



## Memories & Inspiration

The Kerry and C. Betty Davis Collection of African American Art

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TRAVELING EXHIBITION SERVICE

**IA&A** INTERNATIONAL  
ARTS AND ARTISTS



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**“Our goal is to preserve cultural memories and provide the community with a source of inspiration.”**

Kerry Davis, Collector

FRONT Sedrick Huckaby, *She Wore Her Family's Quilt*, 2015, oil on canvas. Photograph by Gregory Staley. 1 Samella Lewis, *Field*, 1968, lithograph. Photograph by Gregory Staley. 2 Yashua Klos, *Coby*, 2003, graphite. Photograph by Gregory Staley. © 2018 Yashua Klos. 3 Michael Ellison, *Mickey Dees*, 1987, woodcut. Photograph by Reis Birdwhistell. 4 William J. Anderson, *Joanne by the Window*, 1986, silver gelatin photograph. Photograph by Reis Birdwhistell. 5 Claude Clark, *Self Determination*, 1969, oil on board. Photograph by Reis Birdwhistell.

*Memories & Inspiration: The Kerry and C. Betty Davis Collection of African American Art* presents sixty-seven selected works from a body of art amassed over thirty-five years. Kerry, a retired mailman, and Betty, a former television news producer, have foregone many comforts to live with drawings, paintings, prints, and sculpture as their principal luxuries. Their collection includes works by **Romare Bearden, Elizabeth Catlett, Ernest T. Crichlow, Sam Gilliam, Lois Mailou Jones, Jacob Lawrence, Gordon Parks, and Alma Thomas**, but Kerry and Betty do not search exclusively for well-known and/or documented artists. Rather, they focus on “the importance of gathering and preserving a spectrum of approaches to the black image in order to console the psyche and contribute to a more authentic articulation of the self.”

The result is an eclectic gathering of works crossing different mediums, subjects, and styles by a group of artists of the African diaspora who—in terms of training, experience, and expression—are strikingly diverse but unified in their use of cultural and historical narratives. As their collection has grown, so has the Davises’ storehouse of memories of discovering new works of art, building friendships with artists, and conversing with museum professionals and other collectors in their home. They have also continued to expose their collection to family, friends, and church members who, while receptive to the fine arts, are unlikely to visit such local institutions as the High Museum of Art in Atlanta—prompting the artist Leon Nathaniel Hicks to refer to their residence as “a museum in a home.” *Memories & Inspiration* brings together an awe-inspiring selection of works, but it is their personal resonance—their connection to the Davises’ hopes, passions, and everyday lives—that gives the collection its unique power.

## EXHIBITION SPECIFICATIONS

### Number of Works

67 works of art, including paintings, prints, drawings, photographs, sculptures, and mixed media

### Organized by

Kerry and Betty Davis and International Arts & Artists

### Requirements

Moderate security;  
275–325 linear feet

### Shipping

IA&A makes all arrangements; exhibitors pay outgoing shipping costs within the contiguous US

### Booking Period

12 weeks

### Tour

January 2020–December 2025

### Educational Materials

Available

## International Arts & Artists

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