

Blackburn DiASPORA Visual Arts



Symposium - Exhibitions
Film Presentations
February 13th-14th 2009

Frank Collymore Hall

Organized by: National Art Gallery
Committee, Barbados

Curator: David A. Bailey MBE

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Asociación Internacional
de Críticos de Arte

National Art Gallery Committee

'09

FEBRUARY



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**Black
Diaspora
Visual Art**
Symposium · Exhibitions
Film Presentations

THE NATIONAL ART GALLERY COMMITTEE

In collaboration with AICA Southern Caribbean, the Arts Council of England and the International Curators Forum presents:

BLACK DIASPORA VISUAL ART:
SYMPOSIUM, FILM PRESENTATIONS AND EXHIBITIONS.

As part of the planned events marking the Abolition of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, the National Art Gallery Committee has invited curator David A. Bailey MBE to organize a series of symposiums and exhibitions that explore visual art in the Black Diaspora. A number of leading scholars, curators and artists who have made key contributions in this area are invited to Barbados to participate in a dialogue with the local/regional Caribbean community. It is envisioned that such an event will provide an opportunity for the Barbados art community and wider local audience to participate in the forums; and will present contemporary Barbadian art and artists to a panel of distinguished experts in related fields.

The 2nd Symposium, to be held during February 13th and 14th 2009, takes as its starting point Stuart Hall and the question he poses in his essay called "Modernity and Its Others: Three Moments In The Post – war History of the Black Diaspora Arts".

The essay offers an analysis of three 'moments' in the post-war black visual arts in the UK. The main contrast identified is between the 'problem space' of the artists—the last 'colonials'—who came to London after World War Two to join the modern avant-garde and who were anti-colonial, cosmopolitan and modernist in outlook, and that of the second generation—the first 'post-colonials'—who were born in Britain, pioneered the Black Art Movement and the creative explosion of the 1980s, and who were anti-racist, culturally relativist and identity-driven. In the work of the former, abstraction predominated; the work of the latter was politically polemical and collage-based, subsequently embracing the figural and the more subjective strategy of 'putting the self in the frame'. This generational shift is mapped here in relation to wider socio-political and cultural developments, including the growth of indigenous racism, the new social movements, especially anti-racist, feminist and identity politics, and the theoretical 'revolutions' associated with them. The contemporary moment—less politicized, and artistically neo-conceptual, multi-media and installation-based—is discussed more briefly.

The symposium will explore some of these themes in Hall's paper with particular reference to their applicability to the contemporary Caribbean context and the relationship of the contemporary moment to earlier developments. Questions include:

- Is there a Caribbean canon?
- Can we discuss a Caribbean aesthetic in the 21st century?
- What are the institutional models?
- How do we identify the different ways forward?

The Symposium takes place at the **Frank Collymore Hall in Bridgetown** in conjunction with a number of site-specific artists' projects.

There is no fee for participation but pre-registration is required.

Ministry of Community Development and Culture, Culture Section,
Bay House, Bay Street, St. Michael, Barbados, West Indies 15135
Telephone: 1-246-228-7523, E-mail: nagcsymposium@gmail.com



PROGRAMME



Asociacion Internacional de Criticos de Arte

ICF INTERNATIONAL CURATORS FORUM



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PROGRAMME

DAY 1 – Friday February 13th, 2009

8:30 – 9:00am Registration

9:00am - WELCOME address

KEYNOTE address by Stuart Hall

RESPONSE to the Keynote address

1st Panel Discussion: Based on the keynote and the response.

Chaired by Thelma Golden, Studio Museum

1:00pm – 2:00pm - LUNCH

2nd Panel Discussion: Is there a Caribbean canon; can we discuss a Caribbean aesthetic in the 21st century; institutional models and exploring the different ways forward.

Chaired by Lowery Sims

Film presentation and discussion with Kara Walker

DAY 2 – Saturday February 14th, 2009

3rd Panel Discussion: The Caribbean canon con't

Chaired by Richard Powell

12:00noon – 1:00pm - LUNCH

Tour of exhibition and installation sites and galleries in Bridgetown

Indrani Gall, Sheena Rose, Ewan Atkinson and Ingrid Persaud, Arthur Edwards and Frances Ross, Joscelyn Gardner, Caroline Holder, Ingrid Pollard, Gary Stewart and Trevor Mathison.

Film presentation and discussion with Alfredo Jaar

Panelists include Gerardo Mosquera, Nicholas Mirzoeff, Veerle Poupeye, Krista Thompson and Teka Selman, Leon Wainwright.

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REGISTRATION

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REGISTRATION

February 13th and 14th 2009 - Frank Collymore Hall, Bridgetown

The **Black Diaspora Visual Art Symposium** takes as its starting point **Keynote speaker Stuart Hall** and the question posed in his essay "**Modernity and Its Others: Three Moments In The Post - war History of the Black Diaspora Arts**". A number of leading international scholars, curators and artists who have made key contributions in this area have been invited to Barbados to participate. It is envisioned that this event will providing an opportunity for the Barbados art community and wider local audience to participate in the forums; and will present contemporary Barbadian art and artists to a panel of distinguished experts in related fields.



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REGISTRATION FORM

NAME

INSTITUTION

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE CONTACT

E-MAIL CONTACT

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