shining light on six local, Black women artists.

Co-sponsored by The Light Factory and Project Rough Cuts, the work of [Jessica Dunston](#), [Mara Robbin](#), [Kalin Devone](#), [Jamea Marlowe](#), [Jamila Brown](#) and [Wabwila Mugala](#) will be showcased within the Black-owned gallery every Friday in July and the first Friday in August from 6:00-9:00 PM EST.

Curators King Carla and Sir Will are life-long advocates for Black women artists of the Queen City and developed this project for over a year. According to Sir Will, “BLKMRKTCLT has always been a safe space for Black and brown artists to create. We’ve noticed how these Black women specifically have been growing and perfecting their craft and want to give them space to showcase their art. Though this is their first solo shows, we know it won’t be their last.”

Nu Growth’s featured artists will create exhibitions that range across a variety of skills and techniques. From charcoal portraits to photography to painting to mixed media installations, they will share their personal experiences as women and creatives.

Women are overlooked within the arts industry. Only recently have women made up close to 50% of arts practitioners, according to the [National Museum of Women in the Arts](#). However, numbers in acquisitions for galleries and museums for people of color are much smaller than their white male counterparts and gets even smaller for women according to their race. BLKMRKT hopes to change these statistics.

King Carla mentioned, “I love seeing brown faces of all shades being celebrated in all our glory. I also love seeing my extended fam get their flowers at all times. It reminds me that while I walk dolo many times, I’m never alone and I love that.”

***This event follows both Center for Disease Control (CDC) and North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Covid-19 safety guidelines. Non-vaccinated attendees are asked to wear masks and practice social distancing.***

This event is free but requires an RSVP and accepts donations the day of the event and online.

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**Dates and Features:**

**July 9<sup>th</sup> | 6:00-9:00 PM EST:** [Jessica Dunston](#) specializes in analog photography in medium format and 35mm. [RSVP Here.](#)

**July 16<sup>th</sup> | 6:00-9:00 PM EST:** [Mara Robbin](#) specializes in mixed media using collage and photography. [RSVP Here.](#)

**July 23<sup>rd</sup> | 6:00-9:00 PM EST:** [Kalin Devone](#) specializes in oil and acrylic paintings. [RSVP Here.](#)

**July 30<sup>th</sup> | 6:00-9:00 PM EST:** [Jamea Marlowe](#) specializes in charcoal and acrylic portraits. [RSVP Here.](#)

**Aug 6<sup>th</sup> | 6:00-9:00 PM EST:** [Jamila Brown](#) and [Wabwila Mugala](#) specialize in mixed media using fabrics and textiles. [RSVP Here.](#)

**Where:** BLKMRKTCLT, 1824 Statesville Avenue, Suite 106, Charlotte, NC 28206

Learn more about these featured artists on [www.blkmrktclt.com](http://www.blkmrktclt.com)