

# Mickalene Thomas

Mickalene Thomas is a multimedia artist who creates vibrant and pattern-filled installations, photography, and paintings drawing from visual culture and art history. Through her work, Thomas establishes a new vision of queer black women who have their own agency and power.

The eyes and gaze of Thomas' subjects are often focal points in her layered pieces, connecting themes of the female gaze and the many layers of the self. Additionally, album covers appear in several of Thomas' works as visual cues to meaning and engagement.

Below is Mickalene Thomas' piece *Clarivel with Black Blouse with White Ribbon* where you can add in eyes of your own and space to make the album in the piece one of your choice. Also fill in some of the areas by creating some of your own patterns. How does this transform the meaning of the piece? How do you relate to this layered piece?

