

Clifford Bertin

Artist Portfolio





Clifford Bertin is a New York-born, self-taught abstract painter currently based in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, and Paris. From an early age, he was deeply drawn to both painting and culinary arts, two creative mediums that continue to shape his artistic expression.

Rooted in his Haitian heritage, Clifford's work explores themes of spirituality, cultural identity, and social reflection. His paintings, rich in colour and layered symbolism, offer a dynamic interpretation of Haitian culture, weaving ancestral influences with contemporary artistic language. His compositions often contain hidden messages that invite viewers into a spiritual and enigmatic world, open to multiple interpretations.

Working in distinct series, Clifford carefully develops each phase of his practice to tell visual stories centered around joy, spirituality, and societal concerns. His art has been exhibited in both solo and group shows in public spaces, and his works are held in private collections worldwide.



"I create like it's my last day on earth."

Clifford Bertin

Artist statement

As a New York-born, Haitian-American self-taught abstract artist, my work is a reflection of duality—cultural, spiritual, and personal. Rooted in my Haitian heritage and shaped by my lived experiences, my art explores identity, transformation, and the dialogue between the tangible and the unseen. Through colour, texture, and form, I seek to create a visual bridge between the physical world and the spiritual essence that underpins it.

My paintings embody the resilience and transcendence inherent in Haitian culture while navigating the complexities of self-exploration. I approach my creative process in distinct phases, layering meaning and emotion in a cyclical manner that mirrors the interconnectedness of past, present, and future. Vibrant hues and dynamic compositions evoke memories and emotions, drawing inspiration from Haiti's landscapes and the ever-evolving nature of identity.

At its core, my work serves as a visual language—one that speaks to the intersections of chaos and order, self and society, tradition and innovation. Through abstraction, I invite viewers to engage with these dualities, offering space for reflection, interpretation, and connection.





Codes of the unseen collection

Codes of the Unseen is Clifford Bertin's latest body of work, created in Port-au-Prince in summer 2025. This mixed media collection marks an evolution in his practice, blending collage, print, and gestural abstraction to craft a visual language of memory and intuition. Through layered textures, spiritual symbols, and urban energy, each piece becomes an encrypted code—an emotional and cultural portal that honours the unseen forces shaping identity across time and space.





*Where there are shadows,
there is also light.*

noir/blanc

This collection is a reflection of the shadow and light that define the human experience. Through bold abstract forms and the stark contrasts of monochrome, the artist continues to explore the duality of self, peeling back layers to reveal the multifaceted nature of identity. In these pieces, he invites us to see the interplay of darkness and brightness, the coexistence of our complexities, and the beauty that emerges from it all.





Eternal Seasons

This collection is inspired by the artist's journey through France and his deep connection to nature. The serene greens evoke the lush landscapes of Normandy, embodying both the stillness of winter and the promise of brighter, warmer days. Each stroke is a reflection of hope, harmony, and a reminder to cherish our earth.





Chaillot collection

Delving into the intricate duality of the self, using bold abstract forms and contrasting shades to represent the multifaceted nature of identity. This collection is a reflection on how we navigate the layers of who we are, both seen and unseen.



CPK



Gede collection

The artist's journey into the abstract realm of art has been deeply influenced by the vibrant tapestry of his ancestral culture, particularly the Gede spirits. Embracing Buddhism has allowed the artist to view the world through a lens of interconnectedness and impermanence, themes that resonate profoundly with the Gede's embodiment of life, death, and rebirth.





French collection

The French Collection is a deeply personal tribute to France by the artist, a country that has enchanted him since childhood through its culture, humour, and cuisine, notably influenced by the likes of Louis de Funès, chefs Julia Child and Jacques Pépin. Born from a formative trip to France in 2022, the collection explores his paternal heritage of Marseille and melds the rich cultural tapestries of his upbringing in New York and Haiti. Each piece reflects a narrative of his cultural duality, combining a symphony of colours with the diverse influences that define his identity.





**Revelation by
Clifford Bertin**

A person wearing a white shirt and dark pants is walking away from the camera on a dirt path in a field. The background shows some trees and a clear sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

Clifford Bertin:
Revelation

Artist CV - selected work

Selected Professional Experience

2025: Artist-in-Residence, Société du Rhum Barbancourt, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

During this residency with Haiti's historic distillery, I created works that engaged with themes of heritage, craftsmanship and identity. As part of the residency, I facilitated a painting workshop with youth from the surrounding community, one of Port-au-Prince's poorest and most vulnerable neighbourhoods. This project provided a creative space for self-expression while connecting artistic practice with community resilience

2024: Artist-in-Residence, Galeria Vóltice, Mexico City, Mexico

As an artist-in-residence at Galeria Vóltice, I immersed myself in the vibrant artistic community of Mexico City. During this residency, I developed the Duality Collection, which explored my multiple identities as a Haitian American and the principles of polarity. This experience allowed me to engage with local artists and create a series of works inspired by the city's dynamic cultural landscape.

2023: Represented by Les Ateliers Jérôme, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Representation by Les Ateliers Jérôme has expanded my visibility in Haiti and introduced abstract expressionism to a new generation of collectors in a market historically dominated by figurative art. Through curated exhibitions, this collaboration has strengthened my presence in my homeland and contributed to diversifying the Haitian art scene.

2022: Solo Exhibition, "French Collection," Toronto, Canada

This solo exhibition showcased a series of works inspired by my travels in France. The show highlighted my ability to blend cultural influences into abstraction and was well received by audiences in Toronto.

2010: Group Exhibition, Clover Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

One of my early exhibitions at Clover Gallery in Brooklyn provided the opportunity to present my work to a wider audience in New York. This experience helped establish my presence in the art world and connect with other artists and collectors.

2022–Present: Full-Time Artist

Since 2022, I have worked as a full-time artist, dedicating myself entirely to my practice. This commitment has allowed me to focus deeply on experimentation and to develop a body of work that continues to evolve in scale, materials and conceptual grounding.

Contact

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