

Columbia Museum of Art

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Images have power, and this is an important example of a creative collective formed in order to radically shift the dominant narrative at midcentury.

Black Is Beautiful: The Photography of Kwame Brathwaite was organized by Aperture, New York and Kwame S. Brathwaite.

The Columbia Museum of Art celebrates outstanding artistic creativity through its collection, exhibitions, and programs, interacting in ways that engage the mind and enrich the spirit.

We promise to be inspiring. We are a place for you to learn about each other and yourselves through the art of the world. We provide a variety of experiences designed to move you to connect, contemplate, and create.

We promise to be welcoming. We strive to be warm, inviting, inclusive, and acces-

sible. You belong here, and we promise to treat you that way.

We promise to be community-centered. We are rooted in and reflective of our own diverse communities. We see ourselves as champions of a thriving Midlands.

We promise to be playful. We believe that art is an adventure, and we approach everything we do with a sense of open-minded exploration.

We promise to be vibrant. We provide dynamic experiences that engage the mind, enrich the spirit, and fuel artistic energy. Your art museum is bright in spaces, ideas, and possibilities.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 803/799-2810 or visit (www.columbiamuseum.org).

City Art Gallery in Columbia, SC, Offers Works by Patton Blackwell

City Art Gallery in Columbia, SC, is presenting paintings by Patton Blackwell, on view for a time to be determined, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and state regulations.

Blackwell's work is deeply rooted in her experience of her surroundings, and her desire to translate this experience to the canvas. She captures the essence of atmosphere and landscape in her use of color, action, and brush stroke. Infused with beauty and passion, Blackwell's paintings embody both the tangible and the intangible. From the lush green rolling fields and dense foliage of Camden, SC, where her home and studio are located, to the streets of Rio de Janeiro during Carnival, to time spent on the Aegean Sea, Blackwell creates mosaics of swirling paint that radiate light and power, reflecting moments and spaces in time that are both active and meditative, universal and timeless. Referencing the works of such artists as Willem de Kooning, and Wassily Kandinsky, Blackwell's paintings recall the physicality and emotion of de Kooning's animated brushwork while evoking the spiritual resonance of Kandinsky's later work.



Work by Patton Blackwell

Patton Blackwell was born on May 6, 1949 in Columbia and was raised in St Paul, MN, where she graduated from The Summit School (1967) and Macalester College (1974) in Cultural Geography. In 1975, Blackwell left for 3 years to travel, work and study in Europe, Israel, Turkey and North Africa. Part of this time she studied French Language and Literature at the Sorbonne, worked at a vineyard chateau near Bordeaux, lived in a Kibbutz in Israel and traveled more intensively in France, Germany, Italy and Spain.

In 1980, Blackwell moved to The Experiment in International Living (a multicultural college and living environment) in Brattleboro, VT, where she completed her Master's in Intercultural/International Management (1997). The program brought her to Brazil in 1982, at a time when Brazil was coming to prominence in the international art world as an important center for contemporary art.



Work by Patton Blackwell

Fostering a rich exchange of Brazilian and international art and artists, the Sao Paulo Biennial created a lively stage and venue for cultural cross-pollination and commerce. In 1983, Blackwell enrolled in The *Escola de Artes Visuais do Parque Lage* in Rio de Janeiro. Located in a historic palace restored by the Italian architect, Mario Vodrel, in the 1920's, and surrounded by a natural subtropical setting under Corcovado, both the setting and culture of the school greatly enriched the artistic atmosphere and experience for Blackwell. During this time, she studied with the influential painter Luiz Aquila, as well as Claudio Kuperman, and John Nicholson, and was fully immersed in the cultural epicenter of the Geração Oitenta (80's Generation)—an abstract art movement which strongly impacted her work, and marked a defining time in Brazilian art history. In 1986, she moved her studio from Copacabana to Rua Tavares Bastos, a street in one of the historical areas of Rio. During her 14 years in Brazil, Blackwell traveled widely throughout the country for one-person and group exhibitions of her work.

In 1996, Blackwell returned to Camden, where she lives and works. While her current work continues to be influenced by her surroundings through her explorations of intensity of color and the fluidity of paint, her recent work is also a reflection of her exploration of the inner landscape, from looking deep within. Since returning to the United States, Blackwell's paintings have been exhibited at the Camden Fine Arts Center, the Columbia Museum of Art, and have toured as part of the United States Art in Embassies program in Egypt, Qatar, Romania, Honduras, Guatemala and Myanmar (Burma). Her work is featured in collections in the US, Brazil, France, Italy, England and Japan.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 803/252-3613 or visit (www.cityartonline.com).



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Columbia Museum of Art in SC to Reopen Its Doors June 16, 2020

The Columbia Museum of Art in Columbia, SC, will reopen to the public on Tuesday, June 16, 2020, with cleaning and physical distancing practices in place to safeguard staff and visitors.

Protective measures will include limited timed admission tickets, reduced gallery capacities, robust cleaning practices, and the required use of face masks or cloth coverings. The CMA continues to adhere to CDC recommendations and government directives, and its staff looks forward to welcoming visitors safely back to the museum in June and kicking off summer camp season the first week of July.

"We've missed you!" says CMA Executive Director Della Watkins. "And we are so excited to welcome you back inside the museum's spacious and sparkling galleries full of vibrant art. Come on in - the change in scenery will delight and inspire you. We eagerly await seeing your smiling eyes and connecting with you very soon."

The Columbia Museum of Art is a charitable nonprofit organization dedicated to lifelong learning and community enrichment for all. Located in the heart of downtown Columbia, SC, the CMA ranks among the leading art institutions in the country and is distinguished by its innovative exhibitions and creative educational programs. At the heart of the CMA and its programs is its collection, which encompasses 7,000 works and spans 5,000 years of art history. Established in 1950, the CMA now welcomes more than 150,000 visitors annually and is a catalyst for community creativity and education, engaging



Entrance to the Columbia Museum of Art, photo by Drew Baron

people of all ages and backgrounds. It is the recipient of a National Medal from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a National Art Education Association award for its contributions to arts education, a National Park Foundation Award, and two Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Governor's Awards for the Arts for outstanding contributions to the arts in South Carolina. In order to serve even more audiences, the CMA recently underwent a transformation. Funded by a successful capital campaign, the two-year renovation project garnered new collection galleries with a progressive thematic layout, new studios for artmaking, cutting-edge program and event spaces, an entrance on Main Street, and a revamped CMA shop. Overall, more than 20,000 square feet of functional space were added to the building's existing footprint.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (www.columbiamuseum.org).

Every once in a while I feel like just filling one of these spaces with a kind of nothingness.

You know as if nobody reads what's in these spaces anyway.

So if one time I said something like the first person to read this and send me an e-mail to (info@carolinaarts.com) during the month of June, they'll get a free 1/4 ad in our July 2020 issue or the month that is most useful for them.

But who reads these space fillers anyway? Not many I bet.

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be June 24th for the July 2020 issue and July 24 for the August 2020 issue. After that, it's too late unless your exhibit runs into the next month. But don't wait for the last minute - send your info to (info@carolinaarts.com).