



3301 4th Street • Lubbock, TX 79409-3191 • (806) 742-2442 • FAX 742-1136 • EMAIL: museum.texastech@ttu.edu • www.museum.ttu.edu

For Immediate Release: January 12, 2007

Contact Person: David Dean, 742-2442

FEBRUARY IS A MONTH FOR “*SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO*” AT MOTTU

The Museum of Texas Tech University (MoTTU) presents the exhibition *Something To Look Forward To*, opening **Sunday, February 4**, and on display through **April 15, 2007**, in **Gallery 2** located at 3301 4th Street (SE corner of 4th and Indiana Avenue), where ample free parking is available in the north and west parking lots.

The exhibition features over 40 works of art by distinguished Americans of African descent and is organized by The Phillips Museum of Art, Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, PA. The tour is managed by Smith Kramer Fine Art Services, an exhibition tour development company in Kansas City, MO.

Something to Look Forward To pays homage to the exceptional talent, unique vision, and courageous persistence of mature artists of who have created dynamic abstract images and objects during extended and successful careers.

Twenty-two celebrated African American artists over the age of 60 were invited to exhibit two works each, created six to 10 years apart. The submissions cover several forms of abstract art, including multimedia, painting, sculpture, and furniture. The exhibition opened at Franklin & Marshall College in 2004 in The Phillips Museum of Art.

This visually stunning, groundbreaking show is curated by artist Bill Hutson, the college's *Jennie Brown and Betsy Hess Cook Distinguished Artist-in-Residence*. The exhibition features works by:

- Betty Blayton
- Frank Bowling
- Yvonne Pickering Carter
- Edward Clark
- Melvin Edwards
- Sam Gilliam
- David Hammons
- Gerald Jackson
- Lawrence Compton Kolawole
- Alvin Loving
- Richard Mayhew
- Sam Middleton
- Mary Lovelace O'Neal
- Joe Overstreet
- Howardena Pindell
- Helen Evans Ramsaran
- John T. Scott
- Sylvia Snowden
- Mildred Thompson (deceased)
- Jack Whitten
- William T. Williams
- Frank Wimberley

—MORE—

MUSEUM OF TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY: Open 10 AM -5 PM Tue-Sat, open until 8:30 PM on Thu, 1-5 PM Sun. Closed Monday. **ADMISSION FREE**
MOODY PLANETARIUM - STAR SHOWS: \$2 adults, \$1 students & 60+, 5 or less Free; LASER SHOWS: \$2 adults, \$1 students & 60+, 5 or less Free.
LUBBOCK LAKE LANDMARK: Open 9 AM -5 PM Tuesday-Saturday, 1-5 PM Sunday. Closed Monday • At N. Loop 289 & Clovis Hwy. **ADMISSION FREE.**

The exhibition is also a tribute to older artists, according to curator Hutson:

“Like aging athletes, older contemporary artists are expected to ‘throw in the towel,’ ” he said. “But creative visual artists do not retire. As we advance into a new millennium, more individuals are living longer, staying active, and enjoying a better quality of life than human beings realized during previous centuries. To honor the endurance of mature artists, the building blocks used in the architecture of this exhibition include style, identity, and age.”

“Few curators realize the extent to which African American artists have participated in aesthetic developments in abstract art in America,” Hutson continues. “Contributing to knowledge about this aspect of material culture, this exhibition honors American artists of African descent who have maintained a consistent focus on abstract expression throughout their careers.”

The art critic Franklin Sirmans, who contributed an essay to the show’s catalog, agrees:

Needless to say, there is a grand tradition at work in this show that needs to be explored, nourished, cherished and supported,” he said. “Through the artists and the artworks in *Something to Look Forward To*, we are offered first and foremost the opportunity to see great art by great artists, but secondarily to make consideration of abstract art that, while not totally original, is glorious. Bringing together these artists—who all happen to be ‘black’—we can see that there is a black aesthetic to abstract art.

The showing of ***Something To Look Forward To*** in Lubbock is part of a five city national tour over a two-and-a-half year period.

For more information or to request special assistance, contact the MoTTU Education Office at 806.742.2432, or email to museum.education@ttu.edu. Stay up to date with MoTTU exhibitions and events at www.museum.ttu.edu.

—30—

“There’s something for everyone at the MoTTU.”