

# MAH

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## SANTA CRUZ MAH ANNOUNCES *Young, Gifted and Black:* *The Lumpkin-Boccuzzi Family Collection of Contemporary Art* August 23–December 29, 2024



IMAGE CREDITS (FROM LEFT): TUNJI ADENIYI JONES, *BLUE DANCER*, 2017; VAUGHN SPANN, *STARING BACK AT YOU, ROOTED AND UNWAVERING*, 2018; CHIFFON THOMAS, *A MOTHER WHO HAD NO MOTHER*, 2018; KARA WALKER, *UNTITLED*, 1995.

**SANTA CRUZ, CA** (July 23, 2024) — The Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History (MAH) is pleased to announce *Young, Gifted and Black: The Lumpkin-Boccuzzi Family Collection of Contemporary Art*, an exhibition that highlights artists of African descent whose work explores identity, politics and art history. The exhibition is on view from **August 23–December 29, 2024**.

*Young, Gifted and Black* gathers and elevates an emerging generation of contemporary artists who are engaging with the work of their predecessors while finding new and different ways to represent the Black experience. The group includes well-known artists **David Hammons, Kerry James Marshall, Mickalene Thomas, Henry Taylor** and **Kara Walker**, as well as a younger generation gaining wider recognition, including **Tunji Adeniyi-Jones, Sadie Barnette, Cy Gavin, Arcmanoro Niles, Jennifer Packer** and others. The survey is organized around four themes: dramatic use of color, reclamation of the color black, materiality (nontraditional materials), and an expanded idea of portraiture.

*I Belong Here* (2013), a neon sculpture by **Tavares Strachan**, is also on loan from the Lumpkin-Boccuzzi Collection. It is installed on the MAH's second floor landing through December 2024, coinciding with *Young, Gifted and Black*.

“I am thrilled to be partnering with MAH to bring *Young, Gifted and Black* to Santa Cruz,” said **Bernard Lumpkin**. “As America wrestles anew with race and racism, and debates about equality and inclusion in the art world have taken on greater urgency, this exhibition assesses how artists today are shaping the way we think about identity, art and history.”

Featured artists include: **Derrick Adams, Tunji Adeniyi-Jones, Sadie Barnette, Kevin Beasley, Nayland Blake, Jordan Casteel, Jonathan Lyndon Chase, Caitlin Cherry, Bethany Collins, LaToya Ruby Frazier, Cy Gavin, Alteronce Gumby, Chase Hall, Allison Janae Hamilton, David Hammons, Kenyatta A.C. Hinkle, Lonnie Holley, Tomashi Jackson, Rashid Johnson, Samuel Levi Jones, Jarrett Key, Deana Lawson, Glenn Ligon, Eric N. Mack, Kerry James Marshall, Troy Michie, Wardell Milan, Narcissister, Arcmanoro Niles, Clifford Owens, Jennifer Packer, Adam Pendleton, Christina Quarles, Andy Robert, Jacolby Satterwhite, Paul Mpagi Sepuya, Gerald Sheffield, Lorna Simpson, Sable Elyse Smith, Vaughn Spann, Henry Taylor, Chiffon Thomas, Mickalene Thomas, William Villalongo, Kara Walker, Nari Ward, D’Angelo Lovell Williams, Wilmer Wilson IV and Lynette Yiadom-Boakye.**

This exhibition is courtesy of the Lumpkin-Boccuzzi Family Collection of Contemporary Art and is curated by **Antwaun Sargent and Matt Wycoff**.

### **ABOUT THE LUMPKIN-BOCCUZZI FAMILY COLLECTION**

The Lumpkin-Boccuzzi Family Collection features a range of contemporary artwork in all media. Established and emerging artists of African descent predominate, with a special emphasis on younger voices of the last 25 years and those who have historically been underrepresented in collections, exhibitions and museums. This private collection is spearheaded by Bernard Lumpkin, an art collector, patron, educator and advocate. The Lumpkin-Boccuzzi Family Collection is the subject of a bestselling book — *Young, Gifted and Black: A New Generation of Artists* (DAP, 2020) — and a nationwide traveling exhibition.

### **ABOUT THE MAH**

The MAH is a thriving community gathering place that offers a full slate of art and history exhibitions, visual and performing artworks, public festivals, education and outreach programs, and cultural celebrations in collaboration with its many partners. It maintains a permanent collection of regionally significant art and artifacts, a research library, a historical archive, and historic sites including the Evergreen Cemetery, Octagon Building, and Davenport Jail. It is also home to Abbott Square, a vibrant public plaza on the museum’s doorstep that offers food, social events, and year-round creative happenings.

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