

# New Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit Featuring Major American Artist William H. Johnson to Open at Jones-Carter Gallery in Lake City, SC

A new exhibition from the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES) will feature rare paintings by Florence, South Carolina-native, William H. Johnson, from the collection of the James E. Lewis Museum at Morgan State University. An essential figure in modern American art, William H. Johnson (1901-1970) was a virtuoso skilled in various media and techniques, and produced thousands of works over a career that spanned decades, continents and genres.

*William H. Johnson: An American Modern* will be on view at the Jones-Carter Gallery, a branch of the Community Museum Society, Inc., in Lake City, SC, from Sept. 21 through Dec. 29, 2013. It will then finish its 10-city tour through July 2014. The Jones-Carter Gallery is the only South Carolina venue on the tour. Developed by Morgan State University and SITES, the exhibition is made possible through the generous support of the National Endowment for the Arts, the Henry Luce Foundation and Morgan State University Foundation Inc. Additional support is provided by Ford Motor Company Fund.

The pivotal stages of Johnson's career as a modernist painter are assembled in this group of rarely seen paintings. Every step of his artistic development is conveyed - from his post-impressionist and expressionist works of the 1920s, to vibrant vernacular paintings from the end of his career in the 1940s, in which Johnson articulated his distinctive, unforgettable vision as an American modern artist.



*Ring Around the Rosey*, by William H. Johnson, courtesy of Morgan State University.

iversity of Washington Press, 2011) with essays by Richard J. Powell, Leslie King Hammond and others. The book features some of the world's premier scholars of Johnson and African American art history re-examining the artist and presenting him in new, fresh ways. The book will be available for purchase at the Jones-Carter Gallery during the exhibition.

Morgan State University, founded in 1867, is a Carnegie classified doctoral research institution offering more than 60 academic programs leading to bachelor's degrees as well as programs at the master's and doctoral levels. As Maryland's public urban university, Morgan serves a multiethnic and multiracial student body and seeks to ensure that the doors of higher education are opened as wide as possible to as many as possible. For more information on Morgan State University visit ([www.morgan.edu](http://www.morgan.edu)).

The National Endowment for the Arts was established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government. To date, the NEA has awarded more than \$4 billion to support artistic excellence, creativity and innovation for the benefit of individuals and communities. The NEA extends its work through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies and the philanthropic sector. To join the discussion on how art works, visit the NEA at ([www.nea.gov](http://www.nea.gov)).

The Henry Luce Foundation was established in 1936 by Henry R. Luce, the co-founder and editor-in-chief of *Time Inc.*, to honor his parents who were missionary educators in China. The Foundation builds upon the vision and values of four generations of the Luce family: broadening knowledge and encouraging the highest standards of service and leadership. SITES has been sharing the wealth of Smithsonian collections and research programs with millions of people outside Washington, DC, for almost 60 years. SITES connects Americans to their shared cultural heritage through a wide range of exhibitions about art, science and history, work and play. Exhibition descriptions and tour schedules are available at ([www.sites.si.edu](http://www.sites.si.edu)).

The Jones-Carter Gallery is located in Lake City at 105 Henry Street. Gallery hours for the exhibit are Tue. through Fri., from 10am to 6pm and Sat., from 11am to 5pm.

For additional information about *William H. Johnson: An American Modern* coming to the Jones-Carter Gallery and exhibit-related community events, call the gallery at 843-374-1505 or visit ([www.jonescartergallery.com](http://www.jonescartergallery.com)).



*Jitterbug*, by William H. Johnson, courtesy of Morgan State University.

The paintings boast a remarkable history. In 1956 the Harmon Foundation, a nonprofit that helped foster awareness of African art from 1922 until its demise in 1967, took ownership of Johnson's own collection of art - saving it all from being destroyed. When the foundation had to shut its doors, they donated more than 1,000 works to the Smithsonian's National Collections of Fine Arts (now the Smithsonian American Art Museum). The terms of the agreement called for the Smithsonian to donate artworks to several black colleges and universities, including Morgan State University. The founding chair of Morgan's art department, James E. Lewis, was first to carefully select these works for his museum's permanent collection.

The exhibition is complemented by an illustrated companion book *William H. Johnson: An American Modern* (Uni-



Visit  
*Carolina Arts*  
on Facebook

Go to this [link](#) and  
"like" us!



**Carolina Arts is now on  
Twitter!**

Sign up to follow  
Tom's Tweets, click below!



[twitter.com/carolinaarts](http://twitter.com/carolinaarts)

## Seacoast Artists Guild of SC in Myrtle Beach, SC, Features Works by Yvonne Smoak Knight

The Seacoast Artists Guild of SC in Myrtle Beach, SC, will present an exhibit of works by award winning artist Yvonne Smoak Knight, on view in the Seacoast Artists Gallery at The Market Common, from Sept. 7 - 30, 2013. Receptions will be held on Sept. 7, from 1-3pm and again from 6-8pm.

Knight has a passion for art; and using oil as her medium, she focuses on florals, low country landscapes and still life. Yvonne renders her subject with vibrant color and energetic brush strokes.

Knight grew up in the small town of



Work by Yvonne Smoak Knight

St. Matthews, SC. She graduated from the University of SC. She is retired from the SC Probation and Parole Agent and later directed a learning program for 4 and 5 years olds. She and her husband, Norman L. Knight, Jr. raised their family in St. Matthews, SC. She retired in 2000 when the family moved to Murrells Inlet, SC where her husband accepted the position of Fire Chief.

During Knight's retirement, she signed up for a 6 week beginning oil class under master instructor Jim Dyson. Since then she has studied under numerous artists including master instructors Gloria Perkins, William McCullough, Betsy McDonald and Mary Manos. Her award winning



Work by Yvonne Smoak Knight

art includes First Prize in advanced oils. Her paintings have been displayed at Applewood, Mercy Hospice, Belin United Methodist church, Calhoun County Museum, the Orangeburg County Fair and the SC State Fair. Knight is a charter board member of the Seacoast Artists Guild and a member of the Art Angels at Belin UMC. She enjoys her family, her church, singing with the Belin Choir and the Serendipity Singers. Since high school, Knight continues to play string bass.

The Seacoast Artists Gallery exhibits the original artwork of over 70 local artists. Oil, acrylic, watercolor, mixed media, fiber art, photography, engraved silver and clay is just some of the media that can be viewed and purchased at the gallery. The Seacoast Artists Guild is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit visual arts organization dedicated to promoting and advancing excellence in the visual arts through teaching, exhibits, workshops and special events. It is focused on developing and nurturing young artists-to-be through training programs, sponsorship of art scholarships and art shows

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Gallery at 843/232-7009 or visit ([www.seacoastartistsguild.com](http://www.seacoastartistsguild.com)).

Check more out on our website at ([www.carolinaarts.com](http://www.carolinaarts.com)).

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be Sept. 24th for the October 2013 issue and Oct. 24 for the November 2013 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 now.

And where do you send that info?  
E-mail to ([info@carolinaarts.com](mailto:info@carolinaarts.com)).