

# Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture in Charlotte, NC, Features Works by Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons

Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture in Charlotte, NC, is presenting the exhibit, *What My Mother Told Me: The Art of Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons*, featuring works by this internationally celebrated Afro-Cuban artist, on view through June 19, 2011.

able Mention at the XVIII Cagnes-sur-Mer Painting Competition in France and the Bunting Fellowship in Visual Arts at Harvard in 1993. Solo shows followed at MoMA, the Venice Biennale 2001, Johannesburg Biennial, the First Liverpool Biennial, the Dak'ART Biennial in Senegal



"What My Mother Told Me may be one of the most important exhibitions the Gantt Center has mounted to-date," said David Taylor, president & CEO. "And because Maria Magdalena is a native Spanish speaker, we are taking extra steps to welcome the area's growing Hispanic community to view the exhibit. In light of that, our gallery guides and other materials will be presented in both English and Spanish."

Born in Mantanzas, Cuba, Campos-Pons' work echoes the lives of African descendants rooted in Cuba and of legions of fellow travelers from around the world. It has emerged from an early 1980s focus on painting and the discussion of Cuban mixed cultural heritage to incisive questioning, critique and insertion of the body in contemporary narratives of the present. The work in this exhibition builds upon a dialogue of culture, history, art and identity and define the core of who Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons is as a woman, an expatriate and a Cuban.

Campos-Pons creates paintings, installations, and sculptures, along with video and poetry. All of these are means to capture art that often relates to exile, longing, separation, and even nostalgia, which she calls 'memory without pain.'

Campos-Pons has exhibited internationally since 1984 when she won Honor-

and the Guangzhou Triennial in China.

Recognized as an upcoming young leader of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by its Women's Chapter, Campos-Pons was also cited among the 100 Most Influential Latinos and honored in 2008 as Harvard launched a campaign to build its new art museum.

Campos-Pons's work can be found in several outstanding collections including the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Vancouver Art Gallery, The Museum of Contemporary Art in Tokyo, New York's Museum of Modern Art and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. Campos-Pons has lectured at the Tate Modern in London, the Brooklyn Museum, the School of Art in Dakar, Senegal and at Harvard.

Founded in 1974, the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture (formerly the Afro-American Cultural Center) exists to present, preserve and promote African-American art, culture and history. The Harvey B. Gantt Center is an epicenter for the best in visual, performing and literary arts and leads community outreach initiatives and arts education programs.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 704/547-3700 or visit ([www.ganttcenter.org](http://www.ganttcenter.org)).

# McColl Center for Visual Art in Charlotte, NC, Features Winter Artist-in-Residence

The McColl Center for Visual Art in Charlotte, NC, is presenting several exhibits as part of its Winter Artist-in-Residence Exhibits including: *(Dis)Comfort*, featuring works by John Osario Buck and Scott Townsend; *Dan Allegrucci: Printmaking*; and *Patricia Steele Raible: Mixed Media*, all on view through Mar. 19, 2011. A closing reception will be held on Friday, Mar.

18, from 6-9pm.

Conceptual. Interactive. Electronic. Projection. Media. Installation. Hybrid. Translation. Object. Identity. Dis(Comfort).

From the cab-over camper to the Airstream trailer to the self-contained Winnebago, mobile shelters have offered

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the possibility of freedom, exploration, independence, and while new models are still produced, many of the older styles litter driveways and lots in various states of decay. Winter Artist-in-Residence John Osorio-Buck's traveling shelters are built mainly from recycled and waste materials and reframe the camper as the symbol of both the American pioneering spirit and a failed utopia.

Scott Townsend's interactive installations use narrative and personal history to engage viewers as they explore globalization, immigration and economics. In the last six years this has taken the form of specific projects, dealing with language translation and site-specificity. His pieces are incomplete until an audience interacts with them.

From personal narratives to grand mythologies of ancient civilizations, Dan Allegrucci uses printmaking to explore unpredictability and images of the van-

quished while addressing the ways people create and use stories to make sense of their lives. Allegrucci received his BFA from UNC Charlotte. His work has been exhibited throughout the Southeast and is included in collections in Germany and Hong Kong.

Using images and words to narrate her stories, Patricia Steele Raible integrates painting with markings, textures and often photography to translate the journey, allowing the surface to tell the story as she explores war, relationships, and place. Raible received her BA from the University of South Carolina and her MA from the University of Tennessee. Her work has been exhibited in North and South Carolina.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 704/332-5535 or visit ([www.mccollcenter.org](http://www.mccollcenter.org)).

# Lark & Key Gallery and Boutique in Charlotte, NC, Features Works by Martique Lorrain and Ronan Peterson

Lark & Key Gallery, located in the SouthEnd area of Charlotte, NC, will present, *The Weight Lifters*, new oil paintings by Martique Lorrain along with featured potter Ronan Peterson, on view from Feb. 2 through Mar. 26, 2011.

Martique Lorrain, born of Jamaican immigrants in Miami, FL, currently resides in Charlotte. She grew up surrounded by language made up of metaphor and story, which influenced her ability to see the world as images. Her contemporary oil paintings are archetypal, earthy and imaginative.



work by Ronan Peterson

In *The Weight Lifters* Lorrain explores the concept of being lifted from the heavy burdens that life often brings, using balloons to represent those often, unseen forces that work to keep us afloat and balanced. In Lorrain's words, "When life gets heavy, the Weight Lifters appear. They are our secret helpers, here to lighten our load."

The ceramic work of Ronan Peterson is rooted in his love of nature, specifically the growth and decay of the natural world, and the fantasy of comic books. He creates highly decorative and functional earthenware pots that present a "ceramic cartoon interpretation of some of the overwhelming visual and tactile information present in the natural world".

Peterson grew up in Poplar, NC, and currently resides in Chapel Hill, NC, where he maintains his ceramics studio, Nine Toes Pottery. His ceramic vessels have been in local and national exhibitions as well as featured in several books and magazines.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 704/334-4616 or visit ([www.larkandkey.com](http://www.larkandkey.com)).



Deloss McGraw, *Little Child Full of Joy After William Blake, 2007*, latex acrylic, café wall, 36' x 14', Levine Children's Hospital, Charlotte, NC

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