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

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  
Njideka Akunyili  
Edgar Arceneaux  
Mark Bradford  
Sanford Biggers  
Leonardo Drew  
David Driskell  
Charles Gaines  
Todd Gray  
Lyle Ashton Harris  
Wayne Hodge  
Rashid Johnson  
Vincent Johnson  
Simone Leigh  
Glenn Ligon  
Nzuji De Magalhaes  
Kerry James Marshall  
Matriarch (Maren and Ava)  
Hassinger  
Dave McKenzie  
Rodney McMillian  
Julie Mehretu  
Wardell Milan  
Nicole Miller

Meleko Mokgosi  
Dominique Moody  
Wangechi Mutu  
Kori Newkirk  
John Outterbridge  
Kamau Amu Patton  
William Pope.L  
Robert Pruitt  
Faith Ringgold  
Nadine Robinson  
Alison Saar  
Xaviera Simmons

Lorna Simpson  
Shinique Smith  
Hank Willis Thomas  
Mickalene Thomas  
William Villalongo  
Stacy Lynn Waddell  
Jack Whitten  
Saya Woolfalk  
Brenna Youngblood

**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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