

Tonight's art was selected by HOPE's Lead Team as part of their annual retreat in February 2023.

The team displayed, reviewed, and reflected on the following works of art created by Black artists at various times and places in the United States.

Jacob Lawrence

African American painter and art professor (1917-2000)

"The Migration Series, No. 58"

1941

Jacob Armstead Lawrence was an American painter known for his portrayal of African American historical subjects and contemporary life. He was born in Atlantic City, NJ on September 7, 1917 and died on June 9, 2000 in Seattle, Washington. His art education includes the Pratt Institute in New York.



Henry Ossawa Tanner

African American artist (1859-1937)

"The Annunciation"

1898

Henry Ossawa Tanner was the first African American painter to gain international acclaim. He was born on June 21, 1859 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and died in Paris, France on May 25, 1937. His art education included Académie Julian and Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts.



Jean-Michel Basquiat

American artist (1859-1937)

"Untitled"

1981

Jean-Michel Basquiat was an American artist who rose to success during the 1980s as part of the Neo-expressionism movement. He first achieved fame as part of the graffiti duo SAMO, alongside Al Diaz, writing enigmatic epigrams in Manhattan's Lower East Side in the late 1970s, where rap, punk, and street art coalesced into early hip hop music culture. By the early 1980s, his paintings were being exhibited in galleries and museums internationally. His art focused on the dichotomies of wealth versus poverty, integration versus segregation, and inner versus outer experience. He used social commentary in his paintings as a tool for introspection and for identifying with his experiences in the Black community, as well as attacks on power structures and systems of racism. He was educated at Edward R. Murrow High School.



Ikahl Beckford

Jamaican Artist

"Autumn Leaves I"

From the artist's website, **artikahl.com**: Jamaican-born artist Ikahl Beckford is a Bronx New Yorker and valued contributor to the world of fine art. Embraced globally, his style is known for its trans-dimensional expression that reflects the creation, existence and evolution of human thought and eternal life. Ikahl is art.

He currently resides in New York City.



Yvonne Coleman Burney

American Artist

"Future Voices"

From the artist: I was born in Los Angeles, CA, and have had the honor to live around the world serving my country in the USAF. I have always had a love for art since childhood and spent countless hours in our country's backyard while looking at mountains and chickens. I would create through my mind an abstract version of what I saw using oils on canvas purchased at a local thrift store. Those were the times that marked the origin of my mental journey in the creative world, which allows me to go beyond the simple to create my views on life and beauty without fear of the unique being standard. My only hope is that the viewers of my art will find something that brings them joy and reminds them of the childlike version in all of us that produces a sense of freedom.

She also shares her art on her Instagram @art.by.ycb.

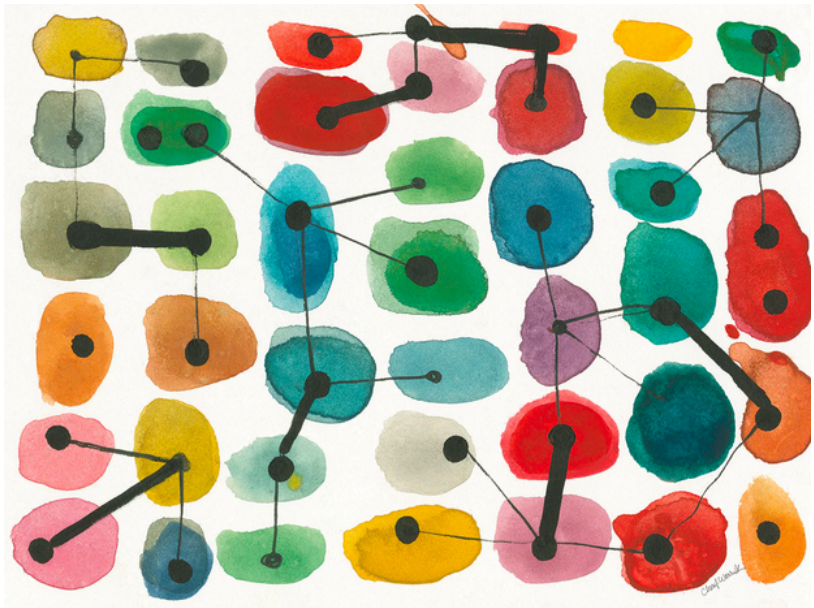


Cheryl Warrick

American Artist, 1956 -

"Mid Century II"

From the artist's website cwarrickart.com/: I am a Boston-based abstract painter and surface pattern designer. I have been happily making art for over 25 years. I am passionate about creating paintings that brings joy and beauty into your heart and home. I know that all art has the power to transform, to change and to heal. My colorful and intuitive mixed media paintings invite you to find visual relationships and meaning in shapes, textures, symbols, landscapes and patterns. My work can be found in numerous public and corporate collections including: The Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Yale New Haven Hospital, The Boston Public Library, Boston, MA, Museum Of Fine Arts, Boston, MA, Philadelphia Free Library, Philadelphia, PA, Rhode Island School of Design Museum of Art, Providence, RI, Rose Art Museum, Waltham, MA, Harpo Productions, Chicago, IL, Fidelity Investments, Boston, MA, Embassy Suites Hotel, Philadelphia, PA, Lucent Technologies, New York, NY.



Laura James

American Artist

"*Madonna (Love)*"

2010

"I can say that I'm a Christian because I completely follow and believe in Jesus' mission of getting people together and realizing that we are all the same people. We're all from the same source. We're all divine. Love on another. Take care of one another. Treat people like you want to be treated. Although this message is from two-thousand years ago, we have not even come close to getting the message. It's a constant struggle. This is something that we have to promulgate."

Her inspiration comes from a book in a store window in New York called *Ethiopian Magic Scrolls*. "There were nine angels painted in a grid. The art was very colorful. There were Black angels!" Her work draws from Ethiopian Christian tradition and features biblical scenes with an emphasis on representation and inclusion. Laura currently lives and works in the Bronx, NYC. Learn more on her website: laurajamesart.com.



William Henry Johnson

American Artist (1901-1970)

"Cafe"

1939-1940

William Henry Johnson was born in Florence, SC on March 18, 1901 and died on April 13, 1970. He became a student at the National Academy of Design in New York City, working with Charles Webster Hawthorne. He later lived and worked in France, where he was exposed to modernism. After marrying Danish textile artist Holcha Krake, the couple lived for a time in Scandinavia. There he was influenced by strong folk art tradition. The couple moved to the US in 1938. Johnson found work as a teacher at the Harlem Community Art Center, through the Federal Art Project.

Johnson's style evolved from realism to expressionism to a powerful folk style, which he is best known for. A substantial collection of his paintings, watercolors, and prints is held by the Smithsonian American Art Museum.



Monica Stewart

American Artist

"Unity"

From the age of 4, Monica Stewart's parents encouraged her artistic pursuits. She received a four-year scholarship to the San Francisco Art Academy and later transferred to California State University at Hayward. She left school to work and raise her son and did not return to painting until 1990. Utilizing African American themes within her paintings, Stewart began painting artwork that featured women dancing, praying, and performing everyday tasks. Her work combines her love for African American history and her own identity as an African American woman.



Colin Bootman

American Artist

"Me"

From the artist's website, colinbootmanart.com: I was born in the Caribbean, on the island of Trinidad and migrated to New York City at age seven. Those formative years spent in the sun-drenched rainforest of the Caribbean, coupled with my coming of age experiences in the brick and mortar reality of the Bronx, continue to influence my work. I have since gained international exposure as an award-winning children's book illustrator and fine artist. My books and paintings embrace an array of subject matters. Whether it is the African experience in early America, the civil rights movement, biographical icons, or any aspect of Caribbean culture, I try to imbue these varying subject matters with honesty and dignity. I accept that while I am a traditionalist, I refuse to allow the constraints of traditionalism to dictate my process or outcome. A strong sense of expression, narration, and light are my goals. I enjoy both oils and watercolor. The former, robust and durable yet highly pliable, allow me to make changes and adjustments over time. The latter is more fluid and spontaneous, which can sometimes lead to untethered and accidental results. I enjoy painting the experience of everyday people within their natural environments, capturing moments of triumph, courage, fear, shame, excitement, and melancholy. I am inspired by the underlying story, as there is a story told every moment in life. Subtext often determines the composition, pace, rhythm, and mood of my paintings. It is my hope that my art serves humanity by helping to uplift the dignity of all people of color. I would like my work to be a source of cultural and spiritual healing.



Mark Chandon

"Uzuri-Profile"



Marcus Prime

"Color Equality I"



Horace Pippin

1888-1946

"Supper Time", "Christ and the Woman of Samaria",
"Giving Thanks"

Horace Pippin was born on February 22, 1888 in West Chester, Pennsylvania and died on July 6, 1946. He began to draw at an early age and continued with his art after serving in the Army's 369th infantry regiment during World War 1. Pippin's rise to fame directly paralleled the folk art revival of the 1930s. Entirely self-taught, he painted in a nonacademic, linear style that was characterized by a powerful sense of design and expressive use of color. His works are decorative and highly stylized. He painted a wide range of subjects, from African American genre scenes, portraits, and biblical scenes, to politically charged historical paintings. His modern folk art style defies classification.





H. PIPPIN.
1940

