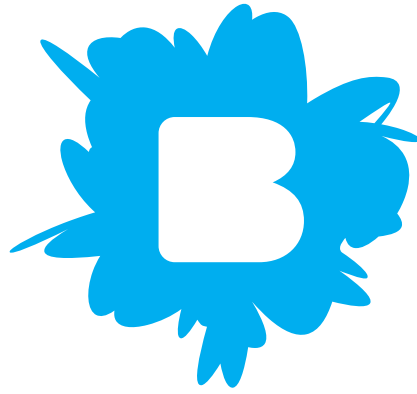


Media Advisory



January 2012

Brooklyn Museum Hosts Second Annual Benefit Dinner to Support Acquisition of precontemporary African American Art, Wednesday, January 18, Cocktails at 7:30 p.m., Red Rooster Harlem

Marcus Samuelsson's Harlem-based Red Rooster restaurant will be the venue for the second annual dinner to support the Brooklyn Museum Fund for African American Art, on Wednesday, January 18, beginning with cocktails at 7:30 p.m., followed by an 8 p.m. dinner. Artists— including Sanford Biggers, Mickalene Thomas, and Lorna Simpson—will be present, as will Museum Trustees. Kenneth and Kathryn Chenault, Sandra and W. Don Cornwell, Charlynn and Warren Goins, Tracey and Phillip Riese, Board of Trustees President Stephanie Ingrassia, and Charles and Suzanne Randolph Shorter will also be among the guests.

At the event, the inaugural acquisition made possible by the Fund—the design by leading twentieth-century African American artist John Biggers for a twenty-eight-foot allegorical mural at Texas Southern University, *Web of Life*—will be celebrated. Recently installed in the Museum's permanent galleries of American art, the work deals with themes of diversity and unity and forms a bridge between historical and contemporary African American artists.

The Fund for African American Art is a collecting initiative launched in 2010 to build Brooklyn Museum holdings of precontemporary African American art, launched by a \$200,000 matching gift from Museum Trustee Sandra Cornwell and her husband Don and by fractional gifts from Charlynn and Warren Goins of their important landscape by Robert Duncanson and a Charles Ethan Porter still life. The initiative was launched with the purchase of an early Sargent Johnson sculpture. Ms. Cornwell and Ms. Goins initiated the purchase fund along with former Trustee Tracey G. Riese.

Additional gifts inspired by the initiative include five Edward Mitchell Bannister pastels given by Jason Wright, two early Hale Woodruff watercolors given by E. T. and Lyn Williams, an early Norman Lewis watercolor from Ian Fuller, and a Charles White etching from Milton and Nancy Washington. Camille and Luther Clark have promised the gift of their African American art library.

Brooklyn Museum

200 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11238-6052
T (718) 638-5000 F (718) 501-6134
www.brooklynmuseum.org

What: 7:30 p.m. Cocktails
8 p.m. Dinner

Where: Red Rooster Harlem
310 Lenox Avenue
(between 125th and 126th Street)
New York, NY 10017

Note: Press wishing to cover the event must register in advance with the Brooklyn Museum Public Information Department

Press Contact:

Sally Williams, Public Information Officer, (718) 501-6330, sally.williams@brooklynmuseum.org

Adam Husted, Media Relations Manager, (718) 501-6331, adam.husted@brooklynmuseum.org

Marcus Romero, Associate Media Relations Manager, (718) 501-6354, marcus.romero@brooklynmuseum.org