

Hammond Harkins Galleries

AMINAH BRENDA LYNN ROBINSON

Born in Columbus, OH, 1940

Columbus Art School (now the Columbus College of Art and Design), BA, cum laude, 1960

Studied art history and philosophy at The Ohio State University, 1960

Studied bookmaking and papermaking at The Ohio State University, 1981

GRANTS / FELLOWSHIPS

MacArthur "Genius Award," Chicago, IL, 2004

Ohio Arts Council Visual Arts Travel Fellowship, Israel, 1998

Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant, New York, 1997

Ohio Arts Council Individual Artist Fellowship, 1991

Minority Artist Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, 1989

Ohio Arts Council Individual Artist Grant Fellowship, 1989

Ohio Arts Council Individual Artist Fellowship, 1987

Ohio Governor's Award for the Visual Arts, individual artist category, 1984

Ohio Arts Council Individual Artist Fellowship, 1980

KUUMBA Black Liberation Award in the Visual Arts from Malcolm X College, Chicago, IL, 1978

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITION

2020-21 *Raggin' On* Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH

2019 *Columbus in Cuba/Cuba in Columbus* Columbus, Ohio

2013 *Songs from the New Millennium and Other Works* ACA Galleries, New York, NY

2012 *Songs for a New Millennium, 1812 – 2012: Works by Aminah Robinson Celebrating the Columbus Bicentennial* Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH

2011 *Street Talk and Spiritual Matters: Aminah's Mount Vernon Avenue* Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH

2007 *Water Street: New Work by Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson* Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH

2006 *Lyrical Transformations of the Soul: The Life and Work of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson* ACA Galleries, New York, NY

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- 2004 *The Art of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson* Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Santiago, Chile
- 2002 *Symphonic Poem: The Art of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson* Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH
Traveled to the Brooklyn Museum of Art, Brooklyn, NY (February 24 – August 14, 2006); Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma, WA (September 16, 2006 – January 28, 2007); Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, OH (February 23 – May 20, 2007)
- 1997 *A Street Called Home and Other Book Works* The Thurber Center Gallery, Columbus, OH
Yet Still We Rise: African American Art in Cleveland and Columbus, 1920-1970 Riffe Gallery, Columbus, OH
- 1992 *Walking with Aminah (The Perspectives Series 1)* John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, WI
- 1990 *Pages in History: The Art of Aminah Robinson* Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH (exh. cat.)
- 1989 *The Life and History of Hog Hammock: Contemporary Sculpture and Drawing by Aminah Robinson* Museum of Craft and Folk Art, San Francisco, CA
Unwritten Love Letters Otterbein College, Westerville, OH
- 1988 *Aminah Robinson: The Sapelo Series 1983-87* Women's Building Gallery, Los Angeles, CA (exh. cat.)
- 1987 *Aminah Robinson: Painting and Sculpture* Akron Museum of Art, Akron, OH
- 1985 *Aminah Robinson: Recent Work (Sapelo Series: Part 1)* Kathryn Markel Gallery, New York, NY
A Walk Through the Past, A Way of Life, Slowly Passing Away: Hog Hammock Community, Sapelo Island, Georgia (Sapelo Series: Part 2) Carl Solway Gallery, Cincinnati, OH
- 1984 *Poindexter Village Series: Part 1* Carl Solway Gallery, Cincinnati, OH
Aminah in Poindexter Village: Part 2 Esther Saks Gallery, Chicago, IL (exh. cat.)
- 1982 *Pages in History, Part 1* Otterbein College, Westerville, OH
Pages in History, Part II Franklin University, Columbus, OH (exh. cats.)
- 1980 *Afrikan Pilgrimage: The Extended Family* Kojo Photo Art Studio, Columbus, OH (exh. cat.)

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2013 -2014 *Classless Society* Tang Museum, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY
- 2013 *Stories and Journeys: The Art of Faith Ringgold and Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson* Opalka Gallery, Albany, NY
Generations Museum of Fine Arts, The College of Visual Arts, Theatre, and Dance, Florida State University, FL (exh. cat.)
- 2002 *Connections: Ohio Artist Abroad* Riffe Gallery, Ohio Arts Council, Columbus, OH (exh. cat.)
- 1999 *Art for Community Expression: Twentieth-Century Anniversary Celebration* Columbus College of Art and Design, Columbus, OH (exh. cat.)
Selected Works by Lorna Simpson and Aminah Robinson Susan B. Stein Shiva Gallery, The Joseph Papp Public Theatre, New York, NY

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- 1998 *Masterworks by 20th Century African American Artists* Springfield Museum of Art, OH and Riffe Gallery, Columbus, OH
- 1996 *Master Printers and Master Pieces* Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts, Taiwan (exh. cat.)
- 1995 *New York Stories: An Exhibition of Paintings, Drawings and Sculpture* Carl Solway Gallery, Cincinnati, OH
- 1994 *The Music Box Project*, organized by On the Table, Inc. Traveled to the Equitable Gallery, New York; Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA; Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH; and Center for Fine Arts, Miami, FL (exh. cat.)
- 1992 *Will/Power: New Works by Papo Colo, Jimmie Durham, David Hammonds, Hachivi Edgar Heap of Birds, Adrian Piper, Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson* Wexner Center for the Arts, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH (exh. cat.)
- 1990 *Separate But Equal: Ohio Women Artists* Riffe Gallery, Ohio Arts Council, Columbus, OH
Traveled to the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C., and the Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, OH (exh. cat.)
Contemporary American Folk, Naïve, and Outsider Art: Into the Mainstream? Miami University Art Museum, Oxford, OH (exh. cat.)
- 1989 *Stitching Memories: African-American Story Quilts* Williams College Museum, Williamstown, MA
Traveled to the Studio Museum of Harlem, NY; Oakland Museum, Oakland, CA; Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD; and other sites (exh. cat.)
- 1988 *Influences from the Untaught: Contemporary Drawings* The Drawing Center, New York, NY (exh. cat.)
- 1987 *Three Voices from the Black Experience: Works in Three Dimensions* University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
American Policy Cleveland State University Art Gallery, Cleveland, OH (exh. cat.)
- 1986 *The Arts and African Life: A Past in the Present* Trenton State University, Trenton, NJ
The Book Made Art: A Selection of Contemporary Artists' Books University of Chicago, Chicago, IL (exh. cat.)
- 1985 *Books as Sculpture* Robeson Center Gallery State University of New Jersey, Rutgers, NJ
- 1983 Carl Solway Gallery, Cincinnati, OH
- 1982 *Selections: Six in Ohio* Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH (exh. cat.)

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- 2021 *Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson: Masterworks* Hammond Harkins Galleries, Columbus, OH
- 2018 *Storybooks & Other Narratives: Aminah Robinson and Faith Ringgold* Hammond Harkins Galleries, Columbus, OH
- 2017 *3 Artists* Hammond Harkins Galleries, Columbus, OH
- 2016 *The Presidential Suite* Hammond Harkins Galleries, Columbus, OH
- 2015 *Aminah at 75* Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH

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- 2014 Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH
2013 *Aminah Robinson: Journey from Blackberry Patch to Poindexter Village* Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH
2012 *Chronicles of the Village: Songs for the New Millennium, 1200 AD – 1812* Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH
2010 *Shared Stories: Works by Aminah Robinson and Faith Ringgold* Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH
2009 *The Stories of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson: From Poindexter Village to Today* Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH
2008 *Aminah as Printmaker: The Graphic Works of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson* Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH
2007 *The Stories of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson* Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH
2005 *Sacred Pages: Aminah Robinson in the Holy Land* Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH
2000 *Aminah at Sixty: A Celebratory Exhibition* Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH
1997 *Precious Memories* Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH (exh. cat.)

BOOKS

- Illustrated *The Shaking Bag* (2000), by Gwendolyn Battle-Lavert, published by Albert Whitman & Company, Morton Grove, IL
Illustrated *To Be a Drum* (1998), a children's book by Evelyn Coleman, published by Albert Whitman & Company, Morton Grove, IL
A Street Called Home (1997), published by Harcourt Brace & Company, San Diego, CA
Illustrated *The School for Pompey Walker* (1995), by Michael J. Rosen, published by Harcourt Brace & Company, San Diego, CA
Illustrated *Sophie* (1993), by Mem Fox, published by Harcourt Brace & Company, San Diego, CA
The Teachings (1992), published by Harcourt, Brace, Javanovich, San Diego, CA
Illustrated *Elijah's Angel* (1992), a children's book by Michael J. Rosen, published by Harcourt Brace & Company, San Diego, CA

PUBLIC AND CORPORATE COLLECTIONS

Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY; U.S. Federal Government, Art in Embassies Collection; Clark State Community College Performing Arts Center, Springfield, OH; Columbus Foundation, Columbus, OH; Columbus Metropolitan Library, Columbus, OH; Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH; Dominican College, Columbus, OH; Fisher School of Business, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH; Grant Medical Center, Columbus, OH; Greater Columbus Arts Council, Columbus, OH; Huntington National Bank; Columbus, OH; JP Morgan Chase Art Collection; Columbus, OH; King Art Complex, Columbus, OH; National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, Cincinnati, OH; Newark Museum, Newark, New Jersey; Ohio Otterbein College, Westerville, OH; The Ohio State University,

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Columbus, OH; Ohio University Baker Center, Ohio University, Dayton, OH; Richmond Art Museum, Richmond, Indiana; Riverside Methodist Hospital, Columbus, OH; The Robert J. Shiffler Foundation, Dayton, OH; Southern Ohio Museum, Portsmouth, OH; Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, OH.

PRESS

- April 29, 2012, *The Columbus Dispatch*, Review: "History Re-Imagined," by Christopher A. Yates
- May 29, 2011, *The Columbus Dispatch*, Review: "Avenue to Past," by Christopher A. Yates
- March/April, 2011, *Capital Style*, "The Soulful Sage," by Kristy Eckert
- November 28, 2010, *The Columbus Dispatch*, "Public Gets Its First Peek at Book Set by Robinson," by Nancy Gilson
- November 17, 2010, *The Blade* (Toledo, OH), Review: "'Ragmud Collection' 22 Years in the Making," by Tahree Lane
- August 17, 2008, *The Columbus Dispatch*, "Milestone Installation Speaks Boldly to the Heart," Kalzaad Kotwal
- March 30, 2008, *The Columbus Dispatch*, "Prints Reveal Other Facet of Robinson," by Christopher A. Yates
- July 1, 2007, *The Columbus Dispatch*, Review: "Fabric of Community," by Bill Mayr
- January 2007, *ARTnews*, "'RagGonNons' Made from 'Hogmawg'," by Steve Litt
- February 24, 2006, *The New York Times*, Review: "Visions of Africa and Ohio, in All Sorts of Materials," by Grace Glueck
- December 3, 2006, *The Columbus Dispatch*, "Museum Plans Space for Favorite of Storytellers," by Bill Mayr
- Summer 2006, *ARTnews*, Review: "Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson, Brooklyn Museum," by Rachel Somerstein
- September 26, 2006, *The News Tribune* (Tacoma, WA), Review: "Tapestries of Life," by Rosemary Ponnekanti
- September 2005, *Columbus Monthly*, "Genius at Work," by Ann Star
- Autumn 2005 - Winter 2006, *Women's Art Journal*, Review: "The Art of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson," by Robin Rice and Carole Genshaft
- October 31, 2004, *The Plain Dealer*, "A World of Whimsy and Wonder," by Brian E. Albrecht
- September 28, 2004, *The Columbus Dispatch*, "\$500,000 Grant Recognizes a Columbus Treasure," by Bill Mayr
- December 22, 2002, *The Columbus Dispatch*, Review: "A Body of Work Worth Exploring," by Jacqueline Hall
- December 8, 2002, *The Columbus Dispatch*, "Aminah," by Nancy Gilson
- November 2002, *Ohio Magazine*, "Woman of the Cloth," by Lynne Thompson
- February 27, 2000, *The Columbus Dispatch*, "Aminah Truly an Original," by Jacqueline Hall

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- December 14, 1997, *The Columbus Dispatch*, Review: "A Bounty of Pleasures," by Jacqueline Hall
- March/April 1991, *Kunstforum International* published a profile on Robinson, by Bonnie G. Kelm
- Summer 1989, *The Clarion: America's Folk Art Magazine*, published by the Museum of American Folk Art (now the American Folk Art Museum), "Aminah Robinson: One Artist's Ties to Folklife and Folk Art" by Mimi Brodsky Chenfeld
- Fall 1988, *Acclaim*, "Storyteller: The Creative Process of Aminah Robinson," by Maureen E. Miller
- June 1987, *Ohio Magazine*, "The Magician of Poindexter Village," by Jane Ware
- September/October 1985, *Columbus Homes & Lifestyles*, "Art is Alive and Well and Living in Columbus," by Mary Polites Smith
- July 1982, *Columbus Monthly*, "The Roots of Aminah," by Jacqueline Hall
- November 1980, *Living Single*, "Four Single Artists: Mind, Eye & Hand," by John E. Jones
- May 6, 1979, *Mahogany: The National Magazine for Black Entertainment*, "The Vision That Was Once a Reality," by Adrienne W. Hoar

PUBLICATIONS

The Ragmud Collection: Books by Aminah Robinson at the Toledo Museum of Art (2010), with essays by Amy Gilman and Barbara Tannenbaum, Toledo Museum of Art

"*Symphonic Poem: A Case Study in Museum Education*" (2007), Doctoral dissertation by Carole M. Genshaft, published by The Ohio State University

Symphonic Poem: The Art of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson (2002), by Kenneth W. Goings, et al., Harry N. Abrams, Inc.

Mt. Vernon Avenue: Jewish Businesses in a Changing Neighborhood, 1918-1999, by Marvin Bonowitz, Columbus Jewish Historical Society, Columbus, OH

"The Art of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson: An Analysis and Interpretation of Multiple Viewpoints" (1996), Doctoral dissertation by Susan Myers, published by The Ohio State University

Gumbo Ya Ya: Anthology of Contemporary African -American Women Artists (1995), edited by Leslie King-Hammond, Midmarch Arts Press, New York, NY

Pages in History: The Art of Aminah Robinson (1990), edited by Norma Roberts, Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH

Contemporary American Woman Sculptors: An Illustrated Biographical Directory (1986), edited by Virginia Watson-Jones, Onyx Press, Phoenix, AZ

HONORARY DEGREES

2002 Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts Degree from the Ohio Dominican College, Columbus, OH

1991 Honorary Master's Degree from Columbus College of Art & Design, Columbus, OH

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RELATED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES, AWARDS AND APPOINTMENTS

2012 Lucas Sullivant Award from the Columbus Historical Society

2011 Legends and Legacies Award Recipient King Arts Complex, Columbus, OH

2010 Panel Discussion with Mark Bradford, Moderated by Sherri Geldin Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, OH

1998 Notable Trade Book Award in the Field of Social Studies National Council for Social Studies and the Children's Book Council

1990 Individual Artist Fellowship, Program Panelist Ohio Arts Council, Columbus, OH

1989 African American Quilts, Discussion Panelist Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY

Mid-America Conference on Spiritual Practice and the Creation of Art Netherlands Hotel, Cincinnati, OH

1979 Participates in American Forum for Study, Cleveland, Ohio Egypt, Kenya, Senegal, Ethiopia, Nigeria

1969-71 Lecturer and Instructor of Ceramics, Painting, and Drawing University of Puerto Rico, Aquadilla, Puerto Rico