

September 20, 2005
For Immediate Release

Contact: Woman Made Gallery – 773-489-8900

Group and Invitational Exhibitions at Woman Made

Women of the African Diaspora

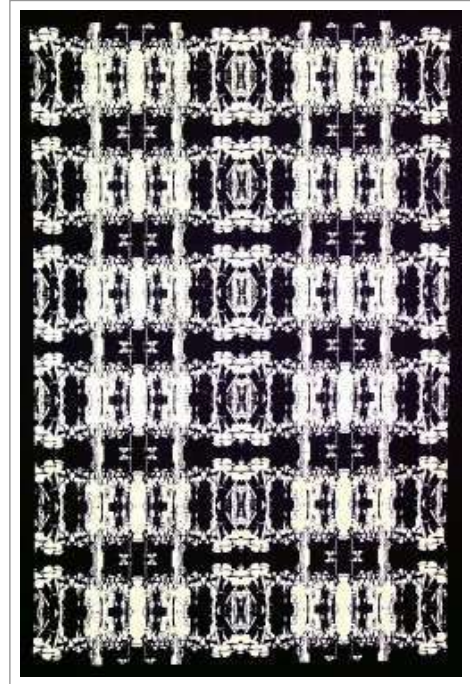
October 7 - November , 2005

**Opening Reception:
September 2 from 6-9pm**

The group exhibition features artworks by thirty-two artists from across the United States, Canada, Great Britain and South Africa.

Entries were juried by Kymberly N. Pinder, Ph.D. who is an associate professor and the graduate program head in Art History, Theory and Criticism at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

In her juror's statement Ms. Pinder observes: "In choosing the works in this exhibition, I have attempted to create a group show that has a number of coherent themes related to the social, historical, political and aesthetic issues of African diasporic people. I allowed the entries and my interests together to shape the show. Many of these themes came out of the works themselves. During the selection process, I looked for works of art that spoke to each other as I visualized an installation that would be both pleasing to the eye and thought-provoking. I have always enjoyed exhibitions that have a wide-range of media, something for everyone, so I made a great effort to include sculpture, photographs, fiber, paintings, prints and ceramics. This diversity of materials serves as a metaphor for the diversity found among the artists also. These women represent the Diaspora in where they come from, as well as in the ideas they are expressing."



The exhibition opens on October 7th with an artist reception from 6 - 9 pm at Woman Made Gallery.

Exhibiting Artists: Linda Ammons, Elizabeth Axtman, Sunshine Best, Anita L. Bowden, Monica J. Brown, Heather Davis, Raquel Dowdy, Colette Gaiter, Naomi Wanjiku Gakunga, Aziza Claudia Gibson-Hunter, Tabettha Handy, Monica Harris, Juarez Hawkins, Shannon Hill, Candace Hunter, Teresa Jenkins, Virginia Jose, Nzuji De Magalhaes, Luisa Menano, N. Masani Muhammad, Joyce Owens, Donna Radcliffe, Deborah E. Roberts, S. Denise Rouse, Duhirwe Rushemeza, Nena St. Louis, Kasha Stewart, Scheherazade Tillet, Constance White, Alison Williams, Tamasha Williamson, Jessica Wimbley

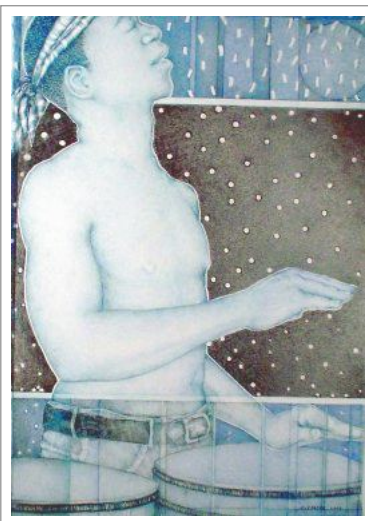


Image (top): "Post Civil War/Pre Civil Rights Pattern #10" by Shannon Hill
Image (left): "Blue Drummer #1", colored pencil by Dorothy Carter

Black, White and Blues - Invitational

In addition to the group exhibition and in celebration of Chicago Artist's Month WMG is hosting 'Black, White and Blues' with new works by founding members of Sapphire and Crystals collective, curated by Joyce Owens. Included in the exhibition will be the artworks by Rose Blouin, Dorothy Carter, Marva Pitchford Jolly, Joyce Owens, Felicia Grant Preston, Joanne Scott, Shirley J. Sullivan, Arlene Turner- Crawford, Anna M. Tyler and Shyvette Williams.

The usual self-portrait silent auction features portraits that honor deceased artists. A panel discussion, "The Future of Sapphire and Crystals" with slides of Rhonda Wheatley, Juarez Hawkins and others will take place on Sunday, October 16 from 2- pm.

Artwork from the 'Black, White and Blues' Invitational will be on exhibit through November 10, 2005.

Chicago Artists' Month - October 2005

"Sapphire and Crystals: Black, White and Blues" at Woman Made Gallery is part of Chicago Artists' Month, the tenth annual celebration of Chicago's vibrant visual art community. In October, more than 180 exhibitions of emerging and established artists, openings, demonstrations, tours, open studios and neighborhood art walks take place at galleries, cultural centers and arts buildings throughout the city. For further information, call 312/744-6630 or visit www.chicagoartistsmonth.org. Chicago Artists' Month is coordinated by the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and is sponsored by the Chicago Office of Tourism with additional support from Podmajersky, Inc.

Geraldine McCullough - Honored Guest Artist

WMG is honored to exhibit the bronze sculpture "Treeform" by Oak Park artist, Geraldine McCullough during the juried group and invitational exhibitions from October 7th to November 10th, 2005.

Her work is exhibited in many notable collections throughout the U.S., including 'Three Generations of African American Women Sculptors' at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington and the National Women's Museum in Washington, DC. In 2000, artist Geraldine McCullough was presented the Oak Park (IL) Area Arts Council's Joseph Randall Shapiro Award, given annually, in recognition of "exceptional contributions to the arts."

Image: "Treeform" sculpture by Geraldine McCullough.



Artisan Gallery - Contents Include: Wood



We introduce first-time exhibitor to the Artisan Gallery, Teresa Jenkins, in our exhibition, Contents Include: Wood. Teresa, a wood-working artist from Woodland, CA, is exhibiting a large wall hanging made from Tiger maple. The artist also has one of her African inspired wood tables in the "African Diaspora" juried exhibition.

Teresa Jenkins is joined in this exhibition by artists Beth Bartley, Lubbock TX, and Linda Deardorff, Lakeside, OR and Elizabeth Rhoads Read from Cedar Rapids, IA. Other artists who have their work at the Artisan Gallery include: Melissa Banks, Jill Buckingham, Sarah Chapman, Teresa Faris, Judy Freeman, Eileen Goldenberg, Sandra Golbert, Judy Gray, Caroline Haurie, Laura Hewitt, Kristen Holub, Regina Maniaci, Stephanie Marder, Emily McKormick, Jeannine McKenzie, Emily Murphy, Kim Nikolaev, Carmen M. Perez, Martha Rosenfeld, Rachel Slick, Liz Vercruysse, Emily Watson, Paula Wendland and Suzanne Shafer- Wilson.

Image: "Leaf Wallhanging" by Teresa Jenkins

Dates: October 7 – November 10, 2005

Opening Reception: Friday, October 7, 6-9 pm

Where:

Woman Made Gallery

2418 W. Bloomingdale, Chicago, IL 60647

(Two blocks north of North Ave., ½ block west of Western Ave.)

Website: <http://www.womanmade.org>

Gallery Hours

Wed-Fri noon-7pm / Sat-Sun noon-4pm

Woman Made Gallery is supported in part by grants from the Illinois Arts Council a state agency, by a CityArts Program II grant from the City of Chicago, Department of Cultural Affairs, the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, the Polk Bros Foundation and by the generosity of its members and contributors.