

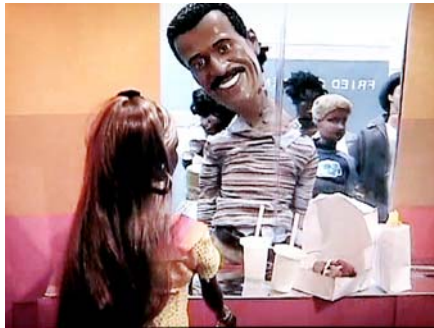


5216 Montrose Blvd Houston, TX 77006-6547  
t (713) 284-8250 f (713) 284-8275 www.camh.org

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MEDIA CONTACT  
Connie McAllister  
Communications and Marketing Manager  
t (713) 284-8255 cmcallister@camh.org

**Contemporary Arts Museum Houston presents a groundbreaking exhibition  
exploring black women artists in film and video art over three decades**



Lauren Kelley, stills from *Big Gurl*, 2006. Courtesy the artist

HOUSTON, TX—This fall the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston presents ***Cinema Remixed & Reloaded: Black Women Artists and the Moving Image Since 1970***, a groundbreaking exhibition chronicling the contributions that black women have made and continue to make to video art. Co-organized by Valerie Cassel Oliver, curator at the CAMH, and Dr. Andrea Barnwell Brownlee, director of the Spelman College Museum of Fine Art in Atlanta, this exhibition is the first to consider a collection of almost fifty works by black women artists who pioneered time-based media. The exhibition opens October 17, 2008 with a reception from 9:00 – 11:00 PM and is on view through January 4, 2009.

*Cinema Remixed & Reloaded* presents three decades of work by forty women artists from Australia, Cuba, Europe, Kenya, South Africa, and the United States. Their work represents an ongoing effort to examine individual experience, evoke familial and communal memories, and challenge societal conventions through the use of the moving image within cinematic and visual art. Experimental filmmakers and visual artists included in this survey are **Ina Diane Archer, Elizabeth Axtman, Camille Billops, Carroll Parrott Blue, María Magdalena Campos-Pons, Zöe Charlton, Ayoka Chenzira, Ogechi Chieke, Julie Dash, Zeinabu irene Davis, Stephanie Dinkins, Cheryl Dunye, Debra Edgerton, Shari Frilot, Colette Gaiter, Leah Gilliam, Maren Hassinger, Lauren Kelley, Bradley McCallum & Jacqueline Tarry, Barbara McCullough, Tracey Moffatt, Wangechi Mutu, Senga Negundi, Michelle Denise Parkerson, Jessica Ann Peavy, Howardena Pindell, Adrian Piper, Tracey Rose,**

**Eve Sandler, Berni Searle, Xaviera Simmons, Lorna Simpson, Cauleen Smith, Pamela Phatsimo Sunstrum, Jocelyn Taylor, Kara Walker, Carrie Mae Weems, Yvonne Welbon, Paula Wilson, and Lauren Woods.**

Since the 1960s, when the first portable video cameras were introduced to American consumers, video artists have appropriated the pop culture medium to defy traditional fine arts like painting and sculpture, as well as to mirror and critique society. Artists have used both film and video as single and multi-channel installations, as projections or moving images incorporated into sculptural objects, and for viewing on television and, more recently, on computer monitors. Sometimes humorous and socially engaging, other times confrontational, often thought-provoking, the work of these black women artists demonstrates the breadth of subject matter these artists have embodied and investigated over three decades, such as the subjugation and liberation of the black body, family, the male gaze, memory, loss, alienation, gender inequities, sexuality, racism, and the pursuit of power.

Included in the exhibition are works, such as: **Bradley McCallum** and **Jacqueline Tarry's** emotionally charged self-portrait *Cut* (2006); and **Kara Walker's** *Testimony: Narrative of a Negress Burdened by Good Intentions* (2004), which uses cut-paper silhouettes, drawing, painting, performance, and video to examine the antebellum South's legacy of slavery. California-based **Elizabeth Axtman** mimics Hollywood's classic protagonists to question historical perceptions about skin color and miscegenation in her powerful four-minute video *American Classics* (2005). Artists such as **Jocelyn Taylor** and **Lauren Wood** give a humorous twist on the black body as an object of desire while **Carrie Mae Weems** emancipates the black female figure from the human gaze in *Italian Dreams* (2006).

Also included are two Houston-based artists **Carroll Parrott Blue** and **Lauren Kelley**. Blue's 2003 memoir about her relationship with her mother, *Dawn at My Back: Memoir of a Texas Upbringing, An Interactive Cultural History*, combines music, technology, prose, and visual imagery in a rich narrative that spans thirty-five years, beginning in Houston during segregation. Kelley's video, *Big Gurl* (2006), is a series of short, stop-animation videos that explore such real-life situations as body image, women's health, consumerism, and romantic relationships.

Once considered suspect, video is now—thirty years since its emergence—widely regarded as one of the most influential and pervasive genres of contemporary art. ***Cinema Remixed & Reloaded*** is an opportunity to consider the works of these female artists within the contexts of both art and history, and adds a very focused contribution to the current scholarship revisiting the emergence of feminism and the under-discussed history of women artists and their work.

## **PUBLIC PROGRAMS**

All the following events are free and open to the public and take place at the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston unless otherwise noted. Please check [www.camh.org](http://www.camh.org) for additional programming and information.

**Opening reception: *Cinema Remixed & Reloaded: Black Women Artists and the Moving Image Since 1970***

Friday, October 17, 9:00-11:00 PM

Celebrate the opening of *Cinema Remixed & Reloaded*, a groundbreaking exhibition chronicling the contributions that black women have made and continue to make to video art. This historic exhibition includes almost fifty works by forty artists and spans three decades. Through January 4, 2009.

**Artists/Scholars Talk: Valerie Cassel Oliver and Andrea Barnwell Brownlee, Ph.D.**

Saturday, October 18, 2:00 PM

Join us for a dialogue with the co-curators of the exhibition: **Valerie Cassel Oliver**, curator, Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, and **Andrea Barnwell Brownlee, Ph.D.**, director, Spelman College Museum of Fine Art, Atlanta.

**Artists/Scholars Talk: Carrie Mae Weems\***

Saturday, November 1, 2:00 PM

\*Special location: Freed Auditorium, Glassell School of Art, 5201 Montrose Blvd  
Carrie Mae Weems, exhibiting artist, discusses her work. Cosponsored by the Core Program.

**Artists/Scholars Talk: Carroll Parrott Blue and Neema Barnette**

Saturday, November 15, 2:00 PM

**Carroll Parrott Blue**, author, filmmaker, and exhibiting artist, in dialogue with **Neema Barnette**, filmmaker, Emmy Award-winning director, and visiting assistant professor, UCLA School of Theater, Film, and Television.

**Family Day**

Sunday, November 16, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

The whole family can participate in educator-led tours of the current exhibitions and in hands-on art activities.

**Artists/Scholars Talk: Lauren Kelley and Pamela Phatsimo Sunstrum**

Saturday, December 13, 2:00 PM

Exhibiting artists Lauren Kelley and Pamela Phatsimo Sunstrum discuss their work.

**EXHIBITION CATALOGUE**



*Cinema Remixed & Reloaded: Black Women Artists and the Moving Image Since 1970* is accompanied by a 196-page full-color catalogue featuring contributions by the organizing curators Valerie Cassel Oliver, curator at the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, and Dr. Andrea Barnwell Brownlee, director of the Spelman College Museum of Fine Art in Atlanta, and noted scholars including Isolde Brielmaier, Rhea L. Combs, Romi Crawford, Makeba Dixon-Hill, Leslie King-Hammond, Lowery Stokes Sims, Merrill Falkenberg and Anne Collins Smith. It also includes a select chronology of black women's contributions to film and video, as well as an exhibition checklist, color reproductions of works in the exhibition, and artists' biographies

and bibliographies.

*The catalogue has been made possible by a grant from The Brown Foundation Inc., Houston.*

## EXHIBITION FUNDING AND SUPPORT

Cinema Remixed & Reloaded: Black Women Artists and the Moving Image Since 1970 *has been made possible by grants from the Fulton County Board of Commissioners under the guidance of the Fulton County Arts Council and the Peter Norton Family Foundation; the Friends of the Spelman College Museum of Fine Art and by the patrons, benefactors, and donors of the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston's Major Exhibition Fund: Major Patron—Fayez Sarofim; Patrons—Chinhui Juhn and Eddie Allen, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Ballard, Mr. and Mrs. I. H. Kempner III, Ms. Louisa Stude Sarofim, Leigh and Reggie Smith, Michael Zilkha; Benefactors—Marita and J.B. Fairbanks, George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation, Jackson Hicks / Jackson and Company, Elizabeth Howard, King & Spalding L.L.P., Elisa J. Stude, The Susan Vaughan Foundation, Inc., and Union Pacific Foundation; Donors—Anonymous, Anonymous, Baker Botts, LLP, Bergner and Johnson Design, Citi Private Bank, Jana and Richard Fant, Julia and Russell Frankel, Mr. and Mrs. William Goldberg / Bernstein Global Wealth Management, Louise D. Jamail, Karol Kreymmer and Robert J. Card, M.D., KPMG, LLP, Judy and Scott Nyquist, David I. Saperstein, Karen and Harry Susman, Mark Wawro and Melanie Gray, and Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Wilson.*

## EDUCATION FUNDING AND SUPPORT

*The Museum receives support for its education programs from M.D. Anderson Foundation, Baker Hughes Foundation, Chevron U.S.A. Inc., Mr. and Mrs. I. H. Kempner III, Louise D. Jamail, Kinder Morgan Foundation, Edward and Betty Marcus Foundation, Marian and Speros Martel Foundation Endowment, Dr. and Mrs. John P. McGovern, Minckberg Charitable Foundation, Nordstrom, Inc., and Target Corporation.*

## GENERAL SUPPORT

*The Museum's operations and programs are made possible through the generosity of the Museum's trustees, patrons, members, and donors. The Contemporary Arts Museum Houston receives partial operating support from the Houston Endowment, Inc., the City of Houston through the Houston Museum District Association, and*



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## CAMH MISSION

The Contemporary Arts Museum Houston is an idea and a place shaped by the present moment. The Museum exemplifies the dynamic relationship between contemporary art and contemporary society through its exhibitions, public and educational programs, and publications. The CAMH provides the physical and intellectual framework essential to the presentation, interpretation, and advancement of contemporary art; it is a vibrant forum for artists and all audiences, and for critical, scholarly, and public discourse.

*ALWAYS FRESH, ALWAYS FREE!*

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The Contemporary Arts Museum Houston is located at 5216 Montrose Boulevard, at the corner of Montrose and Bissonnet, in the heart of Houston's Museum District. Hours are Tuesday to Saturday, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Thursdays to 9:00 PM, and Sundays noon to 5:00 PM. Admission is always free. For more information, visit [www.camh.org](http://www.camh.org) or call (713) 284-8250.

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