

# METRO PICTURES

Clavarino, Elena. "Gary Simmons: Screaming Into the Ether," *AirMail.News* (August 2020).



Gary Simmons "Bracing For The Blast" 2020

In the early 1990s, the artist Gary Simmons became well-known for a series in which he appropriated racist cartoon characters. They were striking chalkboard drawings and they employed a Simmons signature—his “erasure” technique, in which he uses his hands to wipe away bits of the image, giving it existential energy. That experiment opened the floodgates for a decades-long examination of racial stereotypes. In this latest exhibition, 1930s Looney Tunes characters—caricatures based on minstrels—appear caught in history’s wind tunnel. The color palette is black, white, and gray.