



15 x 15

The 15th Anniversary
Acquisitions Exhibition

September 8 – December 3, 2011

Spelman College Museum of Fine Art

museum

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Marcia Kure
LBR and LGR, 2011
Watercolor, kolanut pigment, pencil, and egg tempera on paper
15 x 11 inches each
Courtesy the artist and BravinLee Programs, New York

When the Spelman College Museum of Fine Art was established in 1996, it became the repository for the art collection that Spelman College had amassed over several decades. Over the last 15 years, the Museum has safeguarded the permanent collection and honed its unique mission to emphasize art by and about women of the African Diaspora. The Museum has established a growing reputation for presenting exhibitions that complement the academic curriculum and appeal to the wider community. Meanwhile, it has strategically been identifying and pursuing its mission-focused acquisition priorities and working to expand the College's permanent holdings.

15 x 15: The 15th Anniversary Acquisitions Exhibition includes a selection of signature works and recent gifts from Spelman College's permanent collection. It also introduces the wish list of works by 15 artists that the College aims to purchase through 15 x 15—a special anniversary acquisitions initiative. The Fifteen were each featured in recent Museum exhibitions. Insightful responses from students, faculty, and the general public in large part informed which artists were ultimately selected as part of The Fifteen.

15 x 15: The 15th Anniversary Acquisitions Exhibition resists presenting the works thematically or chronologically. Instead, the works are arranged to highlight the scope of works in the collection, emphasize their significant links with the soon to be acquired works, and demonstrate the dynamic range of Spelman College's collecting interests.

15 x 15: The 15th Anniversary Acquisitions Exhibition commemorates the Museum's significant milestone. Deliberately fusing old and new, it creates a context for Spelman College's past, present, and future collecting efforts. The Museum is appealing to visitors, donors, and contributors to financially support this special acquisitions project. Collective efforts promise to help grow the Museum's unique emphasis on black women artists and catapult the institution into the next phase of its evolution.

Andrea Barnwell Brownlee, PhD, Director
Anne Collins Smith, Curator of Collections

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The Fifteen: A Wish List



Sheila Pree Bright

(American, b. 1967)

Untitled #3, (from the *Suburbia* series)

Untitled #5, (from the *Suburbia* series)

Untitled #28, (from the *Suburbia* series)

Chromogenic prints

24 x 30 inches

Courtesy the artist

María Magdalena Campos-Pons

(Cuban, b. 1959)

Spoken Softly with Mama II, 2008

Embroidered silk and organza over ironing boards with photographic transfers, cast glass irons, video projections, stereo sound

Audio courtesy Neil Leonard

Dimensions variable

Courtesy the artist and the Bernice Steinbaum Gallery, Miami

Renée Cox

(Jamaican-American, b. 1960)

Hot-en-Tot, 1994

30 x 40 inches

Gelatin silver print

Courtesy the artist

Lalla Essaydi

(Moroccan, b. 1965)

Les Femmes du Maroc: Harem Women Writing, 2008

Chromogenic print

30 x 40 inches

Courtesy the artist, the Edwynn Houk Gallery, New York, and Jackson Fine Art, Atlanta

LaToya Ruby Frazier

(American, b. 1982)

Momme Portrait Series (Shadow), 2008

Mom Making a Portrait of Me, 2008

Self Portrait (October 7th 9:30am), 2008

Gelatin silver print

16 x 20 inches

Courtesy the artist and the Hagedorn Foundation Gallery, Atlanta

Myra Greene

(American, b. 1975)

Untitled from the series *Character Recognition*, 2004 - 2007

Ambrotypes on black glass

3 x 4 inches

Courtesy the artist and the Catherine Edelman Gallery, Chicago



IngridMwangiRobertHutter

(Kenyan-German, b. 1970)

Chameleon, 2003

3 C-prints

100 x 80 centimeters

Courtesy the artist

Purchased with support from the Friends of the Museum in honor of **The 15 x 15 Acquisitions Initiative**

Lauren Kelley

(American, b. 1975)

Big Gurl, 2006

Digital animation, 8:12 minutes

7/10

Courtesy the artist

Marcia Kure

(Nigerian, b. 1970)

LDIMEDILLIGAF, 2011

LBR and LGR, 2011

The Conformist, 2011

Watercolor, kolanut pigment, pencil, and egg tempera on paper

15 x 11 inches each

Courtesy the artist and BravinLee Programs, New York

Bradley McCallum & Jacqueline Tarry

(American, b. 1966 & 1964)

Man with Dignity: Rich's Department Store, Atlanta, GA (after unknown photographer; William Stanford Collection, Kenan Research Center, Atlanta History Center), 2008

Woman with Dignity: Rich's Department Store, Atlanta, GA (after unknown photographer; William Stanford Collection, Kenan Research Center, Atlanta History Center), 2008

Oil on linen, toner on silk (each)

49 x 37½ inches (each)

Courtesy the artists

Nandipha Mntambo

(South African, b. 1982)

Mlwa ne Nkunzi, 2008

Diptych, archival ink on cotton rag paper

44 x 33 inches each

Courtesy the artist and the Michael Stevenson Gallery, Cape Town

Purchased with support from Vicki and John Palmer in honor of **The 15 x 15 Acquisitions Initiative**



Lorraine O'Grady

(American, b. 1934)

Mlle Bourgeoise Noire (detail, Untitled, Mlle Bourgeoise Noire asks "Won't you help me lighten my heavy bouquet?") 1980 - 1983

Photographs/performance documentation by Coreen Simpson and Salima Ali

50 x 40 inches and 40 x 50 inches (total of 14 photographs, dimensions variable)

Courtesy the artist and Alexander Gray Associates, New York



Howardena Pindell

(American, b. 1943)

Kokuzo Bosatsu, 1983

Gouache, tempera, postcards on paper

17.5 x 15 x 3.5 inches

Courtesy the artist and the Sandler Hudson Gallery, Atlanta

Lorna Simpson

(American, b. 1964)

Details, 1996

21 photogravures with silkscreen text

A/P Edition of 40

10 x 8 inches each, installation variable

Courtesy the artist and Salon 94, New York

Carrie Mae Weems

(American, b. 1953)

I Looked and Looked and Failed to See What So Frightened You, 2004

C-print diptych

A/P

36¾ x 24¾ inches each

Courtesy the artist and the Jack Shainman Gallery, New York



Calendar of Events

Thursday, September 8, 2011, 7 p.m.

Fête: The Official Launch Party for 15 x 15 featuring a musical experience by DJ Kai Alcé

Thursday, September 22, 2011, 6:30 p.m.

From Stuffed Birds to Cowhides: A Conversation with the Curators

At the turn of the 20th Century, Spelman College received a gift of stuffed birds from Africa and the Americas. One of the most recent additions to the permanent collection is *Mlwa ne Nkunzi* by South African artist Nandipha Mntambo. Join Andrea Barnwell Brownlee, Ph.D., Director, and Anne Collins Smith, Curator of Collections, for an interactive conversation and gallery walk about Spelman's past, present, and future collecting efforts.

Wednesday, October 5, 2011, 6:30pm

On Domesticity: A Conversation with Michelle Hite

Join Michelle Hite, Ph.D., Assistant Professor in the Spelman College English Department, for an interactive discussion about images of domesticity and African Americans in art, literature, and popular culture. Using *The Help*, *The Secret Life of Bees*, and works in the 15 x 15 exhibition as principal source material, Dr. Hite will examine the complicated representations of African American domestic laborers.

This program is organized in partnership with the Spelman College English Department.

María Magdalena Campos-Pons

Spoken Softly with Mama II, 2008

Embroidered silk and organza over ironing boards with photographic transfers, cast glass irons, video projections, stereo sound

Audio courtesy Neil Leonard

Dimensions variable

Courtesy the artist and the Bernice Steinbaum Gallery, Miami

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Wednesday, October 12, 2011, 6:30 p.m.

Deconstructing History: Interrogating Truth
A Reading with Frank X Walker

Frank X Walker is an author, educator, co-founder of the Affrilachian Poets, and the director of African American and Africana Studies at the University of Kentucky. Through his extensive work, Walker emphasizes that people of color—especially artists—are part of the past and present of the multi-state Appalachian region extending from northern Mississippi to southern New York. Walker is the editor and publisher of *Pluck!*, *Journal of Affrilachian Art & Culture* and the author of five poetry collections including *Affrilachia: Poems by Frank X Walker* (2000). For this special program he will be reading from several books including his new manuscript on Medgar Evers.

This program is organized in partnership with the Spelman College English Department.

Friday, October 21, 2011, 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Homecoming Kickoff Reception

Members of the Spelman and Morehouse family are invited to a private gathering in the Museum. View a selection of works in the permanent collection, recent gifts, and soon to be acquired works of art in **15 x 15: The 15th Anniversary Acquisitions Exhibition**. Kickoff Homecoming 2011 weekend by reuniting with friends—both old and new—and enjoying a musical experience by the acclaimed, soulful five piece band Gritz and Jelly Butter.

Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2011, 4 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Jazz at the Museum

On this day 15 years ago the inaugural exhibition, *Bearing Witness: Contemporary Works by Black Women Artists* debuted at the Museum. Celebrate this milestone with a night of jazz with acclaimed musician and composer Joe Jennings and the quartet Forward Motion.

This performance is organized in partnership with the Spelman College Department of Music.

Wednesday, November 2, 2011, 7 p.m.

ART PAPERS LIVE! The Contemporary Art Lecture Series Presents Zineb Sedira.

This event, the closing reception for Atlanta Celebrates Photography, is a collaboration between the Museum, Art Papers, and Atlanta Celebrates Photography.

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Support the 15 x 15 Acquisitions Initiative

The **15 x 15 Initiative** is a three-part anniversary project that involves:

- acquiring works by 15 emerging, mid-career, and established artists
- an exhibition presenting the 15 soon to be acquired works alongside works by celebrated artists including Romare Bearden, Elizabeth Catlett, Jacob Lawrence, and Hale Woodruff that have been in Spelman College's collection for decades
- a catalogue (forthcoming Spring 2012) to be created with the involvement of scholars, faculty, and students.

The seed for the **15 x 15 Initiative** was planted by the generosity of an anonymous donor. The financial needs for this anniversary project are considerable. Please contribute and help the Museum achieve this anniversary milestone.

Nandipha Mntambo
Mlwa ne Nkunzi, 2008
 Diptych, archival ink on cotton rag paper
 44 x 33 inches each
 Courtesy the artist and the Michael Stevenson Gallery, Cape Town
 Purchased with support from Vicki and John Palmer in honor of **The 15 x 15 Acquisitions Initiative**

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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

I/We want to be a Friend of the Spelman College Museum of Fine Art and help support **The 15 x 15 Acquisitions Initiative**.

Join or renew online at www.spelman.edu and select Make a Gift.

Subscribe to the enewsletter at spelmannmuseum.org and join our online community.

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| <input type="radio"/> DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE \$5,000 | <input type="radio"/> SILVER PATRONS \$750 |
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| <input checked="" type="radio"/> 15 x 15 COLLECTORS CIRCLE \$1,500 | <input type="radio"/> FOUNDING FRIENDS \$250 |
| <input type="radio"/> GOLD PATRONS \$1,000 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> 15 x 15 ANNIVERSARY CIRCLE \$150 |

- RENEWAL NEW MEMBERSHIP

PAYMENT

ENCLOSED IS MY ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE OF \$ _____

- CHECK

Made payable to: Spelman College Museum of Fine Art

- CREDIT

The Museum gladly accepts memberships as monthly payments or in installments. Please inquire.

I AUTHORIZE SPELMAN COLLEGE MUSEUM OF FINE ART TO CHARGE MY CONTRIBUTION TO MY:

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 EXPIRATION DATE

 NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CREDIT CARD

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- This contribution is eligible for a corporate match.

Contributions from Friends, corporations and foundations to the Spelman College Museum of Fine Art are tax-deductible within the limits prescribed by law.

Spelman College Museum of Fine Art

The seed for the **15 x 15 Initiative** was planted by the generosity of an anonymous donor. The financial needs for this anniversary project are considerable. The Museum enthusiastically acknowledges the Friends of the Museum who have invested early in this milestone project at the Bronze membership level and above:

Anonymous
Beatrice & Isaiah Barnwell
Robert Brawner
Andrea* & Edward Brownlee
Lucinda & Robert Bunnan
Fred Burks
Debbie & Jeff Chapman
Ruby* & Augustus Clay
Charlotte Dixon
Jennifer Bryant Dossman*
Brooke Jackson Edmond*
Helen Forbes Fields*
Gwendolyn Garrison*
Angela Yvonne Glover*
Mignon Goode-Bigelow & James Bigelow
Yolanda & Greg Head
Sivan & Jeff Hines
Ann & Ben Johnson
Sheila Ann Johnson*
Deneen Law*
Barbara Lee*
Theodora Lee*
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Sharon Milligan*
Vicki† & John Palmer
Pamola Powell & Guy Lescault
Tanika Ray*
April Savoy*
Jonathan Shils
Sally Silverman
Candace Smith
Erica Tazel*
Ché Deneé Watkins*

* Spelman College Alumnae

† Spelman College Trustee

Cover Image: Carrie Mae Weems *I Looked and Looked and Failed to See What So Frightened You*, 2004. C-print diptych, 36³/₈ x 24³/₈ inches each. Courtesy the artist and the Jack Shainman Gallery, New York



The Museum emphasizing art by and about women of the African Diaspora

SPELMAN COLLEGE MUSEUM OF FINE ART
in the Camille Olivia Hanks Cosby, Ed.D. Academic Center

350 Spelman Lane, Box 1526 | Atlanta, GA 30314 | 404.270.5607
museum@spelman.edu | spelmanmuseum.org



Hours: Tuesdays - Fridays, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturdays, noon - 4 p.m.
Closed Sunday, Monday, holidays, and Spelman College breaks



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