The daughter of a black father and white mother, Gaignard’s youth was marked by a strong sense of invisibility. Was her family white enough to be white? Black enough to be black? Gaignard interrogates notions of “passing” in an effort to address these questions. She positions her own female body as the chief site of exploration—challenging viewers to navigate the powers and anxieties of intersectional identity. Gaignard has had solo exhibitions at The FLAG Art Foundation, New York; Praz-Delavallade, Paris; Houston Center for Photography, Houston; California African American Museum, Los Angeles; among others. Her work has been included in numerous group exhibitions nationally and internationally at such venues as Crystal Bridges Museum of Art, Bentonville, Arizona; the Daegu, South Korea; and The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York. Gaignard received her BFA in photography from Massachusetts College of Art and Design and her MFA in photography from Yale University.

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