

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

W. E. B. DU BOIS INSTITUTE FOR AFRICAN AND AFRICAN AMERICAN RESEARCH
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN AND AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

Barker Center • 12 Quincy Street • Cambridge, MA 02138-3879

For Immediate Release
March 31, 2004

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HARVARD UNIVERSITY HOSTS 13TH TRIENNIAL SYMPOSIUM ON AFRICAN ART

Cambridge – Harvard University's Department of African and African American Studies hosts the 13th Triennial Symposium on African Art on March 31 – April 3. With a theme of "Roots and Routes", the symposium focuses on how African visual practices have moved across cultures, places, and time and how the discourse has fostered vibrant new global forms of expression and interpretations.

Hosted by the W. E. B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research, "Roots and Routes" features keynote addresses by critically-acclaimed photographer and visual artist Carrie Mae Weems and *New York Times* art critic, Holland Cotter. Cutting-edge research covering the cultural meaning of a variety of artistic mediums such as ancient bronze casting, village masquerades, and contemporary art will also be presented.

"This conference is significant because it furthers Harvard's commitment not only to the study of African art but to African studies as a whole," said Henry Louis Gates, Jr., chair of the African and African American Studies Department. "'Roots and Routes' is the perfect opportunity to bring together hundreds of educators, artists, curators, and collectors to research, examine and expand the boundaries of African artistic expression."

Founded in 1975, the W. E. B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research is the nation's oldest research center dedicated to the study of the history, culture, and social institutions of Africans and African Americans. With more than 300 Fellows as alumni including major figures such as George Frederickson (Stanford University), Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham (Harvard University), Nellie McKay (University of Wisconsin), Nell Irvin Painter (Princeton University), Arnold Rampersad (Stanford University), and Cornel West (Princeton University), the Institute has done more in its short existence to ensure the scholarly development of African and African American Studies than any other pre-doctoral or post-doctoral program in the United States.

Established in 1982 as an independent non-profit professional association affiliated with the national African Studies Association, ACASA exists to facilitate communication in the arts of Africa and the African Diaspora. Its goals are to promote greater understanding of African material and expressive culture in all its many forms, and to encourage contact and collaboration with African and diasporic artists and scholars.

Who & What: 13th Triennial Symposium on African Art. Hosted by the Department of African and African American Studies, W. E. B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research, and the Arts Council of the African Studies Association (ACASA).

When & Where: March 31 - April 3, 2004: Panel Sessions and Keynote addresses taking place at Harvard University, Barker Center, 12 Quincy Street, Harvard, Square, Cambridge. For a detailed listing of panel sessions, please contact Dell M. Hamilton.

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