

DAVIS MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER WELLESLEY COLLEGE FALL 2008

EXHIBITIONS

BLACK WOMANHOOD: IMAGES, ICONS AND IDEOLOGIES OF THE AFRICAN BODY

Opening Celebration September 17 Wednesday, 6 – 8 pm
On View September 17 – December 14

Black Womanhood presents African, European, American, and Caribbean art from private and public collections that explores the history and present day expressions of a charged icon, the black female body.

This exhibition was organized by the Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, and is generously funded by a grant from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. The Davis Museum venue is funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, William T. Kemper Foundation, Mary Tebbets Wolfe '54 Program Endowment, Davis Museum Program Endowment, Massachusetts Cultural Council, and Wellesley College Friends of Art.

ELLEN ZWEIG: HEAP

On View September 17 – December 14

In *HEAP*, a series of videos exploring China, poet, performance artist, and filmmaker Ellen Zweig questions our interactions with other cultures and the ways in which language is the primary medium through which we might understand, or misunderstand, one another.

This project is funded by the E. Franklin Robbins Art Museum Fund and Wellesley College Friends of Art.



RECENT ACQUISITIONS: WORKS ON PAPER

On View September 17 – December 14

This exhibition highlights drawings and photographs recently acquired from the permanent collection. Works on view range from old masters to contemporary by artists from around the world.

PERFORMANCE

CONCERT WITH BETH DESOMBRE

**September 23 Tuesday,
12:30 pm – 1:00 pm**
Davis Museum gallery

Join us for a mid-day concert featuring accomplished folk singer Beth DeSombre. She performs a short set of songs including *Ex-voto*, a song inspired by the Peres-Maldonado *Ex-voto* in the Davis Museum Collection. DeSombre is the Frost Professor of Environmental Studies and Professor of Political Science.

PERFORMANCE ARTISTS

October 18, 5:30 pm
Davis Museum

In their performance, a group of New York and Boston based artists including Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons and Dineo Bopape, incorporate a sound component and address the *Black Womanhood* exhibition. In conjunction with the performance artists, Visiting Instructor Genevieve Hyacinthe will teach a class in the Art Department/Africana Studies (ARTH 316); guest artists are invited to her class.

DANCE ENSEMBLE IN THE DAVIS GALLERY

November 2 Sunday, 3 – 4 pm
(see Family Day)
Davis Museum gallery

Choreographer and Physical Education Dance Instructor Samantha Cameron creates a dance with composer/percussionist artist Martin Case based on the objects in *Black Womanhood*. Wellesley College student dancers interpret chosen works of art through dance.

A collaboration between the Department of Physical Education and the Davis Museum in conjunction with the museum's fall Family Day.



FAMILY

FAMILY DAY @ THE DAVIS

November 2 Sunday, 1 – 3 pm. Performance to follow, 3 – 4 pm
Davis Museum

Children of all ages and their adult friends are invited to enjoy an interactive day of drumming, dancing, gallery activities, and fun. Musician/composer Martin Case will lead a drumming and dance performance and lesson, with help from Wellesley student dancers and friends. Light refreshments will be served. This event highlights the ongoing reinstallation of the museum's permanent collection as well as the exhibition *Black Womanhood: Images, Icons and Ideologies of the African Body*.

All are welcome to stay for the performance to follow. (See *Dance Ensemble in the Davis Gallery*.)



TALKS

BLACK WOMANHOOD: SYMPOSIUM

October 18 Saturday, 9 am – 5:30 pm
Collins Cinema

Scholars will discuss cultural identity, aesthetics, politics, and religion. Sessions will include perspectives by scholars from the areas of sociology, Africana studies—including the religions of Africa and the African Diaspora—as well as artists, art historians, and curators on visual arts and films. Chairing the symposium from Wellesley College are Professor Filomina Steady and Assistant Professor Pashington Obeng Africana

Studies Department; discussant is Visiting Instructor Genevieve Hyacinthe Art Department; and speakers include Professor Oyeronke Oyewumi, Department of Sociology, State University of New York at Stony Brook, New York; Professor Stanlie M. James, Director African & African American Studies Program, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Arizona State University; artist Renée Cox, New York; and guest curator Barbara Thompson, Curator of African, Oceanic, and Native American Collections, Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire.

To register, visit www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu/whatsnew/black_womanhood_symp_reg.html.

MUSEUM PLUS

PODCASTS

The museum continues to expand its selection of Davis Museumcasts, a series of collections and exhibitions based on podcast tours. These podcasts include new exhibitions as well as the permanent collections. To listen, download, and learn more, visit www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu or borrow an iPod from the museum front desk.



TOURS

Tours led by Museum Docents are offered free of charge on Wednesdays at 1 pm and Sundays at 2 pm.

HOURS AND ADMISSION

The museum and its programs are open to the public free of charge. The museum is open Tuesday – Saturday, 11 am – 5 pm, Wednesday until 8 pm, and Sunday 12 noon – 4 pm. It is closed Mondays and holidays.

ACCESSIBILITY

The museum, Collins Café, and Collins Cinema are all wheelchair accessible, and the museum will provide wheelchairs free of charge. Special needs may be accommodated by contacting Wellesley College's Director of Disability Services, Jim Wice at 781-283-2434 or at jwice@wellesley.edu.

STUDENTS: GET INVOLVED WITH THE DAVIS

There are many offerings just for students to get more engaged with the Davis.

- Kick-back and stroll through the Davis Museum at your own leisure.
- Volunteer. Contact Barbara Levitov: blevitov@wellesley.edu
- Work. www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu/employment
- Join Davis Museum Student Advisory Council. Learn more. Contact Lily Wies: lwies@wellesley.edu
- Take a course that involves the museum and its works of art, for example, ARTH 336 Seminar—Museum Issues
EDUC 221—Museum Education and the Art Encounter
ARTH 100 and 101—Both use the Davis Museum as a resource for teaching
AFR 207—Images of Africana People through the Cinema
ARTH 316—Topics in African/African-American Art
- Lead school tours as a Museum Mentor. Contact Alexa Miller: amiller3@wellesley.edu.
- Attend events. www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu/calendar/index.html
- Participate in a creative response or poetry podcast. Contact Jim Olson: jolson@wellesley.edu
- Lend your voice in the gallery; be a reader for the project *21 Etchings and Poems*. Contact Elaine Mehalakes: emehalak@wellesley.edu
- Search the Davis' collection online. www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu/collections/database.html

www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT THE DAVIS



Zili Misik Ensemble.

EVENTS

FALL 2008 OPENING CELEBRATION

September 17 Wednesday, 6 – 8 pm
Davis Museum

Please join us for Gallery Talks by museum curators and guest artists.

- Welcome by David Mickenberg, Ruth Gordon Shapiro '37 Director
- Ensemble Zili Misik on the Davis Museum Plaza

The Concert Series at Wellesley College will open the '08-'09 season with a performance by ensemble Zili Misik at the Opening Celebration on the Plaza (rain location: Jewett Auditorium). Under the direction of Kera Washington, Music Performance Faculty, the all female group retraces routes of forced exile and cultural resistance through Diasporic rhythm and song. By bridging cultures, generations, and continents with music and rhythm, Zili is the musical counterpoint to the works of art on display in *Black Womanhood*.

DAVIS AFTER DARK

Look for this popular student event at the Davis sponsored by the Davis Museum Student Advisory Committee this fall. Art activities. Refreshments. Lots of fun. Stay tuned.

FILM

FILM SERIES: BLACK WOMAN'S BODY IN AFRICA



Udju Azul Di Yonta (The Blue Eyes of Yonta), 1991, by Flora Gomes. Courtesy of California Newsreel.

In conjunction with *Black Womanhood*.

All films courtesy California Newsreel.

Wednesdays, 7 pm
Collins Cinema

September 24

Safe Faye, Mossane, 1996.

October 1

Apolline Traore, *Kounandi*, 2004.

October 8

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

November 19

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

December 3

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

EDUCATORS

TEACHER WORKSHOP: GET YOUR FEED WET WITH VTS

October 1 Wednesday, 4 – 6 pm
Davis Museum gallery and lobby

Learn about Visual Thinking Strategies, a methodology to connect art and literacy. Enjoy gallery discussion with colleagues while exploring a tool for accessing art in the classroom. 2 PDP's. RSVP, required, to amiller3@wellesley.edu

TALK

ARTIST'S TALK: ELLEN ZWEIG

October 22 Wednesday, 6 pm
Collins Cinema

Ellen Zweig's work ranges from poetry to performance art, installation to interactive web-based art. *HEAP*, her series of videos currently on view at the Davis Museum, explores the cultural encounters that are the result of travel by portraying China through Western eyes.

Funded by the E. Franklin Robbins Art Museum Fund and Wellesley College Friends of Art.



Ellen Zweig, still from a surplus of landscape from the series *HEAP*, 2009, video. Courtesy of the artist.

COLLINS CAFE

New this fall, students can use the One Card at the Collins Café.
Hours: Monday – Friday 8 am – 2 pm

MUSEUM HOURS

September 17 – December 14: Tuesday to Saturday 11 am – 5 pm,
Wednesday until 8 pm, Sunday 12 noon – 4 pm, Closed Mondays and holidays
Free Admission • Free Parking • Open to the Public

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



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LOOKING AHEAD

SPRING 2009 OPENING CELEBRATION

Date TBD

Reinstallation of the
Permanent Collection—
Perceiving Space in Art
and The Artist as Curator:
Kiki Smith.

CHORRERA, Strap Handle Vessel in the form of a
House, 1000-300 B.C. Earthenware with slip paint,
Gift of Claudia and John Menser2004.99



www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu