

RUBELL MUSEUM

Rubell Museum DC to Present Two New Exhibitions Opening Nov. 2nd

Singular Views: 25 Artists

Alexandre Diop: Jooba Jubba, l'Art du Defi, the Art of Challenge

Washington, DC – October 2, 2023 – The Rubell Museum DC announced today that it will open two new exhibitions as part of a museum-wide reinstallation on November 2nd. *Singular Views: 25 Artists* highlights the work of 25 contemporary artists from across the U.S. and around the world through solo presentations. Opening concurrently is *Alexandre Diop: Jooba Jubba, l'Art du Defi, the Art of Challenge*, featuring work created by the artist during his 2022 residency at the Rubell Museum. Both exhibitions are on view through October 2024.

Singular Views: 25 Artists is drawn entirely from the Rubells' unparalleled and ever-growing collection of contemporary art of more than 7,700 works. Encompassing over 120 artworks across media, the exhibition features solo presentations of work by 25 artists, among them Amoako Bofo, Mickalene Thomas, and Hank Willis Thomas. Also featured is work by a number of DC- and Baltimore-based artists, including February James, Murjoni Merriweather, Rozeal, Sylvia Snowden, and John Waters.

Alexandre Diop: Jooba Jubba, l'Art du Defi, the Art of Challenge highlights Franco-Senegalese Vienna-based artist Alexandre Diop, whose practice explores the legacies of colonialism and diaspora while tackling universal themes of ancestry, suffering, and historical violence. The presentation includes works created over the course of his Knight Foundation-supported residency and is accompanied by a catalogue featuring an essay by scholar Mara Niang and a conversation between Diop and Hans Ulrich Obrist, alongside a selection of color photographs.

Singular Views and *Alexandre Diop* encompass the second installation at the Rubell Museum DC, which opened last fall in the 1906 building of the former Randall Junior High School in Southwest DC. The two exhibitions extend throughout the museum's 32,000 square feet, which preserves the original layout of the historic school, with classrooms, teacher's offices, the auditorium, and foyers transformed into galleries, thereby reinforcing the role of artists as teachers and storytellers. The exhibitions have been conceived to promote public dialogue and serve as a space for audiences to engage with the work of leading contemporary artists, and coincide with the release of a comprehensive, 288-page hardcover catalogue of the Rubells' collection titled *Collection Highlights and Artist Writings*.

"In selecting works for this museum-wide installation, our goal continues to be to both showcase artists whose work engages with the most pressing ideas and issues of today and to introduce artists that audiences may not have previously encountered within the DC cultural landscape," said Mera Rubell. "We now make the choice to display each artist's work as a focused solo exhibition to highlight their individual perspectives and allow audiences to understand the full extent of the artist's practice."

Singular Views comprises solo presentations by:

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| Kathryn Andrews | Jesse Mockrin | Hank Willis Thomas |
| Patricia Ayres | Simphiwe Ndzube | Mickalene Thomas |
| Amoako Bofo | Raymond Pettibon | Tesfaye Urgessa |
| Emmanuel Louisnord Desir | Paul Pfeiffer | John Waters |
| Jenny Holzer | Otis Kwame Kye Quaicoe | Cajsa von Zeipel |
| Matthew Day Jackson | Rozeal | Allison Zuckerman |
| February James | Jennifer Rubell | |
| William Kentridge | Clayton Schiff | |
| Murjoni Merriweather | Sylvia Snowden | |
| John Miller | Tomoaki Suzuki | |

“Style Sessions” Presented by *The Washington Post* and the Rubell Museum DC

“Style Sessions” is a new series bringing the spirit of the *Washington Post*’s Style section to life through conversation, in partnership with the Rubell Museum DC. Inspired by the Style section’s recent relaunch, the exclusive events highlight filmmaker Christopher Nolan, designer Ella Emhoff, and visual artist Mickalene Thomas, featuring Q&As with notable *Washington Post* reporters.

The “Style Sessions” series is the latest immersive feature format showcasing newsmakers on the front lines of culture from the iconic, award-winning *Post* Style section. “Style Sessions” events include:

- **Christopher Nolan** in conversation with features writer **Jada Yuan** on November 16
- **Ella Emhoff** will speak with fashion critic **Rachel Tashjian** on November 30
- **Mickalene Thomas** will join critic-at-large **Robin Givhan** on December 14

Limited tickets will be available two weeks before each “Style Session,” with priority access for Style Memo subscribers and Rubell Museum DC members. You can [subscribe to the Style Memo](#), or [become a member at the Rubell Museum](#).

About the Rubell Museum DC

Located at 65 I Street in the Southwest neighborhood, the Rubell Museum DC brings the Rubell Family’s extensive contemporary art collection to the nation’s capital. Dedicated exclusively to contemporary art, the Rubell Museum DC reinvigorates the 1906 building of the former Randall Junior High School, a historically Black public school in Southwest DC that ceased operations in 1978. The museum, which is free for Washington DC residents, serves as a place for the public to engage with the most compelling national and international artists of our time.

Shortly after Mera and Don Rubell married in 1964, they started visiting artists’ studios and collecting art in New York. Their son, Jason Rubell, joined them in 1982 in building the collection, creating the exhibitions, and developing the museums, reflecting the multi-generational family passion for discovering, engaging, and supporting many of today’s most compelling artists. The Rubell Family Collection was established in 1993 in the Wynwood neighborhood of Miami, and in 2019 was relocated to the Allapattah neighborhood. Following the move and expansion, the institution was renamed the Rubell Museum to emphasize its public mission and expand access for audiences.

The Rubell Museum’s collection is distinguished by its unprecedented range and depth that has enabled the Museum to organize over 50 exhibitions during the last three decades drawn entirely from its holdings in painting, sculpture, photography, video, and installation. These have included such groundbreaking and

diverse exhibitions as *Richard Prince (2004)*, *Against All Odds: Keith Haring (2005)*, *Red Eye: Los Angeles Artists (2006)*, *30 Americans (2008)* (which has since traveled to 24 museums around the country), *Beg Borrow and Steal (2009)*, *NO MAN'S LAND (2015)* (which traveled to the National Museum of Women in the Arts in 2016), *Purvis Young (2018)*, and *Yayoi Kusama (2020)*. Many of these exhibitions have toured to museums internationally and have been accompanied by catalogues.

For more information, please visit dc.rubellmuseum.org.

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