

Four U.S. Museums Selected as 2023 Art Dealers Association of America Foundation Grantees to Support Exhibitions and Community Engagement Programs

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Mary Sibande, *Sophie-Ntombikayise*, 2009, Museum purchase: R. Charles and Mary Margaret Clevenger Art Acquisition Fund, Image courtesy of the Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas

New York – November 20, 2023 - The Art Dealers Association of America (ADAA) is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2023 grants that have been distributed by the **ADAA Foundation**. Primarily funded by members of the ADAA—a nonprofit organization of the nation’s leading art dealers—the Foundation awards annual grants to small and mid-sized museums, archives, and art institutions across the United States. The 2023 recipients—**American Folk Art Museum** (New York, NY), **Mississippi Museum of Art** (Jackson, MI), **Portland Institute of Contemporary Art** (Portland, OR), and **Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas** (Lawrence, KS)—are receiving grants to support major exhibitions and related public programs that broaden art historical narratives and provide important perspectives on the role art plays in shaping our lives.

Established in 1970, the ADAA Foundation is a distinct yet connected entity of the ADAA that aims to meaningfully contribute to the field of art and art history. Each year, art museums with operating budgets of up to five million dollars are invited by the ADAA Foundation to apply for grants of \$10,000 to advance the research and development of new art exhibitions, educational programming, and community engagement initiatives, including those that advance equity, access, and representation, presented online or in-person.

ADAA Foundation President James Cohan comments: “With each cohort of grantees, the ADAA Foundation expands its support of the broader arts community and highlights the vital programs produced by small-to-mid-sized institutions across the country. Each grantee has been selected because their work exemplifies the curatorial excellence and community-building reach that art exhibitions can have, bringing new audiences, ideas, and modes of making into the fold. We are honored to assist these four museums in realizing their curatorial visions.”

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INITIATIVES SELECTED FOR 2023 ADAA FOUNDATION GRANTS:

Francesc Tosquelles: Avant-Garde Psychiatry and the Birth of Art Brut
American Folk Art Museum
April 12 – August 18, 2024

Situated at the intersection of art and psychiatry, *Francesc Tosquelles: Avant-Garde Psychiatry and the Birth of Art Brut* explores the legacy of Catalan psychiatrist Francesc Tosquelles (Reus, 1912–Granges-sur-Lot, 1994), who experimented with revolutionary psychiatric practices that came to be called “institutional psychotherapy” and were intended to bring patients out of isolation and into the communal life of Saint-Alban Hospital’s “asylum-village.” Meanwhile, during the German occupation of France, Saint-Alban’s Hospital became a refuge for political dissidents and intellectuals associated with the artistic avant-garde, who were exposed to the prodigious artistic output of its patients. It was in response to these very artworks that French artist Jean Dubuffet would come to coin the notion of “art brut” in 1945, and begin his now-celebrated collection.

Of Salt and Spirit
Mississippi Museum of Art
Winter 2024

Of Salt and Spirit, curated by Sharbreon Plummer, Ph.D., will feature an estimated fifty quilts and illuminate the processes and practices of Black, southern, female quilters, demystifying cultural narratives that have been assigned to their artistry. The exhibition will not only highlight the craft and its intergenerational, multi-national impact but will also work to dispel harmful narratives that have been associated with Black female southern quilters for decades. The work of Black female quilters is often described as improvisational and this narrative is directly in conflict with the care and planning required of quilting, as well as the skill, foresight, and training it requires. *Of Salt and Spirit* pushes past these assumptions, to demonstrate the truth of the craft, the detail of the practice, and the ingeniousness of the methods of Black female southern quilters.

Policing Justice
Portland Institute of Contemporary Art
February – May, 2024

This exhibition will explore the situated histories leading up to the post-May 2020 protests in Portland from the intersecting perspectives of racial, environmental, spatial, and juvenile justice. These stories will be told through existing works and new commissions by local artists and activist groups, along with a selection of loans from around the country that situate Portland’s history of police violence within a national context.

Bold Women+
Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas
February – July, 2025

Bold Women+ will explore how women and non-binary artists—especially those who are Black, Indigenous, and other people of color—have created change and advanced social justice. The exhibition will include textiles, sculpture, metalwork, painting, video, music video, and photography from the Spencer Museum of Art’s collection, including some works acquired specifically for the show, as well as loans. Featured South African artist Mary Sibande will be in residence at the Spencer Museum during the exhibition.

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About the ADAA

The Art Dealers Association of America (ADAA) is a nonprofit membership organization that supports the economic and cultural contributions of the nation’s leading fine art galleries. The ADAA includes over 200 members from nearly 40 cities in the U.S., representing hundreds of established and emerging artists internationally. ADAA members have extensive expertise across primary and secondary markets and established reputations for upholding the best practices in the field. The ADAA serves as a resource and advocate, raising awareness of dealers’ critical roles in the international art market and the cultural community. The ADAA is a leader on issues pertaining to connoisseurship, scholarship, and public policy.

www.artdealers.org.

About the ADAA Foundation

The ADAA Foundation, an entity distinct from but connected to the ADAA, was established in 1970 to encourage and promote the appreciation of art and art history through its support of vital scholarship and curatorial research. Primarily funded by generous donations from ADAA member galleries, the Foundation has distributed grants to museums, archives, and arts organizations around the country to advance art historical research and exhibition development.

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