



Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts News Release

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Renowned African-American Artist and Collector Myrna Colley-Lee is coming to the Capital City

Montgomery, AL— Join us at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, located at 1 Museum Drive, as we celebrate the exhibition *Reflections: African-American Life from the Myrna Colley-Lee Collection*. Come meet costume designer and arts patron Colley-Lee during a reception Thursday, February 19, 2015 at 5:30 P.M. Immediately following, there will be a discussion of the exhibition featuring Ms. Colley-Lee and MMFA Curator of Art, Jennifer Jankauskas.

Featuring more than 50 items from the collection of Colley-Lee, *Reflections* tells a story of heritage, community, and place. Comprised of paintings, collages, photographs, textiles, and works on paper, the exhibition reflects the culture and experiences of African Americans, celebrating their unique style, and providing insight into their Southern roots and migratory history. This collection represents a dialogue between the artists and the ever-evolving African-American identity, and it reflects the attitude and eye of Colley-Lee—an artist and cultural connoisseur who has great respect and understanding for the African storytelling tradition.

An artist herself, Colley-Lee was at the forefront of the Black Theater Movement as a costume designer. She has designed more than 70 shows and is still actively working for regional theatres. A major retrospective of Colley-Lee's work, *A Theater of Color: Costume Design for the Black Theatre by Myrna Colley-Lee* debuted at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit last year. It is expected to tour the United States in 2015.

Reflections: African-American Life from the Myrna Colley-Lee Collection is organized by International Arts & Artists, Washington, DC in collaboration with the office of Myrna Colley-Lee.

The exhibition is sponsored by Hyundai, and co-sponsored by Max Credit Union.

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