

Fall 9-1977

Contemporary Black Art: a selected sampling

Fine Arts Gallery at Florida International University Frost Art Museum
The Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum

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Contemporary
Black Art:
A Selected Sampling



Contemporary
Black Art:
A Selected Sampling

Florida International University
North Miami Campus
September 23 - October 2, 1977

Tamiami Campus
October 4 - 22, 1977
Fine Arts Gallery

Cover Photo: IFE ROSE by Ed Clark

When asked by a viewer of his work what he thought a Black artist should be expressing in his art, the artist did not answer immediately and when he did he was reluctant to be specific. I could appreciate his hesitancy to do so because I felt, as possibly he did, that a Black artist should be expressing himself - his biological self. A Black artist's work may well depict the Black experience into which his Black awareness has been injected, or merely express the thoughts he's had over the years as "A Black". He has this choice as does any artist. What we see as viewers of the art is an expression of skills.

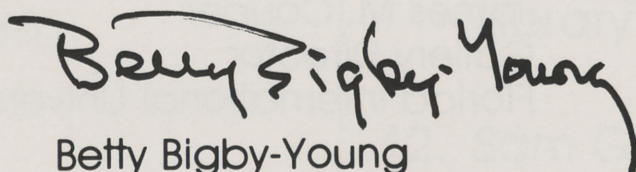
Why a Black-American Art Show? There has never been a Black-American Art Show in Miami before and certainly not one of this magnitude. It is highly probable that many people have little knowledge of Black-American art or would realize that they were looking at a picture or piece of sculpture by a Black artist if the subject matter did not reveal its origin.

One of the goals of F.I.U. is service to the community. The University has at its disposal resources that the community needs. Such a commitment of service includes assisting and developing programs that would help the community solve some of its problems and promote the culture of the area.

There is little opportunity for Black artists to exhibit their skills before a large audience, unless they have attained national fame or are in the areas where a greater appreciation is more a part of public consciousness. This collection includes works by nationally and internationally famous artists as well as highly skilled artists of this community.

Miami is fast becoming an art center and local Black artists will take their place in the mainstream of the art world as the art community in this county develops to its fullest potential.

F.I.U. has seen fit to present to you a modest, but selective, representation of the Black Experience.

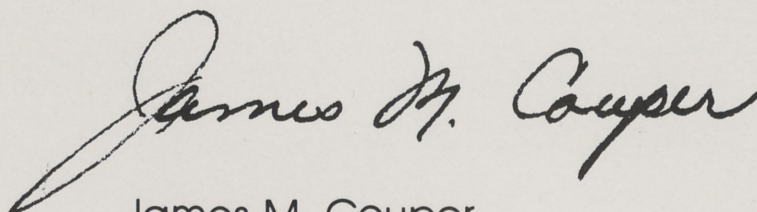


Betty Bigby-Young
Assistant to the Provost
North Miami Campus
Florida International University

This collection of works by contemporary Black-Americans does not assume to present a comprehensive exhibition which defines all major national activity, but rather is intended as a selected reflection of creative achievements by many of the country's leading artists. Physical and financial limitations, rather than the availability of significant works, have established the scale of this show, and consequently many deserving artists are not represented.

As indicated in the title, this show, rather than attempting to establish any conclusions, gives the viewer an opportunity to gain access to examples of what is being produced by contemporary Black artists in the United States. Hopefully, this exhibition will stimulate increased interest in this vital area of our cultural fabric and result in a more inclusive presentation at a future date.

Assembling an exhibition of this nature is a task of considerable magnitude and could not possibly be done without a great deal of assistance. For their tireless efforts and dedication in realizing this project, I should like to thank the following: Amos Bush, Ed Clark, Sandra Langer, Dorothy White, Roland Woods and Betty Young.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James M. Couper". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

James M. Couper
Gallery Director
Florida International University

1. Benny Andrews
MR. X
oil on canvas
18" x 12"
1976
Courtesy: Lerner-Heller Gallery,
New York City
Photo: John Kasparian
2. Benny Andrews
SENTINAL
oil and collage on canvas
18" x 12"
1976
Courtesy: Lerner-Heller Gallery,
New York City
Photo: John Kasparian
3. Ellsworth Ausby
BOOGIE
acrylic
30" x 40"
1977
4. Ellsworth Ausby
UNTITLED
steel
30" x 15"
1977
5. Romare Bearden
SHOW TIME
collage with acrylic and lacquer
50" x 40"
Courtesy: Cordier & Ekstrom,
New York City
Photo: Geoffrey Clements
6. Ed Clark
IFE ROSE
acrylic on canvas
8'5" x 13'6"
1974
7. Ed Clark
YUCATAN GREEN
pastel on paper
30" x 41½"
1974
Courtesy: Peg Alston Arts,
New York City
8. Art Coppedge
EVERYTHING'S EVERYTHING
oil on canvas
40" x 25"
c. 1974
9. Melvin Edwards
A PAGE FROM THE POET
acrylic-watercolor-sumi
18" x 24"
1975
10. Melvin Edwards
REUNION
painted steel
32" x 32" x 44"
1974-1977
11. Sam Gilliam
INDIGO #5
relief etching on handmade
paper
21" diameter
1975
Courtesy: Miami-Dade Public
Library System
12. Sam Gilliam
LOUISVILLE
collograph on handmade paper
21¾" x 21¾"
1976
Courtesy: Maimi-Dade Public
Library System



Photo by John Kasparian No. 1

13. Sam Gilliam
PINK HORSESHOES
acrylic and screen print
17³/₄" x 24¹/₂"
1973
Courtesy: Miami-Dade Public
Library System
14. Sam Gilliam
T-SHIRT
silkscreen
22" x 29"
n.d.
Courtesy: Miami-Dade Public
Library System
15. Barclay Hendricks
STEVE
oil on canvas
72" x 48"
1977
Courtesy: ACA Galleries,
New York City
16. Richard Hunt
OUTGROWTH
welded aluminum
24" x 51"
1966
17. Bill Hutson
UTA UTUMA
oil on canvas
72" x 72"
1968
Courtesy: Michael & Irina Zivian
18. Jacob Lawrence
THE BUILDERS
silkscreen
34" x 26"
1974
Courtesy: Terry Dintenfass, Inc.,
New York City
19. Jacob Lawrence
STREET SCENE RESTAURANT
gouache on paper
26" x 35"
c. 1936
Courtesy: Terry Dintenfass Inc.,
New York City
20. Al Loving
HAVING FUN
plastic and paper collage
48" x 48"
1975
Courtesy: Michael & Irina Zivian
21. Robert McKnight
ABSTRACT FORM
acrylic-latex
4' x 8'
1977
Courtesy: Black Arts Workshop,
Coconut Grove
22. Tyrone A. Mitchell
UNTITLED
steel
15" x 18"
1976
23. Earl Miller
MANHATTAN SAVOY
silkscreen
30" x 22"
1975
Courtesy: Peg Alston Arts,
New York City
24. Earl Miller
STELLAR II
silkscreen
30" x 22"
1975
Courtesy: Peg Alston Arts,
New York City





Photo by Geoffrey Clements No. 5

25. Mavis Pusey
DEMOLITION AND CONSTRUCTION
oil on canvas
10' x 8'1"
1975
26. Faith Ringgold
ZORA AND FISH
soft sculpture
life size
1975
Photo: Ringgold
27. H. Bill Rivers
ECLIPSE II
oil on canvas
49" x 52"
1971
28. Betye Saar
LO. THE MYSTIQUE CITY
color intaglio
18" x 20"
c. 1970
Courtesy: Miami-Dade Public
Library System
29. Raymond Saunders
PIECE No. 22
mixed media on paper
29" x 23"
1972
Courtesy: Terry Dintenfass, Inc.,
New York City
Photo: Colin C. McRae
30. Raymond Saunders
SUNDAYS
mixed media and acrylic on
canvas
66" x 66½"
1975
Courtesy: Terry Dintenfass, Inc.,
New York City
31. John Andrew Smith
MAN AND PRISON
cast aluminum
13" x 10" x 6"
1977
32. John Andrew Smith
MALTHUS' THEORY
cast aluminum
16" x 6½" x 6"
1977
33. John Andrew Smith
UNTITLED
cast aluminum
12" x 5" x 4"
1977
34. Vincent Smith
BELOW THE SAHARA
oil and sand mixed-collage
on paper
30" x 36"
1976
Courtesy: Larcada Gallery,
New York City
35. Vincent Smith
MAKONDE CARVER
oil and sand mixed-collage
on canvas
41" x 54"
1976
Courtesy: Larcada Gallery,
New York City
36. Lou Stoval
AN EXANTHEMA OF CLOUDS from
the suite, OF THE LAND
silkscreen
24" diameter
1974
Courtesy: Miami-Dade Public
Library System



Photo by Ringgold No. 26

37. Lou Stoval
A STANDING OF WHEAT FIELDS
silkscreen
12" diameter
1975
Courtesy: Miami-Dade Public
Library System
38. Alma Thomas
IRIS, CROCUSES AND AZALEAS
acrylic on unsized canvas
68" x 55"
1969
Courtesy: Private Collection
39. Phyllis Thompson
O'DICHE #3
crayon and cray-pas on Arches
22" x 30"
1977
40. Luther Van
WOLFSON'S GARDEN
acrylic
34" x 29"
1977
41. Paul Waters
YOUNG GIRL AND FRIEND
oil color collage
70" x 36"
1971
42. Pheoris West
WILDFLOWER
oil on canvas
76½" x 54"
1975
Courtesy: Peg Alston Arts,
New York City

43. Charles White
BLUES
lithograph
11" x 27"
1971
Courtesy: Forum Gallery,
New York City
44. Charles White
ELMINA CASTLE
ink & wash
59" x 27"
1969
Courtesy: Forum Gallery,
New York City
Photo: Frank J. Thomas
45. Charles White
ELIJAH
drypoint etching
12¾" x 21½"
1969
Courtesy: Forum Gallery,
New York City
46. Charles White
LOVE LETTER
lithograph
30" x 22½"
1971
Courtesy: Forum Gallery
New York City
47. Franklin White
ORANGES
silkscreen
7" x 25"
1975
Courtesy: Miami-Dade Public
Library System

48. William A. White
UNTITLED
pencil
16" x 13½"
1964
Courtesy: Dorothy White
49. William A. White
UNTITLED
pencil
16" x 13½"
1964
Courtesy: Dorothy White
50. William A. White
UNTITLED
pencil
16" x 13½"
1964
Courtesy: Dorothy White
51. Walter Williams
SOUTHERN LANDSCAPE
oil and collage on canvas
34¾" x 39"
1963-69
Courtesy: Terry Dintenfass, Inc.,
New York City
52. Walter Williams
STILL LIFE WITH FIGURE
oil on canvas
24" x 26"
1970
Courtesy: Terry Dintenfass, Inc.,
New York City
53. Roland Woods, Jr.
GENESIS
polyester resin and sawdust
14" high
1976

54. Purvis Young
ANGELS IN PINAFORES
crayon on paper
6½" x 9"
1976
55. Purvis Young
HELPING ANGELS
painting on wood
30" x 44"
1977
56. Purvis Young
MY OLD SKETCH BOOK
crayon on paper
9" x 11"
1969-1975



