

STUDIO MUSEUM HARLEM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Frequency

On view: November 9, 2005 thru March 12, 2006

NEW YORK, NY, October 25, 2005 – The Studio Museum in Harlem proudly presents *Frequency*, an exhibition of more than eighty-five works of art by thirty-five emerging artists from across the United States. Ranging in age from 25-46, the artists' influences vary from hip-hop videos to folktales, baseball stars to Abstract Expressionism, tattoo design to non-western aesthetics, and more. With new work in diverse media such as painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, video, digital animation, and mixed media, *Frequency* is a reflection of the current creative moment among contemporary black artists.

The diversity of these artists is not limited to age and practice, but also includes geography, with artists hailing from cities across the country, from New York to Los Angeles, presenting a vast and nuanced understanding of the cultural zeitgeist. Co-organized by Thelma Golden, director and chief curator, and Christine Y. Kim, associate curator, *Frequency* will be on view from November 9, 2005 until March 12, 2006.

Though *Frequency* continues in the tradition of *Freestyle*, the Studio Museum's 2001 exhibition which similarly reflected the creative moment among emerging black artists, it differs in several fundamental ways. *Frequency* is a snapshot of the current moment, and just as *Freestyle* ushered in a new generation of artists. *Frequency* presents emerging black artists of 2005.



HANK WILLIS THOMAS

*Liberation of T.O.: Ain't no way I'm go'n
in back ta'work fa'massa in dat darn field,*
2004



SHINIQUE SMITH

Their First Bundle, 2004

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The use of imagery and materials in this exhibition are wide-ranging and experimental: rhinestone paintings, handmade set designs, appropriated sports footage, 19th-century African-American found objects, and African-American historical figures such as Harriet Tubman and Oscar Micheaux all appear. Much of the work addresses complex issues, frequently in a new and provocative manner. For example, Adam Pendleton's silk screens incorporate negative black and white images of race riots and Ku Klux Klan rallies and disparate text, creating poster-like works that are visually suggestive of album covers or concert announcements and also address contemporary popular culture and race in America. Several artists have traveled extensively throughout Africa, Asia and Europe and have incorporated images and issues of globalization, war, industry and the media into their work. Roberto Visani was raised in Italy and the United States, and has lived in Ghana, where the practice of re-using found objects and parts for arms, metal detectors and head trophies is common, and has influenced his mixed media sculptures.



KALUP LINZY

*Conversations Wit De Churen III:
Da Young and Da Mess, 2005*

Other *Frequency* artists utilize popular tropes and icons of American culture, re-imagined and refined for new purposes: Xiomara De Oliver's paintings depicting World War II era pin-up girls and planes explore the interpretations and associations suggested by these icons. Themes present in the exhibition range from the fantasy and eroticism of William Villalongo's allegorical painting *The Abduction of Bacchus* (2005), to the humor, irony, and gender ambiguity of Kalup Linzy's video installation *Da Young and Da Mess* (2005), to the urban archaeology practiced by Jina Valentine, who finds abandoned objects and creates outlines from era specific Top 40 album covers upon these found items, thus suggesting the interplay between the material and popular culture.



Frequency is sponsored, in part, by The Andy Warhol Foundation for The Visual Arts, The Peter Norton Family Foundation and The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation.

ZÖE CHARLTON

Presentation, 2005

ARTISTS IN THE EXHIBITION

Michael Paul Britto, New York, NY
 Nyame Brown, Notre Dame, IN
 Jonathan Calm, New York, NY
 Nick Cave, Chicago, IL
 Zöe Charlton, Baltimore, MD
 Mike Cloud, Brooklyn, NY
 Isaac Diggs, New York, NY
 Kianga Ford, Los Angeles, CA
 Rashawn Griffin, New York, NY
 Leslie Hewitt, Houston, TX
 Wayne Hodge, New York, NY
 Sedrick E. Huckaby, Fort Worth, TX
 Kalup Linzy, New York, NY
 Nzuii De Magalhães, Costa Mesa, CA
 Rodney McMillian, Los Angeles, CA
 Lester Julian Merriweather, Memphis, TN
 Wardell Milan, II, New York, NY
 Demetrius Oliver, Houston, TX

Xiomara De Oliver, New York, NY
 Karyn Olivier, New York, NY
 Adam Pendleton, Brooklyn, NY
 Jefferson Pinder, Washington, DC
 Robert A. Pruitt, Houston, TX
 Michael Queenland, New York, NY
 Marc André Robinson, Brooklyn, NY
 Xaviera Simmons, Brooklyn, NY
 Kwabena Slaughter, Brooklyn, NY
 Shinique Smith, Brooklyn, NY
 Jeff Sonhouse, New York, NY
 Hank Willis Thomas, Miami, FL
 Mickalene Thomas, Brooklyn, NY
 Jina Valentine, Philadelphia, PA
 William Villalongo, Brooklyn, NY
 Roberto Visani, Brooklyn, NY
 Paula Wilson, New York, NY

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XIOMARA DE OLIVER
Allegory of Some Bombshell Girls - only in flamingo grass, (detail) 2005



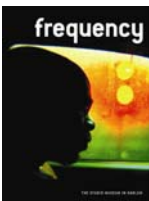
DEMETRIUS OLIVER
Tracks, 2004



JEFFERSON PINDER
Invisible Man, 2005

EDUCATION & PUBLIC PROGRAMS

In conjunction with *Frequency*, The Studio Museum in Harlem's Department of Education and Public Programs offers a range of programs, activities, and events that will incorporate artists, scholars, and critics into thought-provoking discussions on a wide variety of issues central to the works on view in the exhibition. For more information on public programs, please visit www.studiomuseum.org or call 212-864-4500 (ext. 264).



PUBLICATION

A fully illustrated 120-page catalogue will accompany the exhibition. It will include reproductions of the works of art and essays by Thelma Golden, Franklin Sirmans, and Malik Gaines. Each artist is either profiled, interviewed, or assessed by leading curators from around the country, including Dominic Molon, Sarah Lewis, and Aimee Chang. The catalogue will also include a checklist of works and biographies of the artists.

ABOUT THE STUDIO MUSEUM IN HARLEM

The Studio Museum in Harlem is a contemporary art museum that focuses on the work of artists of African descent locally, nationally and globally, as well as work that has been inspired and influenced by African-American culture, through its exhibitions, Artists-in-Residence program, education and public programming, permanent collection, archival and research facilities.

The Studio Museum in Harlem is committed to serving as a unique resource in its local community and in national and international arenas by making art works and exhibitions concrete and personal for each viewer and providing a context within which to address the contemporary and historical issues presented through art created by artists of African descent.

Since opening in a rented loft at Fifth Avenue and 125th Street in 1968, The Studio Museum has earned recognition for its catalytic role in promoting the works of artists of African descent. The Museum's *Artists-In-Residence* program has supported over 90 graduates who have gone on to establish highly regarded careers. A wide variety of *Education and Public Programs* have brought the African American experience alive for the public by means of lectures, dialogues, panel discussions, and performances, as well as interpretive programs both on-site and off-site for students and teachers. The *Exhibitions* program has also expanded the scope of art historical literature through the production of scholarly catalogues, brochures and pamphlets.

The Studio Museum's *Permanent Collection* contains over 1,600 works, including drawings, pastels, prints, photographs, mixed media works, and installations. It is comprised of works created by artists during their residency, as well as pieces given to the Museum to create an art historical framework for artists of African descent. Featured in the collection are Terry Adkins, Romare Bearden, Skunder Boghossian, Robert Colescott, Melvin Edwards, Richard Hunt, Hector Hyppolite, Serge Jolimeau, Lois Mailou Jones, Jacob Lawrence, Norman Lewis, Philome Obin, Betye Saar, Nari Ward, and Hale Woodruff among others. The Museum also is the custodian of an extensive archive of the work of photographer James VanDerZee, the quintessential chronicler of the Harlem community from 1906 to 1984.

Operation of the Studio Museum in Harlem is supported with public funds provided by The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency; and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation through the office of Sen. David A. Paterson. Major funding is also provided by The Peter Jay Sharp Foundation and The Carnegie Corporation of New York, with additional support from The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, JPMorgan Chase, LEF Foundation, The Scherman Foundation, Inc., Goldman, Sachs & Co., Credit Suisse First Boston, The New York Times Company Foundation, American Express Company, Altria Group Inc., New York Stock Exchange Foundation, Pfizer, Inc., The Norman and Rosita Winston Foundation, Inc., The Cowles Charitable Trust, Lord & Taylor, Pierre and Maria-Gaetana Matisse Foundation, The Moody's Foundation, Morgan Stanley and The Young & Rubicam Foundation.

The Studio Museum in Harlem is located at 144 West 125th Street, between Adam Clayton Powell Boulevard and Lenox Avenue.

Subway: A, B, C, D, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 to 125th Street.

Bus: M-2, M-7, M-10, M-100, M-101, M-102 or BX-15.

Suggested donation: \$7 for adults, \$3 for students (with valid id) and seniors. Free for children 12 and under. The first Saturday of every month is free for everyone. The museum is open Wednesday through Friday, and Sunday from **12 – 6**, and from **10 – 6** on Saturdays. The Museum is closed on Monday, Tuesday and major holidays.

Phone: 212 864 4500/ **fax:** 212 864- 4800/ **Web site:** www.studiomuseum.org.

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