

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 01/16/2020

Art + Practice and the Hammer Museum Present *Collective Constellation: Selections from The Eileen Harris Norton Collection*

Art + Practice: 3401 W. 43rd Place, Los Angeles, CA, 90008

Exhibition Dates: February 8 – August 1, 2020

Regular Hours: Monday – Saturday, 12:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Opening Reception: Saturday, February 8, 2020, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Press Walk Through: Friday, February 7, 2020, times available from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

For high-resolution photos, please send an email to: nereya@artandpractice.org



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When I look through the list of artists, I recall memories. I remember meeting Vernetta Honeywood and Ruth Waddy for the first time. Through the years I've met most of the artists included in the exhibition at A+P. I'm very excited about this show—about all women artists, Erin curating and collaborating with the Hammer. It's all very good.

—art collector, philanthropist and A+P co-founder Eileen Harris Norton

Los Angeles, CA; January 16, 2020 - Art + Practice and the Hammer Museum co-organize

[*Collective Constellation: Selections from The Eileen Harris Norton Collection*](#) at Art + Practice.

This exhibition draws from philanthropist, art collector and A+P co-founder Eileen Harris Norton's personal collection, showcasing a selection of artworks by women of color. This exhibition seeks to highlight an intergenerational, multi-ethnic group of trailblazing artists who have profoundly impacted the landscape of contemporary art. On view at Art + Practice from February 8 through August 1, 2020, *Collective Constellation: Selections from The Eileen Harris Norton Collection* is organized by the Hammer Museum associate curator Erin Christovale.

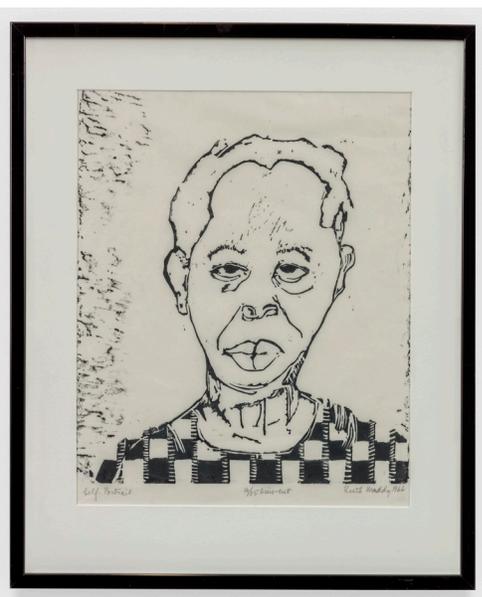
With an initial emphasis on undiscovered, Los Angeles-based artists, Harris Norton has been collecting contemporary art and supporting artists for more than three decades. Her interest in collecting was sparked after encountering and acquiring a self-portrait by artist and arts advocate Ruth Waddy in 1986—a work included in the exhibition at A+P. Though she was an elementary school teacher with a meager salary, Harris Norton purchased the work and thus her collection began.



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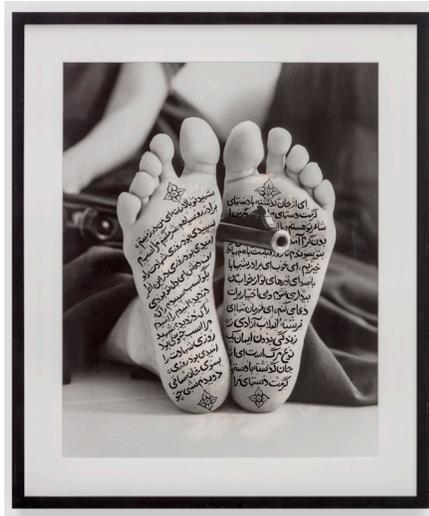
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A constellation is a gathering of individual stars whose shared mass forms a shape. *Collective Constellation* brings together a unique group of artworks in order to display the critical contributions women of color have made within the ever-evolving realm of contemporary art. This exhibition features a range of works that highlight shared feminist practices; art techniques and movements; political and social issues; and the notion of diaspora. Each of the artworks are powerful on their own as bold statements of artistic identity, but together they reveal a biography of Harris Norton as a pioneering collector and offer a deeper look into the vast creative production of women of color. The artists include **Belkis Ayón, Sadie Barnette, Carolyn Castaño, Nzuji De Magalhaes, Renée Green, Mona Hatoum, Varnette Honeywood, Samella Lewis, Julie Mehretu, Ana Mendieta, Beatriz Milhazes, Wangechi Mutu, Shirin Neshat, Lorraine O'Grady, Adrian Piper, Betye Saar, Alison Saar, Doris Salcedo, Amy Sherald, Lorna Simpson, Ruth Waddy, Kara Walker, Carrie Mae Weems, Lynette Yiadom-Boakye and Brenna Youngblood.**

"The idea behind *Collective Constellation* was considering how women throughout history have worked collectively to advocate for change and women's rights," said the Hammer Museum associate curator **Erin Christovale**. "The notion of the constellation has an esoteric quality that I think taps into the various spiritual and expansive qualities that many of these artists imbue. Women of color have been the trailblazers within the contemporary art landscape, creating innovative and thought-provoking artwork that has been in dialogue with various social and political movements in recent years. I love that Eileen's collection is not only multi-ethnic but international. It's in conversation with the world and the global impact of art and liberated expression."



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“This exhibition signifies a reunion for Art + Practice and the Hammer Museum. The Hammer Museum was an integral collaborator with A+P at our founding and we are excited and honored to be working with them again on an exhibition that is both prolific and personal. To bring contemporary artwork of this caliber to South LA, not far from where Eileen grew up, is something special,” said A+P Executive Director **Allan DiCastro**.

COLLECTIVE CONSTELLATION PUBLIC PROGRAM SERIES

On the occasion of *Collective Constellation: Selections from The Eileen Harris Norton Collection*, Art + Practice will organize a series of public programs. Programs will take place in A+P’s public program space at 4334 Degan Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90008. Admission to all programs is free of cost. Please visit artandpractice.org/publicprograms for more information.

ABOUT EILEEN HARRIS NORTON

Eileen Harris Norton is the President of The Eileen Harris Norton Foundation. The Foundation’s areas of focus are education, family and the environment with an emphasis on low-income children of color. In 2014, Eileen co-founded Art + Practice with artist Mark Bradford and activist Allan DiCastro.



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Eileen has long-standing interests in contemporary art, early childhood education, parenting, child welfare and women’s issues. She served on the boards of the Hammer Museum at UCLA, the Studio Museum in Harlem, the New Museum of Contemporary Art and the Children’s Defense Fund. Eileen is also an avid art collector with a strong interest in work by artists of color (particularly from the African diaspora), women artists and artists of Southern California.

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Eileen graduated Cum Laude with a BA from UCLA in French and a certificate in teaching English as a second language. She holds an MS in Bilingual Education from USC. She spent several years as an elementary school teacher in the LA Unified School District teaching English as a second language. Eileen left teaching to become the first employee of Peter Norton Computing, Inc., helping her then-husband grow the company as office manager.

CREDITS

This exhibition is co-organized by Art + Practice and the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles. The exhibition is organized by the Hammer Museum associate curator Erin Christovale.

ABOUT ART + PRACTICE

Founded by artist Mark Bradford, community activist Allan DiCastro and philanthropist and collector Eileen Harris Norton, Art + Practice is a private operating 501(c)3 foundation based in Leimert Park Village, Los Angeles. Art + Practice encourages education and culture by providing support services to foster youth predominantly living in South Los Angeles through its collaboration with First Place for Youth. A+P also provides free, museum-curated art exhibitions and diverse public art programs for the community of Leimert Park.

ART + PRACTICE INFORMATION

Admission to all exhibitions and public programs are free and available to the public. To learn more visit artandpractice.org. Hours: Monday – Saturday: 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Art + Practice is located at 3401 W. 43rd Place, Los Angeles, CA 90008. Ample metered and public lot parking available.

ABOUT THE HAMMER MUSEUM

The Hammer Museum is part of the School of the Arts and Architecture at UCLA, and offers exhibitions and collections that span classic to contemporary art. It holds more than 50,000 works in its collection, including one of the finest collections of works on paper in the nation, the Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts. Through a wide-ranging, international exhibition program and the biennial, *Made in L.A.*, the Hammer highlights contemporary art since the 1960s, especially the work of emerging and under recognized artists. The exhibitions, permanent collections, and nearly 300 public programs annually—including film screenings, lectures, symposia, readings, music performances, and workshops for families—are all free to the public.

HAMMER MUSEUM INFORMATION

Admission to all exhibitions and programs at Hammer Museum is free, made possible through the generosity of benefactors Erika J. Glazer and Brenda R. Potter. Hours: Tuesday–Friday 11 a.m.–8 p.m., Saturday–Sunday 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Closed Mondays and national holidays. Hammer Museum, 10899 Wilshire Boulevard at Westwood, Los Angeles. Visit hammer.ucla.edu for details or call 310-443-7000.

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ART + PRACTICE

3401 W. 43rd Place

Los Angeles CA 90008

Monday to Sunday, 12 – 6 p.m.

FREE Admission

Public Program Space:

4334 Degnan Boulevard

Los Angeles, CA 90008

Open for scheduled programs
starting at 6:00 p.m.

artandpractice.org

PHOTO CREDITS

1. Doris Salcedo, *Atrabiliarios*, 1993. Wall installation with plywood, seven shoes, cow bladder, and surgical thread. 26 x 54 x 4 in. © Doris Salcedo. Courtesy of the artist and White Cube. The Eileen Harris Norton Collection. Photo: Charles White.

2. Carrie Mae Weems, *Coming Up For Air*, 2003 – 2004. Video. 51 Min, 34 sec. © Carrie Mae Weems. Courtesy of the artist and Jack Shainman Gallery, New York. The Eileen Harris Norton Collection. Photo: Charles White.

3. Sadie Barnette, *Untitled (Free Angela)*, 2018. Mixed media. 12 x 14 3/4 x 3 in. © Sadie Barnette. Courtesy of the artist and Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles. The Eileen Harris Norton. Photo: Charles White.

4. Ruth Waddy, *Self Portrait*, 1966. Lino-cut print. 23 x 19 3/4 in. © Ruth Waddy. The Eileen Harris Norton Collection. Photo: Charles White.

5. Shirin Neshat, *Allegiance with Wakefulness*, 1994. Black & white photograph with ink. 48 x 39 1/4 in. © Shirin Neshat. Courtesy of the artist and Gladstone Gallery, New York. The Eileen Harris Norton Collection. Photo: Charles White.

6. Amy Sherald, *When I let go of what I am, I become what I might be (Self-Imagined atlas)*, 2018. Oil on canvas. 54 x 43 x 2 inches. © Amy Sherald. Courtesy of the artist and Hauser & Wirth. The Eileen Harris Norton Collection. Photo: Charles White.

7. Art + Practice co-founder, Eileen Harris Norton at her residence in Santa Monica, California. 13 October 2019. Photo: Molly Adams.