

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 2008

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September–October 2008

ADMISSION: \$10 adults, \$8 students/visitors 60 and over, free for NMWA members and youth 18 and under. Free Community Days are the first Sunday of each month.

EXHIBITIONS

**June 27, 2008–
Sept. 21, 2008**

Modern Love: Gifts to the Collection from Heather and Tony Podesta

Modern Love celebrates the stellar group of contemporary works of art donated to NMWA by prominent Washington-based collectors Heather and Tony Podesta. The couple's passion for cutting-edge art is highlighted in this selection of photographs, videos, sculptures, and paintings. The exhibition features more than 50 works by internationally-renowned artists such as Cathy de Monchaux, Candida Höfer, Elizabeth Turk, and Jane and Louise Wilson in addition to works by exciting emerging artists.

**June 27, 2008–
Sept. 21, 2008**

Something Pertaining to God: The Patchwork Art of Rosie Lee Tompkins

The exhibition features approximately 25 quilts and other quilted pieces—including clothing, chair covers, and pillows—by this acclaimed African American artist. Organized by the Shelburne Museum, *Something Pertaining to God* is a posthumous retrospective of Arkansas-born quilter Effie Mae Howard, who created her artwork under the pseudonym Rosie Lee Tompkins.

**August 22, 2008–
February 3, 2009**

Beyond Tradition: The Pueblo Pottery of Tammy Garcia

Tammy Garcia is one of the most recognizable figures in Southwestern ceramics and is renowned for infusing a two-thousand year old tradition with modern notions of design. *Beyond Tradition* features a select group of Garcia's most important pots and will be the first exhibition of her work at The National Museum of Women in the Arts.

**Oct. 17, 2008–
Jan. 25, 2009**

Role Models: Feminine Identity in Contemporary American Photography

In today's image-conscious world, photography is one of the most powerful mediators of our sense of self. This exhibition features the work of two generations of artists whose portraiture, self-portraiture, and narrative photographs have indelibly inflected our understanding of gender and identity over the past 30 years. More specifically it focuses on how role models and role-playing have been central to the art, meaning, and

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social function of contemporary photography. *Role Models* begins with the 1980s, a time when many American women artists and photographers such as Eleanor Antin and Cindy Sherman realized that they could be both the creator and the subject of their work, while others such as Nan Goldin, Sally Mann, and Mary Ellen Mark sought to document the varied roles that women and girls try on in their struggle to find an identity that fits. *Role Models* also considers how, by the late 1990s, a generation of photographers including Anna Gaskell, Catherine Opie, and Nikki S. Lee had become exemplars for a new cadre of younger women artists by collapsing old boundaries between postmodern and documentary photography, establishing new post-feminist sensibilities and evolving more fluid concepts of female identity.

**Nov. 21, 2008–
Jan. 25, 2009**

Mary Cassatt: Friends and Family

Mary Cassatt (1844–1926), one of the most important artists working in Paris in the late 1880s, was the only American to join the ranks of the Impressionists' circle. Embodying the essence of modernity and innovation—as an American, a woman artist, and an Impressionist—Cassatt drew inspiration from those she knew best. An avid painter of modern life, Cassatt turned her canvas on friends and family in an effort to follow the critical tenets of the impressionistic process: painting from lived experience and in accordance with visual truth. Organized by the Shelburne Museum in Vermont, *Mary Cassatt: Friends and Family* traces the central theme of friendship in Cassatt's art, focusing in particular on the artist's relationships with other artists and collectors. Edgar Degas, Louisine Havemeyer, and Electra Havemeyer Webb were among those whose friendships with Cassatt informed the private and public tracts of her career. The exhibition brings together paintings, prints, photographs, and letters that reveal the fascinating interplay of American expatriates at the turn-of-the-century, when artists and patrons defined the course of modern art.

**Exhibited
Indefinitely**

Highlights from the Permanent Collection

Works by women artists from the 16th century to the present in varied media including paintings by Judith Leyster, Berthe Morisot and Lee Krasner; sculptures by Barbara Hepworth and Chakaia Booker; works on paper by Mary Cassatt, Käthe Kollwitz and Elizabeth Catlett and photography by Lola Alvarez Bravo and Nan Goldin.

SUNDAY BRUNCHES

**Sunday,
Sept. 7, 2008
Oct. 5, 2008**

Sunday Brunches

Join us for what is sure to become a family tradition: Brunch at the Museum Café on the first Sunday of every month! Eggs any style, omelets, French toast, and waffles cooked to order; fine pastries, fruit, juices, coffees, and tea. FREE admission to the museum. Docent-led tours available. For reservations call 202-628-1068. General \$25.

11 a.m. –2 p.m.

**NOTE: RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMS UNLESS NOTED.
FOR INFO CALL 202.783.7370 OR EMAIL RESERVATIONS@NMWA.ORG.
SEATS WILL BE HELD UNTIL 10 MINUTES BEFORE THE START OF PROGRAMS.**

FEATURED ARTIST DEMONSTRATION

**Thursday,
Sept. 4, 2008
12–1 p.m.**

First Person: Tammy Garcia

Tammy Garcia, one of the most recognizable figures in Southwestern ceramics, has revolutionized traditional Pueblo pottery and integrated it with mainstream contemporary art. Join us for this unique program in which Garcia discusses the pottery highlighted in NMWA's special exhibition *Beyond Tradition: The Pueblo Pottery of Tammy Garcia* and demonstrates her working methods. Following Garcia's presentation, participants will have the opportunity to try their hands at coil-pot assembly, the basis of Garcia's works. Free with museum admission. No reservations required, but space is limited. Participants will be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

**Saturday,
Sept. 11, 2008
11 a.m.–5 p.m.**

Arts on Foot

Create your own accordion or diamond-fold book at the annual Arts on Foot Festival in D.C.'s Penn Quarter neighborhood! Incorporate stories, poems, and artwork to complete your own unique artist's book. All materials provided. All ages welcome. Tents for Arts on Foot will be located at 8th and F Streets, NW; visit <http://www.artsonfoot.org/> for more about the festival. Free. No reservations required.

WINE EVENT

**Thursday,
Oct. 2, 2008
6:30–9:30 p.m.**

Wine is Art--Celebrating the Winemaker and the Collector

Sponsored by the Business and Professional Women's Council of the National Museum of Women in the Arts, this event will feature 25 international gold medal winners of the 2008 National Women's Wine Competition. Guests will be able to sample the award-winning wines as well as enjoy hors d'oeuvres prepared by top female chefs in the area, including Ris Lascoste and Ellen Gray. A silent auction featuring food and wine-related items will follow the wine tasting. The event provides an exciting opportunity for guests to experience the art of food and wine pairing and to celebrate the accomplishments of women in the food and wine business. Individual tickets are \$150. Business attire requested. For more information, contact Neisha Taylor at 443-786-2321 or neisha.taylor@gmial.com.

FAMILY PROGRAM

**Sunday,
Oct. 5, 2008
1–3 p.m.**

Garcia and Gourds

Celebrate Tammy Garcia's beautiful pottery and the beginning of autumn! Take a look at the unique styles and designs of Garcia's work in *Beyond Tradition: The Pueblo Pottery of Tammy Garcia* and see how her colors and forms have been influenced by nature. Then, use your inspiration from her work to carve the outside of your own gourd or coil pot with similar techniques and shapes. It's fun for the whole family and a great way to welcome in the fall! Free; ages 6-12 accompanied by an adult. Reservations required; call 202-783-7370 or e-mail reservations@nmwa.org.

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ROLE MODEL WORKSHOPS FOR TEENS

**Sunday,
Sept. 21, 2008
10 a.m.–1 p.m**

Engineering Paper with Carol Barton

Do you remember opening a pop-up book for the first time and watching the pages magically unfold and expand before your eyes? .Did you ever wonder how pop-up books are created? If so, join Carol Barton for this exciting hands-on workshop on the art of engineering paper. Barton, a book artist whose work is exhibited internationally and is in numerous museum collections including NMWA's, will teach you to design and construct basic and advanced pop-up forms. Participants will also view pop-up books in the special exhibition *A Movable Feast: The Book as Art* and see some of Barton's own creations. Free; open to students ages 13-18. Reservations required; call 202-783-7370 or e-mail reservations@nmwa.org.

**Sunday,
Oct. 19, 2008
10 a.m.–1 p.m.**

A Photographer's Vision: Transforming the Feminine with Mary Noël McMillian

Join photographer, attorney, and leadership coach Mary Noël McMillian in an exploration of how awareness of your feminine identity can transform your life's journey. After viewing NMWA's special exhibition *Role Models: Feminine Identity in Contemporary American Photography* and investigating the depiction of feminine role models within its context, create an artist's journal about the images that challenge, surprise, unnerve, and resonate with you. In guided conversations, explore perspectives on how the transformation of your feminine identity can help make you feel fully alive. Finally, experiment with mixed media and Polaroid collage to create personal images of the feminine. Free; open to students ages 13-18. Reservations required; call 202-783-7370 or e-mail reservations@nmwa.org.

TEACHER WORKSHOP

**Monday,
Oct. 27, 2008
4:30–7:30 p.m.**

Exploring Identity

Investigate the ways photography constructs and mediates identity today. Through gallery tours, activities, and hands-on projects, participants will explore these complex issues in the context of the exhibition *Role Models: Feminine Identity in Contemporary American Photography*, which includes works by Cindy Sherman, Lorna Simpson, and Anna Gaskell, among others. Open to all area teachers. Reservations required; call 202-783-7370 or e-mail reservations@nmwa.org.

FILMS

**Tuesday,
Sept. 23, 2008**

Sisters in Cinema: Kasi Lemmons' *Eve's Bayou*

**Reception
6-7 p.m.**

"The summer I killed my father, I was 10 years old." So begins Kasi Lemmons's acclaimed directorial debut *Eve's Bayou* (1997, 35mm, 109 min.). Set in the Louisiana Bayou in the 1960s, Lemmons's Southern Gothic tale follows feisty young Eve (Jurnee Smollett), the second daughter of charming Dr. Louis Batiste (Samuel L. Jackson) and his elegant wife Roz (Lynn Whitfield). As the story unravels, Eve exposes the deeply hidden secrets that her sophisticated family tries hard to keep under wraps. The screening will be preceded by a reception with the filmmaker, who will also have a discussion with the audience after the viewing of the film. Reservations recommended; call 202-783-7370 or e-mail reservations@nmwa.org. Members, Seniors, Students \$4; General \$5 per program.

**Screening &
Discussion
7-9:30 p.m.**

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**Wednesday,
Oct. 1, 2008
6:45–8:15 p.m.**

**Asian Pacific American Film Festival
*Against the Grain***

Director Anne Kaneko's riveting documentary *Against the Grain* (2008, USA, 65 min., Spanish, English, Japanese and Quechua with English subtitles) examines the lives of four inspiring Peruvian artists who willfully express their views of identity, gender, social class, and politics through contemporary artwork, revealing the struggle to maintain freedom of expression while facing political backlash, censorship, and imprisonment against the backdrop of a country in turmoil. Preceded by Kate Hers's self-reflexive short documentary

Noh-Chim (2006, Switzerland, 8 mins., Korean and English with subtitles), which explores issues of belonging and transnational identity as a Korean American journeys to the country where she was put up for adoption almost 30 years ago. Reservations recommended; call 202-783-7370 or e-mail reservations@nmwa.org. Members, Seniors, Students \$4; General \$5 per program.

8:30–10 p.m.

Sita Sings the Blues

Nina Paley's delightfully smart, hilarious, and gorgeously color-saturated animated feature *Sita Sings the Blues* (2008, 35mm, 82 min.) tells the Indian epic *Ramayana* in a new way. Three snarky shadow puppets guide us through the tale of the goddess Sita's separation from her beloved Rama and their journeys to find each other again. Sita illuminates her situation for us with musical interludes in the voice of the late 1920s blues singer Annette Hanshaw, via archival recordings. In an autobiographical parallel interjected into the story, the filmmaker's husband has gone to India for work and proceeds to break up with her over e-mail. Reservations recommended; call 202-783-7370 or e-mail reservations@nmwa.org. Members, Seniors, Students \$4; General \$5 per program

CONCERTS

**Friday,
Oct. 3, 2008
7:30-10 p.m.**

An Intimate Evening of Jazz with Anat Cohen

NMWA and the 2008 Duke Ellington Jazz Festival are pleased to welcome Israeli-born musician Anat Cohen to the NMWA stage. Hailed by *The New York Times* as "an improviser with gusto," Cohen is conversant with modern and traditional jazz, classical music, Brazilian choro, Argentine tango, and an expansive timeline of Afro-Cuban styles. She has established herself as one of the primary voices of her generation on both the tenor saxophone and clarinet. A discussion with Cohen will follow the concert. Visit the Duke Ellington Jazz Festival's website at www.dejazzfest.org for more information on this concert and the entire Jazz Festival's schedule. General \$25; reservations recommended. Ticket sales begin September 1, 2008. Call 202-783-7370 or email reservations@nmwa.org.

**Sunday,
Oct. 5, 2008
2-5 p.m.**

Sonic Circuits Festival

Sonic Circuits is a local festival of experimental and avant-garde electronic music which emphasizes improvisation and artistic use of new technologies. At NMWA, Sonic Circuits will present an afternoon of new music that is both challenging and alluring. The duo Rarescale (UK) performs compositions for alto flute and electronics, Burbuja (Spain) melds together video, theater and sound to discover the wonderment of

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everyday objects and sounds, and Baby Dee (Current 93, Marc Almond, Anthony & the Johnsons) presents her outsider take on chanson. Reservations recommended; call 202 783-7370 or e-mail reservations@nmwa.org. Members, Seniors, Students \$4; General \$5 per program.

GALLERY TALKS

Join NMWA staff members for short gallery talks in conjunction with “*Something Pertaining to God*”: *The Patchwork Art of Rosie Lee Tompkins* and *Modern Love: Gifts to the Collection from Heather and Tony Podesta*. Gallery talks will explore a variety of topics related to the art works, artists, and themes featured in the exhibitions. No reservations required. Free with museum admission. Meet at the Information Desk.

**Wednesday,
Sep. 10, 2008
12 p.m.** **“An Insider’s View: Creating the Podesta Collection at NMWA”**
with Director Susan Fisher Sterling

**Wednesday,
Sep. 17, 2008
12 p.m.** **“Full Spectrum: Exploring Color in *The Patchwork Art of Rosie Lee Tompkins* and *Modern Love*”**
with Director Susan Fisher Sterling

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours

Monday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Sunday, Noon–5 p.m.

Closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year’s Day

Location

1250 New York Avenue, NW, two blocks north of Metro Center from the 13th Street exit

Admission Prices

\$10 adults, \$8 students/visitors 60 and over, free for NMWA members/youth 18 and under.

Free Community Days are the first Sunday of each month.

About NMWA

The National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA), founded in 1981 and opened in 1987, is the only museum dedicated solely to celebrating the achievements of women in the visual, performing and literary arts. The museum’s permanent collection features 3,000 works from the 16th century to the present created by more than 800 artists; including Mary Cassatt, Georgia O’Keeffe, Frida Kahlo, Lee Krasner and Louise Bourgeois, along with special collections of 18th-century silver tableware and botanical prints. The museum also conducts multidisciplinary programs for diverse audiences and maintains a Library and Research Center which is accessible to the public. NMWA is located at 1250 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C., in a landmark building near the White House. It is open Monday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. and Sunday, noon–5 p.m. For information, call 202-783-5000 or visit the museum’s Web site at www.nmwa.org.

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