



MISSISSIPPI
MUSEUM of ART

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MISSISSIPPI MUSEUM OF ART ANNOUNCES ARTISTS SELECTED FOR
[2019 MISSISSIPPI INVITATIONAL](#) EXHIBITION

Exhibition of works on view June 28-August 11, 2019

Jackson, Mississippi—The Mississippi Museum of Art (the Museum) is pleased to announce the 23 Mississippi artists selected for inclusion in the 2019 *Mississippi Invitational* exhibition. The selected artists are G. Douglas Adams, Natchez; Kali Blakeney, Jackson; Charlie Buckley, Tupelo; Critz Campbell, West Point; Claudia Cartee, Seminary; Rory Doyle, Cleveland; Rick Fifield, Poplarville; Robin Jayne Henderson, Oxford; Ben Hillyer, Natchez; Philip Jackson, Oxford; Joseph Johnson, Natchez; Amelia Key, Jackson; Andrea Kostyal, Hattiesburg; Sodam Lee, Itta Bena; Dominic Lippillo, Starkville; Rod Moorhead, Oxford;

Betty Press, Hattiesburg; Phoenix Savage, Jackson; Stephen Threlkeld, Oxford; Kristen Tordella-Williams, Jackson; Jennifer Torres, Hattiesburg; Steven Wayne, Southaven; and Brooke White, Oxford.



Charlie Buckley, *Flooded Delta*

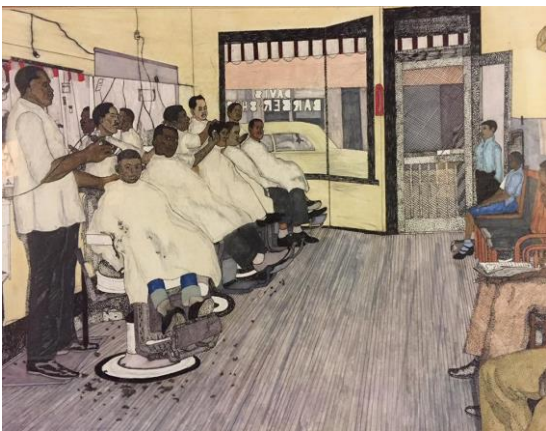
Initiated in 1997, the *Mississippi Invitational* surveys recent developments by contemporary visual artists living and working across the state and includes work in diverse media. The 2019 exhibition marks the 11th iteration and will be on view from June 28 through August 11, 2019. The presenting sponsor of the exhibition is Jane Crater Hiatt through the Community Foundation for Mississippi-Hiatt Fund.

This year's process began in May 2018 with the Museum's call to artists to apply and submit sample images of their work. One hundred thirty submissions were considered by guest curator Kimberli Gant, Ph.D, the McKinnon Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Chrysler Museum in Norfolk, Virginia. The guest curator then conducted studio visits to meet the artists and further assess their work. Following these visits, Gant created the final checklist of works for the exhibition.

“Because the guest curator makes a “blind selection” of artists and their works, without any knowledge of their identities or locations, it is fascinating that the selection always seems to result in a remarkable representation of the state’s diverse regions and municipalities—from bigger towns and cities to tiny communities. And, as always, there is a strong showing by artists who live



Critz Campbell, *Landscape Memory 2*



Joseph Johnson, *Saturday Evening at the Barbershop*

and work where art is taught at the collegiate level—Jackson, Oxford, Hattiesburg, West Point, and Cleveland, for instance,” said Museum Chief Curator Roger Ward.

In addition to exhibiting in the *Mississippi Invitational* exhibition, all 23 selected artists are eligible to apply for The Jane Crater Hiatt Artist Fellowship. At the end of the two-year Fellowship period, the recipient is required to donate one original work of art to the Museum from at least five works created during the grant period. This year's fellowship recipient will be announced at a private reception for the exhibiting artists preceding an opening reception for Museum members on Thursday, June 27, 2019.

“We are pleased to announce that the Jane Crater Hiatt Artist Fellowship, awarded to one of the included artists, has been increased to \$20,000 this year. Jane’s generous gift, through the Community Foundation for Mississippi, enables us to make significant investments in the artists of our state, as well as to build our collection of contemporary Mississippi art,” said Museum Director Betsy Bradley.

On Friday, June 28, 2019, at 11 a.m., guest curator Dr. Kimberli Gant will be joined by Hiatt and the recipient of the 2019 Hiatt Artist Fellowship for a panel discussion moderated by Dr. Roger Ward, Museum Chief Curator.

Previous Fellows include [Philip Jackson](#) (2016), [Carolyn Busenlener](#) (2014), [Evert Witte](#) (2011), [Lee Renninger](#) (2009), Norma S. Bourdeaux (2007), and [Kevin Turner](#) (2005).

The 2019 *Mississippi Invitational* exhibition and its programming are free and open to the public.

ABOUT THE GUEST CURATOR

Kimberli Gant, Ph.D, is the McKinnon Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Chrysler Museum in Norfolk, Virginia. Prior to joining the Chrysler Museum, Dr. Gant was the Mellon Doctoral Fellow in the Department of Arts of Global Africa at the Newark Museum, in Newark, New Jersey. She has held curatorial positions at the University of Texas' Warfield Center for African & African Diaspora Studies (2013), The Contemporary Austin (2012), and the Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Art (MoCADA) in Brooklyn, New York (2005-10). She has curated numerous exhibitions, including *Wondrous Worlds: Art & Islam Through Time & Place* (2016), *De-Luxe* (2012), *There is No Looking Glass Here: Wide Sargasso Sea Re-Imagined* (2010), and *Johannesburg to New York* (2008). Dr. Gant received her PhD in Art History from the University of Texas at Austin (2017) and holds both a MA and BA in Art History from Columbia University (2009) and Pitzer College (2002). Her scholarly work is published in academic books, such as *Anywhere But Here: Black Intellectuals in the Atlantic World and Beyond* (2015); art publications, such as *NKA: Journal of Contemporary African Art*, *Art Lies* and *African Arts*; and exhibition catalogues for The Newark Museum, The Contemporary Austin, the Studio Museum of Harlem, MoCADA, Paris Photo, and the Centre for Contemporary Art, Lagos.

ABOUT THE JANE CRATER HIATT ARTIST FELLOWSHIP

The Jane Crater Hiatt Artist Fellowship was created in 2005 by Jane Crater Hiatt and her late husband Wood (1930-2010) in response to the need to nurture and invigorate the arts within the state. A grant of up to \$20,000 is awarded to one artist who may use it for study with an individual artist or in a studio, workshop, or residency setting; to pursue projects which further artistic development and support the realization of specific creative ideas; to conduct research; to travel; and to purchase supplies and equipment. The artist is then required to donate one original work of art to the Museum from at least five works created during the two-year grant period.

ABOUT THE MISSISSIPPI MUSEUM OF ART

The Mississippi Museum of Art, in Jackson, is the largest art museum in the state. The Mississippi Art Association, established in 1911, was the precursor to the current Museum, founded in 1978 as a community-supported institution. The Museum's

permanent collection includes paintings, photography, multimedia works, and sculpture by Mississippi, American, and international artists. The Museum offers year-round educational programs for both children and adults, and partners with thirty-two affiliate museums across the state that benefit from the loan of artworks and traveling exhibitions organized by the Museum, ensuring that those who cannot visit Jackson can still enjoy the state's rich cultural history. *The Mississippi Museum of Art and its programs are sponsored in part by the City of Jackson and Visit Jackson. Support is also provided in part by funding from the Mississippi Arts Commission, a state agency, and in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.* The Museum is located at 380 South Lamar Street in downtown Jackson. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

MEDIA RESOURCES

Web: www.msmuseumart.org | Facebook: www.facebook.com/msmuseumart |

Twitter: www.twitter.com/MSMuseumArt | Instagram: www.instagram.com/msmuseumart

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ART CREDITS

Charlie Buckley, born 1982. *Flooded Delta*, 2017. oil on panel, 48 x 43 in. Loan courtesy Mary Ann and Steve Cockerham.

Critz Campbell, born 1967. *Landscape Memory 2*, 2018. oil and milk paint on ash and maple, 21 x 21 x 2 in. Loan courtesy of the artist.

Joseph Johnson, born 1954. *Saturday Evening at the Barbershop*. Loan courtesy of the artist.