From Heart to Hand  
African-American Quilts from the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts


In 2004, the Museum inaugurated its collection of African-American quilts with an acquisition of 48 quilts primarily created by women from West Alabama between 1945 and 2001. In late 2008, the Museum added ten more quilts to the collection. This exhibition includes select quilts from both groups, and features the work of Yvonne Wells and Nora Ezell, whose quilts showcase the variety of styles in the MMFA's permanent collection. The exhibition is divided into three thematic areas: Tradition: Patterns from the Past; Improvisation: Practical Invention; and An Unconventional Canvas: The Quilts of Yvonne Wells, each of which help to introduce traditional patterns of pieced quilts, expand on the improvisations distinct to each quilt artist or region, and to focus on examples from the work of one contemporary Alabama quilter respectively.

Contents

30 quilts with associated panels and label copy provided on CD. High resolution images for promotional purposes and sample press release also will be provided.

Publication


Requirements

The exhibition requires approximately 350 linear feet of installation space. It must be installed in galleries devoted solely to the exhibition of art; no natural or fluorescent light is allowed. Works must be displayed at or under 10 footcandles. Institutions must provide a current AAM Facilities Report. Appropriate 24-hour climate control, security, and fire suppression systems must be maintained.

Terms and Availability

The exhibition is available through December 2018. The rental fee of $10,000 for ten weeks (on view) includes 30 quilts, text for panels and labels on CD, and two copies of the book. A certificate of insurance is required; shipping is not included but may be prorated depending upon scheduling of venues. Please contact Sarah Graves, Collections Information Specialist, at sgraves@mmfa.org for details.
1. **Mary Lee Bendolph** (b. 1935)  
Alabama  
Gee's Bend, Wilcox County  
**Strings** 2003-2004  
Cotton, cotton/polyester blend  
83 1/2 in. x 76 1/2 in. (212.09 cm x 194.31 cm)  
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase in memory of Shirley A. Woods, MMFA Assistant Director, 1979-2008  
2008.9.1

2. **Attr. Mary Duncan**  
Alabama  
Pickens County  
**Lone Star** ca. 1950  
Cotton  
79 in. x 75 in. (200.66 cm x 190.5 cm)  
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase  
2004.21.1

3. **Nora Ezell** (1919 - 2007)  
Alabama  
Mantua, Tuscaloosa County  
**Nora's Necktie Flower Garden** 1994  
Polyester, cotton/polyester blend, plastic and wood beads and cowrie shells  
79 in. x 85 in. (200.66 cm x 215.9 cm)  
Gift of Kempf Hogan in honor of Bethine Whitney  
2005.9.2

4. **Nora Ezell** (1919 - 2007)  
Alabama  
Mantua, Tuscaloosa County  
**Star Puzzle** 2001  
Cotton, cotton/polyester blend  
82 1/2 in. x 72 in. (209.55 cm x 182.88 cm)  
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase  
2008.9.2

5. **Sallie Gladney** (1896 - 1991)  
Louisiana  
Bossier City, Bossier Parish  
**Log Cabin Variation** 1989  
Cotton/polyester blend, wool, cotton  
94 in. x 91 1/2 in. (238.76 cm x 232.41 cm)  
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase  
2004.21.2
6. Roberta Jemison (b. 1928)
   Alabama
   Boligee, Greene County
   **Log Cabin Variation (red, white, blue)** ca. 1995
   Cotton, cotton/ polyester blend, polyester
   82 1/2 in. x 76 in. (209.55 cm x 193.04 cm)
   Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase
   2004.21.6

7. Roberta Jemison (b. 1928)
   Alabama
   Boligee, Greene County
   **Tombstone Quilt** ca. 1994
   Polyester, cotton/ polyester blend
   85 in. x 82 in. (215.9 cm x 208.28 cm)
   Gift of Kempf Hogan
   2005.9.5

8. Mary Lucas (1926-2009)
   Alabama
   Pink Lily, Autauga County
   **Everybody Quilt** ca. 1975-1980
   Cotton, cotton/ polyester blend, polyester, wool
   82 in. x 71 in. (208.28 cm x 180.34 cm)
   Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase
   2004.21.7

9. Mary Maxtion (b. 1924)
   Alabama
   Boligee, Greene County
   **Bars and Blocks** 2000
   Cotton/ polyester blend, polyester, cotton
   90 in. x 82 in. (228.6 cm x 208.28 cm)
   Gift of Kempf Hogan
   2008.10.2

10. Mary Maxtion (b. 1924)
    Alabama
    Boligee, Greene County
    **Everybody Quilt** ca. 1991
    Cotton, cotton/ polyester blend, polyester, wool, rayon
    84 in. x 87 in. (213.36 cm x 220.98 cm)
    Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase
    2004.21.9
1. **Mary Maxtion** (b. 1924)  
Alabama  
Boligee, Greene County  
*A Patriotic Stars* ca. 1993  
Cotton, cotton/polyester blend  
102 1/2 in. x 85 in. (260.35 cm x 215.9 cm)  
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase  
2004.21.10

2. **Lureca Outland** (1904 - 2008)  
Alabama  
Boligee, Greene County  
*Roman Stripes Britchy Quilt* ca. 1989  
Polyester, cotton, cotton/polyester blend, wool, wool/polyester blend  
90 in. x 65 1/2 in. (228.6 cm x 166.37 cm)  
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase  
2004.21.15

3. **Addie Pelt** (1921 - 1999)  
Alabama  
Boligee, Greene County  
*Everybody Quilt* ca. 1988  
Cotton, cotton/polyester blend, polyester  
88 in. x 74 in. (223.52 cm x 187.96 cm)  
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase  
2004.21.17

4. **Plummer T Pettway** (1918 - 1993)  
Alabama  
Gee's Bend, Wilcox County  
*Housetop/Strip Quilt* ca. 1960-1970  
Cotton/polyester blend, polyester, cotton, wool  
85 1/2 in. x 85 in. (217.17 cm x 215.9 cm)  
Gift of Kempf Hogan in honor of Robert Johns and Patrick Balch  
2005.9.7

5. **Catherine Somerville** (1870 - active to c. 1960)  
Alabama  
Aliceville, Pickens County  
*Log Cabin (Pig Pen Variation)/Checkerboard* ca. 1950-1960  
Cotton, cotton/polyester blend, polyester  
76 1/2 in. x 70 in. (194.31 cm x 177.8 cm)  
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase  
2004.21.19
Mississippi  
Yazoo City, Yazoo County  
The Lord Is My Shaper ca. 1989  
Cotton/ polyester blend  
60 in. x 50 in. (152.4 cm x 127 cm)  
Gift of Kempf Hogan  
2004.20.6

17. Unknown American Maker, Alabama  
Alabama  
Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County  
Crib Quilt (Strips, Bars and Blocks) ca. 1945  
Cotton  
59 1/4 in. x 40 in. (150.5 cm x 101.6 cm)  
Gift of Kempf Hogan  
2005.9.9

18. Unknown American Maker, Alabama  
Alabama  
Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County  
Pig Pen Quilt late twentieth century  
Cotton  
80 in. x 68 1/4 in. (203.2 cm x 173.36 cm)  
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase  
2004.21.22

19. Odell Valentine (b. 1925)  
Alabama  
Northport, Tuscaloosa County  
Lone Star ca. 1985  
Polyester, cotton  
98 in. x 102 in. (248.92 cm x 259.08 cm)  
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase  
2004.21.23

20. Yvonne Wells (b. 1940)  
Alabama  
Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County  
Dove Descending 1993  
Cotton, cotton/ polyester blend, rayon, plastic button  
57 in. x 51 1/2 in. (144.78 cm x 130.81 cm)  
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase  
2004.21.24
21. Yvonne Wells (b. 1940)
Alabamá
Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County
*Elvis II* 1991
Cotton, cotton/polyester blend, polyester, rickrack, sequins, fringe
82 in. x 50 1/2 in. (208.28 cm x 128.27 cm)
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase
2004.21.25

22. Yvonne Wells (b. 1940)
Alabamá
Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County
*The Great American Pastime: Homage to Jackie Robinson I* 1997
Cotton, cotton/polyester blend, plastic buttons
110 1/2 in. x 78 1/2 in. (280.67 cm x 199.39 cm)
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase and Gift of Carolyn and Dr. Alfred J. Newman, Jr.
2004.21.26

23. Yvonne Wells (b. 1940)
Alabamá
Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County
*Helen Keller* 2006
Cotton/polyester blend, cotton, plastic buttons, embroidery thread, lace
90 in. x 69 1/2 in. (228.6 cm x 176.53 cm)
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase
2012.11

24. Yvonne Wells
Alabamá
Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County
*The Higginbothams II* 1989
Cotton, wool, cotton/polyester blend, plastic buttons
62 1/2 in. x 41 in. (158.75 cm x 104.14 cm)
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase
2004.21.27

25. Yvonne Wells (b. 1940)
Alabamá
Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County
*Humpty Dumpty II* 1988
Cotton, cotton/polyester blend, plastic buttons, metal grommet
54 in. x 41 1/2 in. (137.16 cm x 105.41 cm)
Gift of Kempf Hogan
2005.9.10
26. Yvonne Wells
Alabama
Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County

Me Masked I 1993
Cotton, cotton/polyester blend, yarn, rickrack
61 in. x 60 in. (154.94 cm x 152.4 cm)
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase
2004.21.28

27. Yvonne Wells (b. 1940)
Alabama
Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County

Noah and the Ark 1989
Cotton/polyester blend, cotton, wool, plastic buttons, rickrack, thumbtacks
82 in. x 67 1/2 in. (208.28 cm x 171.45 cm)
Gift of Kempf Hogan
2008.10.4

28. Yvonne Wells (b. 1940)
Alabama
Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County

Rosa Parks I 2005
Cotton/polyester blend, polyester, cotton, plastic buttons
89 1/2 in. x 73 in. (227.33 cm x 185.42 cm)
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase
2008.9.6

29. Yvonne Wells
Alabama
Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County

The Whole Armor of God II 1996
Cotton, cotton/polyester blend, polyester and plastic buttons
99 1/4 in. x 76 1/4 in. (252.1 cm x 193.68 cm)
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association Purchase
2004.21.30

30. Yvonne Wells (b. 1940)
Alabama
Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County

Yesterday: Civil Rights in the South III 1989
Cotton, cotton/polyester blend, wool, polyester, plastic buttons
85 1/2 in. x 74 1/2 in. (217.17 cm x 189.23 cm)
Gift of Kempf Hogan
2004.20.8