



# UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

**DAVID C. DRISKELL CENTER**  
FOR THE STUDY OF THE VISUAL ARTS AND CULTURE OF  
AFRICAN AMERICANS AND THE AFRICAN DIASPORA

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NEWS RELEASE**

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***COLLECTORS' LEGACY: SELECTIONS FROM THE SANDRA AND LLOYD BACCUS COLLECTION***

**PRESENTED BY THE DAVID C. DRISKELL CENTER**

**COLLEGE PARK, MD.** — The David C. Driskell Center at the University of Maryland is proud to present *Collectors' Legacy: Selections from the Sandra and Lloyd Baccus Collection*. The exhibition features 68 works from a gift of more than 280 works gifted to the Center by Mrs. Baccus. The exhibition will showcase a diverse range of media—sculpture, painting, photography, drawing, print, and object—from an array of prominent African American and African Diasporic artists. The exhibition opening reception will be held on Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, from 5 to 7PM; the exhibition will be on display at the Driskell Center until Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Upon the Center's receiving the Baccus collection in 2012, the David C. Driskell Center's Executive Director, Professor Curlee R. Holton, remarked, "This gift illustrates in full measure the impact that the dedicated collector plays in ensuring the safe guarding of our cultural legacy." *Collectors' Legacy*, the first exhibition to be solely curated by Professor David C. Driskell at the Driskell Center since its opening in 2001, is designed to explore and celebrate that impact. Professor Driskell, one of the world's most prominent and influential champions of the canon and narrative of African American and African Diasporic art, has selected a body of work that tells an important story. Works by Charles Alston, Benny Andrews, Romare Bearden, Kevin Cole, Lois Mailou Jones, Jacob Lawrence, and Betye Saar speak of the rich, varied, and deep heritage and community shared and created in the United States over the past century.

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## **PANEL DISCUSSION**

In conjunction with the exhibition, the Driskell Center will present a panel discussion at which artists, art professionals, and art scholars will explore the many connections existing between artists and art collectors, with a special focus on the ways in which the practices of collectors impact the careers and recognition of artists. **“Artists and Collectors: Collaborations and Influences”** will be held on October 29th, 2015, starting at 5:30PM. Panelists will include Professor David C. Driskell, an artist and collector; art collectors Brenda Thompson, Mera Rubell, Peggy Cafritz; Rhonda Matheison, Chief Financial Officer at High Museum of Art, Atlanta, and Curlee R. Holton, the Driskel Center’s Executive Director. RSVP by 10.23.2015 at [driskellcenter@umd.edu](mailto:driskellcenter@umd.edu) or 301.324.2615.

## **ABOUT SANDRA, LLOYD, AND THE COLLECTION**

In 2012, the David C. Driskell Center received its largest bulk donation to date: an enormous collection of more than 280 works of art valued at more than \$2.4 million from the estate of the late Lloyd and Sandra Baccus. Mrs. Baccus served as a member of the Driskell Center advisory board from 2004-2006; during this time she made a commitment to donate the Baccus art collection to the Center with the hope that the collection would be used to educate future generations about the contribution of African American artists to the field of American art.

## **ABOUT THE CENTER**

The David C. Driskell Center honors the legacy of David C. Driskell, Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Art, Artist, Art Historian, Collector and Curator, by preserving the rich heritage of African American visual art and culture. The Driskell Center is committed to preserving, documenting, and presenting African American art, as well as replenishing and expanding the field of African American art.

The David C. Driskell facility is wheelchair accessible. The Driskell Center Gallery hours are Monday through Friday from 11AM to 4PM with extended hours on Wednesday until 6PM. The Driskell Center Gallery will additionally be open on Saturday Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>, Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>, and Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> from 11AM to 4PM. The Driskell Center observes all University of Maryland closings due to inclement weather and holidays. For further information regarding this exhibition and future activities at the Driskell Center, please call **301.314.2615** or visit [www.driskellcenter.umd.edu](http://www.driskellcenter.umd.edu). All exhibitions and events at the David C. Driskell Center are free and open to the public. This exhibition is supported by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council.