



# SOULWORKS

comes to the Evanston Art Center

**JUNE 15 - JULY 5, 2020**

Michel Delgado, *Confused Circus*, 2018

EVANSTON **ART**  
CENTER

The EAC is a non-profit inspiring art education,  
exhibitions and expression for all.

1717 Central Street, Evanston, IL 60201  
847.475.5300 | [www.evanstonartcenter.org](http://www.evanstonartcenter.org)

## GALLERY HOURS

Monday - Friday: 10 am - 5 pm

Saturday: 10 am - 4 pm

Sunday: 12pm - 4pm



Galleries are accessible.  
Exhibitions are free and open to the  
public.

# ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Rose Cannon of Cannon Fine Art in collaboration with Artist and Curator, Fran Joy, are bringing 'Soulworks', a collection of art by artists of color, both renowned and emerging, to the Evanston Art Center. The group show includes Black American, African, Caribbean and Japanese artists, exhibiting an eclectic and exciting array of artwork, which includes original oil and acrylic pieces on canvas and wood, framed giclee prints of watercolor, digital prints, carved wood and banana tree leaves, and functional designer wood screens. The purpose of the art show is to showcase inclusion, diversity and equity with artists of color in the creative world.

**Join us for a virtual celebration via Zoom on Thursday, June 18 from 6-8pm! Sign up online via Eventbrite.**

For more information on the exhibition, please visit:  
[www.evanstonartcenter.org/exhibitions/soulworks](http://www.evanstonartcenter.org/exhibitions/soulworks)

## VISITOR INFORMATION FOR COVID 19 PHASE 3 GUIDELINES

This exhibition will be held in the First Floor Gallery of the Evanston Art Center (EAC). When arriving at the EAC during our Gallery Hours, please wait outside and call us at (847) 475-5300 for entry. All visitors are required to wear masks and take their temperature upon entry using provided gloves, and share results with an EAC staff member. Anyone with a temperature of 100.4°F or above will not be permitted to remain on site. Please adhere to 6' social distancing requirements when in the gallery space.

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## IMAGE CREDITS:

Inside top L to R: Alpha M. Bruton, *Border Surge of Illegal Immigration, Our Journey is not Complete*, 2019; Baz Cumberbatch, *Mermaid*, 2019; Michel Delgado, *Confused Circus*, 2018; David Anthony Geary, *Ascension*, 2009; Myah Grinnell, *Cotton Candy Sky*, 2020; Tadaaki Hatta, *Jean Baptiste Point Dusable*, 2007; Fran Joy, *Young Girl*, 2019; William Kwamena-Poh, *Networking*; David Johnson Niari, *Englewood*, 2019; Suanne Rayner, *Pink Impossible Polaroid Lift Transfer*, 2018; Debra Salter, *Cosmic Energy*, 2020; Jevoid Simmons, *I Do*, 2019.

## ALPHA M. BRUTON

Alpha M. Bruton is a painter and environmental installation artist, who synthesizes aspects of set design, film theatre, sculpture and other two-dimensional forms. Alpha Bruton creates environmental art installations where objects and images are selected to “serve as cultural mirrors” and the sites in which they are situated serve as part of a broader cultural commentary. She believes that objects in the public sphere serve to communicate and reinforce certain cultural narratives, hierarchies and social mythologies. Alpha’s new works are a window to the imaginary, a summons and an overture to a dialogue.



## BAZ CUMBERBATCH

Baz’s art career began in his youth when he started making and selling t-shirts using shells, leaves, bones, corals, sea fans, pieces of palm, coconut and bamboo trees in the Caribbean. In 1989, crowned South Caribbean Windsurfing Champion, Baz traveled the world before moving to California and then Hawaii to pursue a career in windsurfing, art and to raise a family. In 2011, Baz visited Alaska and saw that the water, mountains, skies and land looked like the tropical trees that surrounded him. Upon returning to Hawaii, Baz began creating the all natural mixed media pieces he sells today in Maui and Evanston, IL.



## MICHEL DELGADO

Michel Delgado was born on the West Coast of Africa, in Dakar, Senegal. Pursuing a path to the arts from a young age, this work has become an outlet for inquiry, honesty, and memory. His work has become more widely known in the past decade, having been acquired by private collectors throughout the nation, and is part of the public collections of the Plains Art Museum in Fargo, North Dakota, and the American Visionary Art Museum in Baltimore, Maryland. His latest project, the Gum Spotting Experience, was recently on exhibit in Philadelphia as part of Philadelphia International Airport’s Exhibition Program. Delgado’s work was featured in the Fox television network series Empire, alongside works by Kehinde Wiley.



## DAVID ANTHONY GEARY

David Anthony Geary is a transdisciplinary artist working in a variety of mediums. His visual training took place in New Orleans, LA at Xavier University. He remained in this uniquely attractive city to absorb as much of its great culture and heritage as he could. Culture and life experiences fill his work along with the discovery of newness. Constantly pushing, searching and discovering the new while at the same time holding on to the old. It’s not just an aspect of David’s art but an aspect of his character that finds its way into the art. Communicating his perspective of the world around him through a visual language, he became fluent in many dialects of visual art. Building a career as an artist, an educator, as well as a family in New Orleans, has greatly influenced his work both visually and conceptually. His work incorporates painting, printmaking, collage, assemblage, sculpture or photography. The nuance of the human experience, both the introspective and observed are an integral part of his process.



## MYAH GRINNELL

Myah Grinnell was born to two talented artists in Evanston, IL. Drawing and painting were a constant in her home. She graduated from Northwestern University with a major in Radio/TV/Film. It became clear she was drawn to several art media. When Myah became a wife and mother, photography became more conducive to exploring an idea or a feeling. Her current work combines both painting and photography through digital painting. Her concentration has become expressive landscapes and abstractions inspired by her travels.



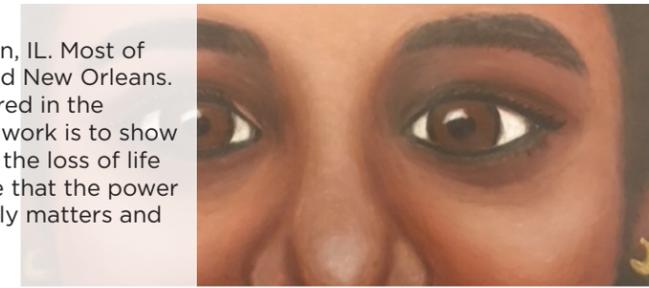
## TADAAKI HATTA

Tadaaki Hatta is a visual artist who creates artwork from his personal experiences that touches the souls of viewers. Born in Peking (Beijing), China (occupied by Japan) and raised in Tokyo, Japan, Tadaaki Hatta is not only an accomplished artist, but also a world class Olympic coach and award-winning athlete. In 1961, he traveled from Tokyo to Stillwater, Oklahoma to wrestle and study at Oklahoma State University. After finishing his Bachelor of Arts, Tadaaki earned a Masters in Fine Arts from Northwestern University.



## FRAN JOY

Fran Joy is an artist, designer and life coach currently living in Evanston, IL. Most of her adult life she has been in the greater Chicago area, Los Angeles and New Orleans. She has been the featured cover of the Evanston Magazine and appeared in the Evanston Review and the Chicago Tribune. The purpose behind Fran’s work is to show the power, strength and triumph of the human spirit. As she witnesses the loss of life and humanity throughout the world, she is drawn to those who believe that the power of their faith and the strength of their spirit and character are what truly matters and will make a difference in life.



## DAVID JOHNSON NIARI

David Johnson Niari, currently living and working in Chicago, IL, makes drawings, paintings and mixed media artworks. By referencing romanticism, grand-guignolesque black humour and symbolism, his drawings reference post-colonial theory as well as the avant-garde or the post-modern and the left-wing democratic movement as a form of resistance against the logic of the capitalist market system. Niari’s works are based on formal associations made through labour-intensive processes that open a unique poetic vein. Multilayered images arise in such a way that the fragility and the instability of our seemingly certain reality is questioned.



## WILLIAM KWAMENA-POH

Born in Ghana, William came to the United States when his father came to teach history at Talladega College in Alabama as a Fulbright Scholar. William was introduced to the work of James Huff, an artist teaching at the college. According to William, “Huff painted huge and intricately detailed portraits of African American women that blew me away! They were so detailed, yet simplistic. I was lit on fire! I had that young braggadociousness and thought, I can do that!” William has since learned how much dedication, determination and skill it takes to capture the essence of his subjects. He dedicates himself to the continual process of artistic challenge and personal growth so that his viewers can experience the beauty and diversity of our lives.



## SUANNE RAYNER

As an artist, Suanne strives to create meaningful artistic experiences that enable opportunities for learning. Through many different media, processes and experiments, Suanne is the student as well as the teacher. Her artwork focuses on the manipulation of the photograph. Her Sun and Surf photographs began as digital prints, and were broken into six sections using photoshop. These images were then emailed to her cell phone. Using an “impossible” camera, each section was reproduced as a polaroid images, which were then cooked in hot water until the tissue-like film floated to the surface. These images were collaged onto watercolor paper, and covered in gel medium.



## DEBRA SALTER

Debra Salter creates one of a kind, handpainted original designs that are also functional art pieces. This concept came to her last year, after looking for a pair of treasured earrings. Those that become forgotten, out of sight and mind, and then entangled and broken in jewelry boxes. Her philosophy when creating her jewelry displays is the same as her home decorating. “Indulge in the visions that one should not limit themselves to. My objective is to express a creative spirit, to bring to your home, to life, what often appears to be... Just An Illusion.



## JEVOID SIMMONS

Jevoid Simmons is a 40 year resident of Evanston, IL. When painting, Simmons enjoys working in a primitive style that is not tied to the necessity of precision. His work has a certain warmth and tranquility in the presence of turbulent surroundings and events of the day. His hope is that the warm, tranquil style will invite the viewer into the picture. However, the related narratives convey the extraordinary hardships and the life and death struggle faced by black folks living in the south under Jim Crow. Simmons’ most recent exhibition was in the Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center. He has also exhibited his work at Noyes Cultural Art Center, Evanston Art Center, Garret Theological Seminary at Northwestern University, and the Art Institute of Chicago.

