

MAS 2003-2004 Program

“On Common Ground: Art in two-dimensional and three-dimensional format – Paintings, Sculpture and Photography”

This series highlighted the commonalities in artistic expressions of art works ranging from two-dimensional works on paper, wood, and canvas to “sculpture” works in fabric, glass, stone, wood, metal and clay. We explored topics from varying perspectives including that of the artist, the collector, the art professional, and the educator. Salon speakers included Collector Paul Jones, Dr. Robert Steele, Master Artist Sam Gilliam, Art Administrator and Artists EJ Montgomery, Dr. Leslie Hammond and educator, Dr. Sandy Epps.

The accompanying exhibition featured works by emerging and mid-career artists:

**Sheila Crider
EJ Montgomery
Michael Platt
Joyce Wellman
Ray Grist
George Williams
Kevin Cole**

**Egland Daley
Norman Parish
Preston Sampson
Bing Davis
Jack White
Eric Mack
Bruce McNeil**

The Exhibition and Salon Series Opening Reception held on May 31, 2003, 6-8 PM included “Artist Speaks” – where exhibited artists present talked about their work and what inspired them.

Salon Program

September 27, 2003 -- From the Eye of the Collector: “*The Attraction of 2 and 3D Art -- Collecting Objects We Love.*” A panel of seasoned collectors talks about why they continue to acquire fine art after decades of collecting. Panelists share practical advice about what and how to collect and the criterion, such as aesthetics and investment, which governs their selection. It was a lively discussion with panelists -- Jerry Langley, contributing writer to the International Review of African American Art and leader of the Collector’s Club of DC, Bob Steele, professor and art activist (and recently Director of the Driskell Center) whose collection (along with wife Jean) is the subject of several recent exhibitions, Alexa Donaphin, community activist and prominent NY architect, and Juliette Bethea, retired finance executive and respected art aficionado.

October 18, 2003 -- From the Eye of the Art Professional: “*Exhibiting 2 and 3D Works that Challenge and Inspire.*” The fascination of a good exhibition includes the works that are chosen and where and how they are displayed. These panelists of art professionals know well the “ingredients”, when stirred in proper portion, challenge and

inspire their intended audience. Panelists talked about the critical skill of selecting art works for an exhibition, using the guideposts – composition, interest, and image. Leslie King Hammond, Professor at the Maryland Institute College of Art, moderated a panel of museum and gallery professionals: Blake Kimbrough from the Museum of Contemporary African Diasporian Art in Brooklyn, NY, Norman Parish, Director of Parish Gallery of Georgetown, DC, and Floyd Coleman, artist and Professor of Art at Howard University.

November 15, 2003 -- From the Eye of the Artist: “Choosing the “canvas” on which to Express – 2D and 3D. -- A special evening with Sam Gilliam and EJ Montgomery”. “Canvas” is, of course, being used loosely here to represent a broad range of art forms – paper, wood, metal, clay, fabric and so on. Sam Gilliam, a master abstractionist who uses a variety of forms in two dimensional and three dimensional representation, spoke candidly about his choice of material, form, and format. EJ Montgomery added a perspective as artist and art professional at the US State Department. Whether it’s EJ Montgomery’s small bronze boxes, Sam Gilliam’s mobile wall works of wood, or Bing Davis’ masterful clay pieces – we gained a perspective on the choices that artists make to create the “canvas” pieces we come to cherish.

March 27, 2004 -- From the Eye of the Collector Part II: “A Special Evening with Collector Paul Jones”. Paul Jones is purported to have the largest collection of African American Art in the country. Collecting for many decades now, he donated over 500 works from his collection to the University of Delaware. The renovation of the building that will house his collection opened in the fall of 2004. Paul talked about his collection and provided wise advice for both aspiring and seasoned collectors. It was a magical evening.

May 22, 2004 – From the Eye of the Education Professional: “Using Art in Schools to Heal and Instruct”. Sandy Epps, retired school teacher in New York City and art patron (who served as moderator), Rene Cardenas, PhD in Education and public relations executive, and Nadia Fattah, leader of art school projects in NYC had an open and insightful dialogue about art as a vehicle in schools to heal and instruct.