

# CEPA GALLERY

CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY & VISUAL ARTS CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MYTHOLOGIES OF IDENTITY EXHIBITION

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Date: June 20, 2022

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CEPA Gallery Exhibits Artist Dane-Adrian Smith

*Mythologies of Identity: A Genderless World* Exhibition opens July 1, 2022

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Buffalo, NY, -June 20, 2022- [The Center for Exploratory & Perceptual Arts](http://TheCenterforExploratoryandPerceptualArts.org) (CEPA Gallery) is excited to announce the opening of *Mythologies of Identity: A Genderless World*, an exhibition by Dane-Adrian Smith. There will be an opening reception on July 1, 2022 from 5-8 pm. The show is taking place in the historic Market Arcade Building located at 617 Main St in Buffalo and will run until July 30, 2022.



In *Mythologies of Identity: A Genderless World*, Jamaican American photographer Dane-Adrian Smith (they/them) presents a postgender fantasy that challenges heteronormative definitions and brings a fresh perspective and powerful voice to the conversation surrounding gender, identity, and living authentically. The work shows how situations can impact someone's ability to form a strong sense of self. It bridges the gap between traditional definitions of masculinity and femininity through fashion, portrait styling, and makeup, allowing full expression of a felt identity in a postgender world.

*A Genderless World* is a prelude exhibit for the *Mythologies of Identity* series, which challenges current social norms regarding definitions of embodied identity featuring Dane-Adrian Smith, Jean-René Leblanc, and Cindy Sherman, on view at CEPA in December 2022.

As part of the *Mythologies of Identity* project, CEPA is putting on an essay contest. Participants should first visit the *A Genderless World* exhibition for inspiration and then write an essay, poem, prose, etc. about your own identity. Some questions to keep in mind are how do you define yourself? What makes you uniquely you? How do you want the world to remember you? Where do you belong? Feel free to interpret the theme in any way that makes sense to you. Writers can submit their entries on CEPA's website. Winners will receive a \$50 cash prize and see their text published in the exhibition catalog in 2023.

CEPA Gallery would like to thank our sponsors for helping make this exhibition possible, Embrace WNY Foundation, Joy of Giving Something Foundation, New York State Council on the Arts, and Erie County.

Located in Buffalo's historic Market Arcade Complex, CEPA Gallery is a contemporary photography and visual arts center with impact in both local and national communities. With three galleries of changing exhibits and events, multimedia public art installations, arts education programs, and an open-access darkroom and digital photo lab, CEPA creates a vibrant presence in the heart of downtown Buffalo.

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