

Gibbes Museum of Art in Charleston, SC, Offers Works From The Studio Museum in Harlem for Spoleto Festival USA

The Gibbes Museum of Art in Charleston, SC, will present *Black Refractions: Highlights from The Studio Museum in Harlem*, on view in Galleries 8 & 9, from May 24 through Aug. 18, 2019. The exhibit is a component of the 2019 Spoleto Festival USA taking place in Charleston, from May 24 through June, 9, 2019.

With works in all media from the 1930s to the present, this will be the first traveling exhibition to reflect the full breadth of the Studio Museum's unparalleled permanent collection. The exhibition, including work by artists such as Romare Bearden, David Hammons, Norman Lewis, Wanguchi Mutu, and Lorna Simpson, will expand understanding of modern and contemporary art by artists of African descent.

Founded in 1968, the Studio Museum in Harlem is internationally known for its catalytic role in promoting the works of artists of African descent. The Artist-in-Residence program was one of the Museum's founding initiatives, and gives the Museum the "Studio" in its name. Alumni of the Artist-in-Residence program include Chakaia Booker, Kerry James Marshall, and Kehinde Wiley, all of whom are included in this exhibition. The Artist-in-Residence program emphasizes both art and education, much like the Gibbes Museum's Visiting Artist program that connects the artmaking process with the final product, helping to bring art to life for museum visitors.



Juliana Huxtable, "Untitled (Psychosocial Stuntin')," 2015. Color inkjet print. The Studio Museum in Harlem; Museum Purchase with funds provided by the Acquisition Committee 2015.8.1. © Juliana Huxtable. Courtesy the artist and American Federation of Arts

Highlights from The Studio Museum in Harlem is an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to share these incredible works of art with the Charleston community. The exhibi-



Faith Ringgold, "Echoes of Harlem," 1980; Acrylic on canvas, The Studio Museum in Harlem; Gift of Altria Group, Inc.; Courtesy American Federation of Arts; ©1980 Faith Ringgold

tion addresses themes directly relevant to our region, including race, identity, power, wealth, and memory. The artists in this exhibition are powerful voices in contemporary art that encourage viewers to consider the world around them in new and thoughtful ways.

This exhibition is organized by the American Federation of Arts and The Studio Museum in Harlem. Major support for *Highlights from The Studio Museum in Harlem* provided by Art Bridges. Additional funding provided by BlueCross BlueShield of SC, the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, Raymond James Financial, Inc., Society 1858, Key Logistics Solutions, LLC, Kim and Jim Pallotta, Carol and David Rawle, and Ron and Cynthia Thompson.

Also beginning in May, Fletcher Williams III will be a Visiting Artist at the Gibbes Museum from May 13 - June 14, 2019. Williams III is a Charleston based interdisciplinary artist whose theoretical and conceptual art making practice is rooted in a southern vernacular. Williams studied drawing, painting, print making, graphic design, and sculpture at The Cooper Union, where he received a BFA in 2010 and worked for several years thereafter as a freelance graphic designer. While the core of Williams' practice focused multimedia object making, a significant portion of his education was dedicated to studying ritual theory through the lenses of anthropology and sociology.

The Gibbes Museum of Art is home to the foremost collection of American art that incorporates the story of Charleston. The Museum connects the city and region's artistic past to a vibrant contemporary art scene. This is what we believe.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 843/722-2706 or visit (www.gibbesmuseum.org).

ante-room of Static Snow, and several more are installed in the back gallery behind the garden. They recount the artist's journey through the process of creating the installation, from materials that rose out of the research, to encounters during the residency and installation in Charleston. The painting will have a mirrored finish and create an illusory landscape within the pictorial plane.

Interdisciplinary Performances - These contrasting gardens of light and dark will also be a visual platform for interdisciplinary performances to take place during the exhibition period, providing a visceral encounter to the audience in an unexpected way. These will take the form of dancing, singing, drumming, story-telling, or other kinds of theatrical exchange. The central theme for the works is the notion of working hard, yet not being invited to join the feast/celebration/table. The Halsey Institute is collaborating with the College of Charleston departments of Music, Dance and Theatre to plan student performances in the gallery, as well as with a variety of community groups.

Community Dinners - Ma will use the exhibition to host a series of community dinners, which will feature guided conversation on specific themes related to the exhibition such as social justice, religious tolerance, and gentrification. These dinners will feature a wide range of members from the community to discuss the vital issues facing Charleston today.

Cry Joy Park: Gardens of Dark and Light is generously supported in part by The E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation.

2019 Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, SC, Offers Annual Outdoor Art Exhibition

The 40th Annual Piccolo Spoleto Outdoor Art Exhibition takes place once again in Marion Square Park in historic downtown Charleston, SC, from May 24 through June 8, 2019, Mon.-Thur., 10am-5pm and Fri.-Sun., 10am-6pm. This juried outdoor art exhibit is one of the major visual art components of the Piccolo Spoleto Festival.

Marion Square Park is transformed into a beautiful open-air market as some of the finest and most creative artists from throughout South Carolina exhibit and sell their work. Stroll through the park and browse the artists' tents as you view original oils, pastels, watercolors, acrylics, encaustics, photography, and more. With daily demonstrations by the 70 artists on hand to personally answer questions and show their artwork, the *Piccolo Spoleto Outdoor Art Exhibition (PSOAE)* offers a memorable experience and a great way to enjoy the creativity of our local visual arts community whether you're in the market for a new acquisition, or simply window shopping.



View of the Outdoor Art Exhibition

Participating artists include: John Albrecht, W. Andre Allen, Sabine Avcalade, Tommy Beaver, Lu Bentley, Elaine Berlin, Anita Blewer, Sherry Browne, Kathy Clark, KC Collins, Carl Crawford, Christine Crosby, John Crum, Tom Curtis, Nancy Davidson, Diane Dean, Katherine DuTremble, Victoria Platt Ellis, Deborah Fornell, Pat Forsberg, Alvin Glen, Floyd Gordon, Bob Graham, Tim Greaves, Stephanie Hamlet, Suzy Hart, Joyce Harvey, Scott Henderson, Katherine Hester, Peggy Howe, Steven Hyatt, Kellie Jacobs, Carla Johannesmeyer, Monnie Johnson, Kate M. Kennedy, Ivo Kerssemakers, Daryl Knox, Hilarie Lambert, Karen Langley, Madison Latimer, Setsuko Lawson, Gerardo Lecce, Alicia Leeke, Gaston Locklear, Amanda McLenon, Merrie McNair, Judy McSween, Thomas Meddaugh, John Michiels, Dianne Munkittrick, Tate Nation, Danny O'Driscoll, Kate Penegar, Scott Penegar,

Jennifer Wen Ma (b. 1973, Beijing) moved to the United States in 1986 and graduated with an MFA in 1999 from the Pratt Institute. Her practice draws together elements and cultural references in sensitive and unexpected ways, bridging such diverse media as installation, drawing, video, public art, design, performance, and theater. Trained as an oil painter, Ma was one of seven members of the core creative team for the 2008 Beijing Olympics and received an Emmy Award for their broadcast. Since then, she has increasingly delved into the material and philosophical qualities of the Chinese ink tradition.

Her work has been shown around the world, including the Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing; the Guggenheim Museum, New York; and the Metropolitan Museum, New York. Her opera *Paradise Interrupted* was performed at Spoleto Festival USA in 2016, among other locations around the globe.

The Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art at the College of Charleston School of the Arts provides a multidisciplinary laboratory for the production, presentation, interpretation, and dissemination of ideas by innovative visual artists from around the world. As a non-collecting museum, we create meaningful interactions between adventurous artists and diverse communities within a context that emphasizes the historical, social, and cultural importance of the art of our time.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Institute at 843/953-4422 or visit (halsey.cofc.edu).



An artist giving a portrait demo - wait, that's Steven Jordan doing my neverending portrait.

Sandra Roper, Nancy Rushing, Christie Rutigliano, Jan Sasser, Amelia Rose Smith, Austin Grace Smith, Sheryl Stalnaker, Shelia Thompson, Carl Turner, Amelia Whaley, Colleen Wiessmann, Keith Wilkie Lisa Willits, and Cat Wondergem.

This year's juror is John Nation of Louisville, KY. Majoring in Drawing and Painting, Nation received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Louisville. He began photography while he was in the US Navy at NAS Pensacola's Naval School of Photography.

For the past 30-years, Nation worked as a photographer for the *Louisville Magazine*. He also worked as a free-lance photographer during his time with the magazine. He has been published regionally, nationally and internationally in many magazines.



View of the Outdoor Art Exhibition

Nation has had a number of one-person shows and has recently traveled to Russia, and Romania. He's also photographed four presidents, spent a day covering Soviet Union leader Mikhail Gorbachev, documented Humana's helping hand in the hospitals of Romania and spent over a month on an elephant research project in Kenya. He has won numerous awards for photography including being a repeated winner as Society of Professional Journalists' Best Regional Magazine Photographer.

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College of Charleston in Charleston, SC, Offers Work by Jennifer Wen Ma

The College of Charleston in Charleston, SC, will present, *Cry Joy Park: Gardens of Dark and Light*, featuring work by Jennifer Wen Ma, on view at The Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art, from May 17 through July 6, 2019. A reception will be held on May 16, from 6:30-8pm. An Artist Talk will be offered on May 18, beginning at 2pm.

The exhibition is an investigation into the construct of a utopia, inspired by the history of Charleston, South Carolina, a cultural and artistic capital of the American South, and an exemplar of its opulence and beauty. This installation aims to present both an alluring, gorgeous and otherworldly garden, and its darker counterpart. The worlds created by the exhibition, is a juxtaposition of utopia and dystopia, and is presented via an immersive sensory experience that utilizes various forms of communication to convey its message.

Cry Joy Park: Gardens of Dark and Light was co-curated by Mark Sloan, Director and Chief Curator and Bryan Granger, Director of Exhibitions and Public Programs at the Halsey Institute. Jennifer Wen Ma is creating a brand new site-specific, Page 10 - Carolina Arts, May 2019

immersive, interactive, multi-media installation during a six-week residency at the Halsey Institute with her assistants as well as students from the College of Charleston and community volunteers.

The installation includes multiple components and layers:

Light and Dark Gardens - Oversized foliage made from cut paper, transforms the gallery into an overgrown forest. As the viewer approaches parts of the garden, the foliage is triggered by the motion and backs away, withdrawing in a defensive mode of self-protection. The narratives that run through the two gardens represent different sides of the same story or event, giving a Rashomon-like account of the complexity of human experience and perspective. The gardens represent a utopia and its opposing dystopia. Within this large-scale installation, Ma will use sound and projected video elements to create a rich multimedia experience.

Ink-on-Glass Paintings - A series of ink-on-glass paintings are shown along with the installations. One is mounted in the

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