Black Detroit 21

Date: Friday, January 11 – Friday, March 22, 2013
Time: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

In partnership with the Penny W. Stamps School of Art and Design, the University of Michigan Detroit Center presents the Work: Detroit gallery exhibition, Black Detroit 21. Curated by Odie Rynell Cash, Black Detroit 21 addresses social concerns within Detroit's African American community by exploring the topics of identity, territory, protest, sexuality and transition. This exhibition kicks off with an opening reception on Friday, January 11, 2013 from 6 – 9p.m. The opening night performance and discussion features:

7:00 p.m. - 4TheatrSake; 25 minute performance of selections from Cell/$hips
7:30 p.m. - Artists and Curator Discussion: Black Detroit 21; Moderator: Odie Rynell Cash, Curator of Black Detroit 21
8:30 p.m. - Satori Circus - Performance / Oh Happy Day Trilogy" (part one)

With a Black population of over 80-percent, Detroit's African American community plays a significant role in this city's cultural identity and economic future. As Detroit moves through the 21st century, what role will the African Americans play in Detroit's development in the community? How will this population define itself in the new century while dealing with various issues that impacts growth, development and cultural enrichment in the city? The exhibition Black Detroit 21 addresses social concerns within Detroit's African American community by exploring the topics of identity, territory, protest, sexuality and transition. The 11 artists in this show are from a multitude of social, personal and generational backgrounds, finding a common theme in their work, which documents and/or is influenced by Detroit’s African American community. The installation of the artists work in Black Detroit 21 presents a visual context to create a dialogue around these topics.

Black Detroit 21 is curated by Odie Rynell Cash, an internationally active independent curator, arts program organizer and artist living between Detroit, Michigan and Antwerp, Belgium. Cash is recognized for his wide range of artistic practices and concerns; with the significance of avant-
garde ideas and experimental mediums/media that address contemporary social and urban society.

He studied a Liberal Education curriculum at Columbia College Chicago. He has an extensive and varied background, having curated and exhibited artworks in more than nine countries, including projects in Antwerp, Manila, Rotterdam, Paris and Toronto. Cash was the recipient of a 2007 Flemish Minister of Culture Travel Grant for research on performance theory. He has been invited by the Center for Contemporary Art in Lagos, Nigeria to curate a group exhibition that is anticipated to open in the Fall of 2014.

The exhibition concludes on March 22; with additional event performances on February 7, February 20, March 8, March 12 and March 22. For more information about Black Detroit 21 events and artists, visit: www.detroitcenter.umich.edu/news/2013/1/artist-and-event-info-black-detroit-21

The exhibition may be accessed between 11 a.m.–4 p.m., Tuesday – Saturday. Work Detroit is located at the University of Michigan Detroit Center at Orchestra Place, 3663 Woodward Avenue, Suite 150 in Midtown Detroit. Parking is available for exhibition guests in the structure behind Orchestra Place.

Detroit Center Event Page: detroitcenter.umich.edu/news/2013/1/black-detroit-21-workdetroit-exhibition

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Martin Luther King, Jr. Day at the Detroit Center

Date: Monday, January 21, 2013
Time: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

In commemoration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the University of Michigan Detroit Center will host a series of inspiring and educational events beginning at 10 a.m., Monday, January 21 with free admission and parking to all attendees.

The event kicks off with a simulcast of the 25th Annual Martin Luther King Day Symposium keynote address, live from Hill Auditorium in Ann Arbor will take place from 10 – 11:30 a.m. This keynote features Morris Dees, a co-founder and chief trial counsel for the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC). Founded 1971, the SPLC has dedicated more than 40 years to prosecuting organizations in discrimination cases.
Occurring simultaneously as the keynote simulcast, Matrix Theatre will conduct a MLK puppetry workshop for children. Lunch will be available following the address and children’s activity until 2pm.

Live from the Michigan Union Rogel Ballroom, the U-M Detroit Center will simulcast a lecture featuring Dr. Angela Davis – noted author, lecturer and political activist. Her topic, *Impediments to the Dream: The Prison Industrial Complex and the Dream*, will be broadcast from 2 – 4 p.m.

In addition to this event, the Detroit Center welcome’s all attendees to explore the Work:Detroit gallery exhibition of *Black Detroit 21*. To learn more about this Detroit-based exhibition, visit: [http://detroitcenter.umich.edu/news/2013/1/black-detroit-21-workdetroit-exhibition](http://detroitcenter.umich.edu/news/2013/1/black-detroit-21-workdetroit-exhibition)

*Detroit Center Event Page:* [detroitcenter.umich.edu/news/2013/1/martin-luther-king-jr-day-celebration-detroit-center](http://detroitcenter.umich.edu/news/2013/1/martin-luther-king-jr-day-celebration-detroit-center)

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