

MEDIA RELEASE

The Studio Museum in Harlem
144 West 125th Street
New York, NY 10027
studiomuseum.org/press

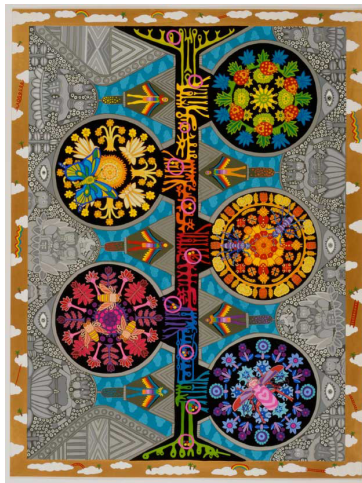
Contact:

Elizabeth Gwinn, Communications Manager
egwinn@studiomuseum.org
212.864.4500 x213

Announcing *The Bearden Project* and concurrent Fall/Winter 2011–12 exhibitions



Rashid Johnson
Clowns, 2011



Saya Woolfalk
Empathic Plant Alchemy, 2011



John Outterbridge
Godfather, 2011

NEW YORK, NY, October 11, 2011— September 2, 2011, marked the centennial of the birth of **Romare Bearden**, and the beginning of a year of international celebration of this significant and singular artist. In tribute to Bearden, who was deeply involved with the founding of The Studio Museum in Harlem, and whose work remains at the core of our collection, the Studio Museum is inviting one hundred artists to create new works of art inspired, influenced, or informed by the life, work, and legacy of one of the most important artists of the twentieth Century. The Museum will share these works with the public through *The Bearden Project*, a dynamic exhibition initiative that will grow and change throughout the centennial year.

The Bearden Project will open to the public on November 10, 2011, but will evolve over the subsequent year as new work arrives at the Museum and works are rearranged in dialogue with Bearden's work, each other, and concurrent exhibitions. In addition to the exhibition, the Museum will offer multiple ways for the public to engage with the art and artists participating in *The Bearden Project*. Building on its history of robust public programs, the Museum will celebrate *The Bearden Project* with the launch of a new and even more comprehensive event calendar featuring rare opportunities to experience performances, tours, artists' talks and beyond with leading contemporary artists,

noted scholars, and Museum curators **Thelma Golden, Lauren Haynes, Naima Keith** and **Thomas J. Lax**. Visit studiomuseum.org throughout the exhibition for details.

Additionally, the Museum will launch thebeardenproject.studiomuseum.org on November 9. Created in partnership with emerging New York design firm OCD, this ever-changing, interactive microsite will spotlight a rotating roster of participating artists and feature information about and a map of tri-state area museums displaying Bearden works in celebration of the centennial. The Studio Museum and OCD will also create a comprehensive publication reproducing each work in the project along with personal and intimate reflections from participants, a new essay by exhibition organizer and Studio Museum Assistant Curator Lauren Haynes and a foreword by director Thelma Golden. **The Bearden Project** both salutes an icon of American art in this centennial year and serves as an enduring tribute to his life, legacy, and influence.

Confirmed Artists (as of 11/4/11)

Derrick Adams	Vincent Johnson	Meleko Mokgosi	Lorna Simpson
Njideka Akunyili	Simone Leigh	Dominique Moody	Shinique Smith
Edgar Arceneaux	Glenn Ligon	Wangechi Mutu	Hank Willis Thomas
Mark Bradford	Nzuzi De Magãlhaes	Kori Newkirk	Mickalene Thomas
Sanford Biggers	Kerry James Marshall	John Outterbridge	William Villalongo
Leonardo Drew	Matriarch (Maren and Ava Hassinger)	Kamau Amu Patton	Stacy Lynn Waddell
David Driskell	Dave McKenzie	William Pope.L	Jack Whitten
Charles Gaines	Rodney McMillian	Robert Pruitt	Saya Woolfalk
Todd Gray	Julie Mehretu	Faith Ringgold	Brenna Youngblood
Lyle Ashton Harris	Wardell Milan	Nadine Robinson	
Wayne Hodge	Nicole Miller	Alison Saar	
Rashid Johnson		Xaviera Simmons	

Also on View

In addition to **The Bearden Project**, the Studio Museum will present **Who, What, Wear**, featuring selections from the Museum's permanent collection that highlight changing fashion and style; **Collected. Ritual**, the latest in a series of targeted collection highlights; **The Block | Bellona**, a new Project Space installation by **Kira Lynn Harris**; **VideoStudio: Rodney McMillian / Robin Rhode**; and **Harlem Postcards** by Noel Anderson, Cheryl Donegan, Mariamma Kambon and Devin Troy Strother.

About The Studio Museum in Harlem

Founded in 1968, 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. The Museum is committed to serving as a unique resource in the local community, and in national and international arenas, by making artworks and exhibitions concrete and personal for each viewer.

Hours and Admission

The Studio Museum is open Thursday and Friday, noon-9pm; Saturday, 10am-6pm; Sunday, noon-6pm. The museum is closed to the public but available for school and group tours on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Museum admission is by suggested donation: \$7 for adults, \$3 for students (with valid id) and seniors. Free for children 12 and under. Sundays are free at the Studio Museum, thanks to generous support from Target. For more information visit studiomuseum.org.

The Studio Museum in Harlem's exhibitions and permanent collection are supported with public funds from the following government agencies and elected representatives: The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency; National Endowment for the Arts; Assemblyman Keith L. T. Wright, 70th A.D.; The City of New York; Council Member Inez E. Dickens, 9th Council District, Speaker Christine Quinn and the New York City Council; and Manhattan Borough President Scott M. Stringer.

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