

For immediate release



Zenith Gallery & Zenith Community Arts Foundation Present:

## “Black Artists Matter”

*At the Marketplace at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation*

DC Convention Center- Hall E, Booth #540

801 Mt Vernon PI NW, Washington, DC 20001

**Market Place Open to the Public**



*Flower - Southland Series*  
Benny Andrews



*Processional Africaine*  
Romare Bearden



*Pork Pie Hat*  
Richard Yarde



*Untitled Abstract #2*  
Alma Thomas



*Along the River*  
Robert Freeman



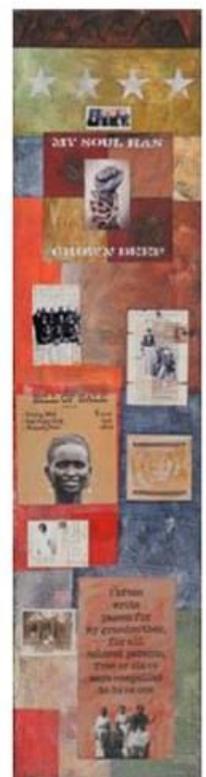
*Spirits of Cow Ford*  
Hubert Jackson



*Baga Mask*  
Chris Malone



*Red Rock*  
Doba Afolabi



*Wine and Crabs*  
Cassandra Gillens



*Egunun Masquerade*  
Gloria Kirk



*Earthsheid #8*  
Anne Boue



*Hip Hop Saints, Tupac*  
Joyce J. Scott

**Show Dates: September 17- September 19, 2015**

## **FREEDOM PLACE COLLECTION**

The five artists represented in the Freedom Place Collection, **Romare Bearden, Benny Andrews, Robert Freeman, Alma Thomas, and Richard Yarde**, each speak with their own artistic style, voice and vision, and yet they are linked by the African-American experience and heritage, a heritage that has inspired, nurtured, and enriched their art.

### **"BLACK ARTISTS MATTER"**

In addition to showcasing work by the five artists represented in the Freedom Place Collection, our showcase display titled **"Black Artists Matter"** will include works by several distinguished and accomplished Black artists, both from Africa and the United States, to include **Doba Afolabi, Anne Bouie, Cassandra Gillens, Hubert Jackson, Gloria Kirk, Chris Malone, Curtis Woody** and **Joyce J. Scott**. What ties these artists together is their experience and heritage as artists of African descent. Among these artists, Doba Afolabi only recently immigrated from Africa to the United States, while others trace their family roots back many through generations and deep into the American past.

**Doba Afolabi** imbues his acrylic paintings with lush color, brilliant expressionist lines, and a powerful sense of movement. **Hubert Jackson** explores the relationship African Americans have with the historic facts and tragic events of The American Civil War, and in so doing, incorporates materials such as bullet casings and soil samples from battle sites. **Chris Malone** creates powerful, charming, sometimes bawdy, intricately fashioned dolls – with clear ties to shamanistic traditions and talismans of tribal origins. **Anne Bouie** is inspired by an exploration of various indigenous religious and spiritual traditions as she crafts collections of mixed media objects that appear to have been used in ancient rituals. **Gloria Kirk** delves into texture, and textiles, the results of which tell magical stories of both past and present, without the need for words. **Curtis Woody** fashions collages he calls 'quilts,' both in deference to the longstanding tradition of quilt making within the African American community, and by way of explaining how he designs his compositions. **Cassandra Gillens**, is closely connected with the people and culture of the Low Country, South Carolina. With vivid saturated color and simplification of forms, her paintings depict some of her fondest memories as a child, and also of good old southern living found on the Sea Islands. **Joyce J. Scott** is a versatile artist from Baltimore, Maryland. She is a printmaker, weaver, sculptor, performance artist, and educator, but she is probably most well known for her work in jewelry, beadwork, and glass. Her art reflects her take on all aspects of American popular culture, her ancestry, and the immediate world of her neighborhood.

Collectively, this exhibit represents a diverse body of artistic works, crafted out of a diversity of materials, such as: paper, paint, shells, raffia, beads, wood, glass, metal, cloth, graphite, ink, and clay. Cumulatively, they represent a range of themes and stories, reflective of the scope and breadth of the African and the African-American experience.

**Please join us in celebrating these distinguished artist and in affirming that "Black Artists Matter!"**

***Every purchase made at "Black Artists Matter" benefits the non-profit Zenith Community Arts Foundation (ZCAF), a 501(c-3) based out of Zenith Art Gallery.***

**Where:**

**DC Convention Center, 801 Mt. Vernon Place NW, Washington, DC 20001**

**The 45th Annual Legislative Conference Exhibition Showcase - Booth #540**

**Exhibit on Display: September 17-September 19, 2015**

**Zenith Gallery Information:**

**Margery Goldberg, [202-783-2963](tel:202-783-2963), [margery@zenithgallery.com](mailto:margery@zenithgallery.com)**

**Zenith Community Arts Foundation Information:**

**Ella Dorsey, 202-783-8005, [zenithcommunityarts@zcaf.org](mailto:zenithcommunityarts@zcaf.org)**

## **Market Place Open to the Public**

### **Hours:**

<b>Thursday, September 17</b>	<b>12 noon – 7:00 pm</b>
<b>Friday September 18</b>	<b>9:00 am - 6:00 pm</b>
<b>Saturday September 19</b>	<b>8:00 am - 1:00 pm</b>

[Zenith Community Arts Foundation \(ZCAF\)](#) expands opportunities for artists who might not otherwise find initial openings in the commercial art world. Established in 2000, ZCAF is committed to arts advocacy and education, and to using art and creativity to benefit community. By forming creative partnerships with a range of people and groups; including within these being predominately artists, businesses, patrons of the arts, and other non-profits - ZCAF broadens and deepens the reach and impact of art in the Washington area. ZCAF draws people from other regions of the country to experience and celebrate the artistic vibrancy of Washington, DC through touring its shows outside the region, and through active participation in cultural tourism, promoting that which is unique to the arts in DC.

***Now celebrating 37 years in the nation's capital, Zenith is recognized for its unique mix of contemporary art in a wide variety of media, style and subject. The gallery provides high-quality acquisition, art consulting, commissioning, appraisal and framing services, through its gallery/salon/ sculpture garden off 16<sup>th</sup> Street at 1429 Iris St NW, WDC 20012. Zenith also curates rotating exhibits at the Eleven Sculpture Space at 1111 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, WDC 20004.***