

D A V I S
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C E N T E R

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 2008

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**Davis Museum and Cultural Center, Wellesley College, presents a
Film Series: Black Woman's Body in Africa**

Films are presented in conjunction with the *Black Womanhood* exhibition at the Davis Museum.

Wednesday at 7pm in Collins Cinema

Sept 24

Abderrahmane Sissako, *Bamako*, 2006

Set against the backdrop of overwhelming economic strife, a couple fights to save their relationship. While they are struggling to keep the peace in their marriage, their neighbors are holding a mock trial in the town courtyard to hold the IMF and the World Bank complicit in creating such hardship in Africa.

Oct 1

Apolline Traore, *Kounandi*, 2004.

Kounandi is an adult fairy tale about love and the sacrifices it sometimes asks of us. This film addresses social conflict and prejudices and helps us appreciate the paradoxical roles of women.

Oct 8

Idrissou Mora Kpai, *Si-Gueriki (The Queen Mother)*, 2002.

A documentary about Mora Kpai's return to his Borgu home in Northern Benin after a ten-year residence in Europe, this film explores the changes resulting from colonization and modernization that have considerably weakened the role of female authority.

Nov 19

Flora Gomes, *Udju Azul Di Yonta, (The Blue Eyes of Yonta)*, 1991

Udju Azul di Yonta offers a portrait of the disillusionment of the revolutionary generation in Guinea-Bissau and the vibrant, if unintended society which developed after independence in 1973. It tells the story of three people so in love with their dreams that they miss the real opportunities which life offers.

Dec 3

Julie Dash, *Daughters of the Dust*, 1991.

The story of a large African-American family preparing to move North from the Sea Islands off the coast of Georgia at the dawn of the 20th century, *Daughters of the Dust* touches on the complex identities and diverse aspirations of African-Americans.

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BLACK WOMANHOOD EXHIBITION

Black Womanhood: Images Icons and Ideologies of the African Body was organized by the Hood Museum of Art and will be on view from September 17 to December 14, 2008. The exhibition explores the complex perpetuation of icons and stereotypes of black womanhood through the display of over one hundred sculptures, prints, postcards, photographs, paintings, textiles, and video installations by artists from Africa, Europe, America, and the Caribbean. Presented in three separate but intersecting sections, *Black Womanhood* reveals three different perspectives—the traditional African, Western colonial, and contemporary global—that have contributed to current ideas about black womanhood. Providing an in-depth look at how images of the black female body have been created and used differently in Africa and the West, the exhibition explores themes such as ideals of beauty, fertility and sexuality, maternity and motherhood, and women's identities and social roles. Collectively, these overlapping perspectives penetrate the complex and interwoven relationships between Africa and the West, male and female, and past and present — all of which have contributed to the inscription of meaning onto the black female body. **Black Womanhood is on view through December 14.**

DAVIS MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER HOURS AND INFORMATION

Public Tours: Wednesday 1pm; Sundays 2pm led by museum docents. Free.

Museum Hours: Tuesday–Saturday, 11am–5pm, Wednesday until 8pm, and Sunday 12noon–4pm.
Closed Mondays and holidays. Admission is free.

Location: Wellesley College campus, 106 Central Street in Wellesley, Massachusetts

Parking: Free and available in the lot behind the museum. Additional parking is available in the Davis Parking Garage.

Docent tour information: 781-283-3382.

Accessible: The museum, Collins Café and Collins Cinema are wheelchair accessible and wheelchairs are available for use in the Museum without charge. Special needs may be accommodated by contacting the Director of Disability Services, Jim Wice at 781-283-2434 or at jwice@wellesley.edu.