

DAWA

DIASPORIC AFRICAN WOMENS ART

25 Ossington Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
M6J 2Y9

(416) 531 8539
282 2940

PROPOSAL FOR "BLACK WIMMIN:WHEN AND WHERE I ENTER"

"Black Wimmin: When and Where I Enter" is a project of DAWA (Diasporic meaning African and Afro Canadian wimmin in the arts).

The curators of the exhibition are Grace Channer and Buseje Bailey, both practising artists and members of DAWA.

The exhibition itself will be a diverse visual expose of Black wimyns creative artistic talents consisting of a series of creative commissioned spaces approximately 10 areas ranging from 20 x 5 feet to 5 x 5 x 5 feet. The works will articulate Black wimmins specific creative energy and ideas and document a body of Black wimmins imagery historically never seen in such a context as an exhibition before.

The spaces refered to here will be areas within the framework of the whole exhibition space. They will include hard and soft murals, sculptures, painted printed, dyed, writings, sound, video with the main focus being on visual art expression. The work will not merely be hung on the walls but composed into sections of space so that an understanding of how Black wimmins creativity functions in everyday life is more apparent to the public audience. Each artist in the show will design and build the structures for their own sections.

Interspersed among the sections as part of the works in some places will be the writings of contemporary Afro Canadian Wimmin writers and poets, the music and voice of Afro Canadian wimmin musicians and video tapings of dancers and Afro Canadian wimmin in theatre.

This format creates the awareness of how art functions in a context outside of the perimeters of official white male dominated art concepts.

Being the first of its kind in Canada this touring exhibition of Afro Canadian

artists will expose to many people the various cultures of the Canadian Black population, their contributions and their creations toward the cultural mosaic of Canada.

To date the exhibition will travel to Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia. Shows have been confirmed in Halifax and Toronto and timetabling the travelling is still under way. The first show has been confirmed for September 1988.

The full travelling time for the exhibition is at present September 1988 to 1989 with shows ranging from two to four weeks. Because the show is travelling we ask the accepting galleries to let us know as soon as possible your available times for the show in order that we may effectively timetable the exhibition.

BUGET FOR ONE SHOW IN EXHIBITION
"BLACK WIMMIN: WHEN AND WHERE I ENTER"

Exhibitor Fee (includes all artists fees)	<u>2,000</u>
Guest Curator Fee	<u>150</u>
Workshop Honourarium	<u>50 per wksp</u>
Posters and Invitations	<u>350</u>

Installation Supplies

- Free standing walls or partitions approximately 10 8 x 4 feet
- video equipment - 1 amplifier, 2 monitors, 1 V.C.R. machine, 2 100 W. speakers, 2 audio cassette players
 - slide projector (1), screen (1)

Because this project is a travelling exhibition and funds are being sought through various federal provincial and municipal funding bodies the hosting gallery or community centre is asked to provide artist fees, installation costs and supplies, advertising in their region, personel and one way transportation and insurance costs of the work if possible.

Workshops A workshop(s) will be conducted by one of the artists around the exhibition in each city with the prerequisite that not only the artistic community but also schools and community organizations be confirmed participants. There is no preference as to the location for the workshop but if it is not possible to do the workshop in the gallery space, a school or community centre are resonable alternatives.

A NON PROFIT ARTISTS CENTRE
MEDIA RELEASE

Eye Level Gallery is pleased to present "BLACK WIMMIN: WHEN AND WHERE - WE ENTER", a project of Diasporic African Womens Art, September 6-23.

The exhibition consists of multi-media works, including painting and sculptural installation, by eleven Black women artists who incorporate the aesthetics of Africa and the west from the viewpoints of Black women in Canadian society. Curated by Grace Channer and Buseje Bailey, the exhibition will expose to many people the various cultures of the Canadian Black population, their contributions, and their creations toward the cultural mosaic of Canada.

This exhibition describes two historical perspectives; it describes the experience of being Black in Canada and also that of being a woman. It is the first Canadian exhibition composed entirely of Black women's imagery. "BLACK WIMMIN: WHEN AND WHERE WE ENTER", which has been touring Canada since February 1989, was conceived to develop an environment in which Black artists can exhibit their work.

The artists in this exhibition live in Toronto, Ottawa, Kingston, Montreal, and Edmonton. They are: Buseje Bailey, Claire Carew, Grace Channer, Khadeja, Dzian Lacharite, Kim McNeilly, Foluke Olubayo, Chloe Onari, Barbara Prezau, Suli Williams, and Winsom.

The public is cordially invited to attend the opening of the exhibition on Tuesday, September 5, at 8 pm. Eye Level Gallery is located at 2182 Gottingen Street, 2nd floor, Halifax. Gallery hours are Tuesday to Saturday 12 to 5 pm and Thursday to 12-7 pm.

- 30 -

For further information contact:

Suzanne Saul
Eye Level Gallery
425-6412

D A W A

3 Jacob Fisher Dr., Scarborough, Ont., M1B 4J9

April 3, 1989.

AGREEMENT:

BETWEEN EYE LEVEL GALLERY AND DIASPORIC AFRICAN WIMMIN'S ART (DAWA)

D.A.W.A. accepts the terms of the agreement for the exhibition Black Wimmin When & Where We Enter on these conditions:

- 1) Accommodation for 4-6 people, September 1-6, for the set-up (and workshops) of the exhibition close to the gallery or the Black Cultural Centre.
- 2) To publicly acknowledge that this exhibition tour is funded by the Canada Council and the Ontario Arts Council.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Please contact Grace Channer 1-(416)-469-1692 before May 5, 1989 or after June 28, 1989 OR Buseje Bailey 1-(416)-282-2940

D.A.W.A. B. Bailey

Appendum to letter of agreement, April 3, 1989

→ With reference to your letter of April 29, 1989: We gratefully accept your offer of billeting and travel expenses for two (2) people.

WORKSHOP INFORMATION

WEST AFRICAN TEXTILES facilitated by Winsom Darrell

*Last
2 wks.
of
September*

could be young adults
A workshop for adults about the art of traditional west african dyeing and printing. Winsom Darrell, a participating artist will educate on the origin and history of this age old african art. using natural dyes and cassava cut drawings. The workshop includes demonstrations of the techniques employed by the artist.

CLAY AND SYMBOLS facilitated by Foluke Olubayo

A hands workshop for children grade 3 to 8. Participants will create images using traditional media such as clay, paints, grains. Children will be educated on the significance of the elements in african art as well as the symbolism associated with the art of mask making.

Materials: Clay ($\frac{1}{2}$ lb per participant) - \$15
Paints (for painting clay)
loose corn grains (1lb)
loose peas and beans (1lb)

We recommend that children are preregistered so that you may determine quantities of materials needed.

For further information please contact Buseje Bailey after 6:00pm
Telephone 416 282-2940

Thank you!
encl.

EYE LEVEL GALLERY
2182 GOTINGEN STREET, 2ND FLR.
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA
B3K 3B4
902/425-6412

AGREEMENT:

Between Eye Level Gallery and Diasporic African Women's Art, hereafter referred to as "D.A.W.A.". This will confirm the dates of your exhibition at Eye Level Gallery as September 6 - 23, 1989, with an opening reception to be held on September 5.

In relation to the above exhibition it is understood that Eye Level will undertake the following responsibilities:

- 1) to provide D.A.W.A. with an exhibition fee of \$1404.00 ✓
- 2) to reimburse D.A.W.A. the cost of producing an exhibition announcement up to a maximum of \$200.00
- 3) to insure the artwork while on display at the Gallery.
- 4) to publicize the exhibitions through mailings, press releases, psa's and any other means available to the Gallery.
- 5) to document the exhibition in black and white photographs.

In relation to the above exhibition it is understood that D.A.W.A. is responsible for the following:

- ✓ 1) transportation of the artwork to and from the Gallery.
- 2) to provide the Gallery with a list of artwork in the exhibition giving an insurance value of each artwork. N.B. This list is required for the Gallery to properly insure the exhibition.
- 3) to provide the Gallery with publicity materials including: exhibition announcements (500 for mailing purposes), press statement, and any other materials (photos) at least one month prior to the exhibiton opening date.

Your signature completes this agreement. Please return one copy to the Gallery and keep one for your reference.

Eye Level looks forward to presenting "Black Wimmin When and Where We Enter".



for Eye Level Gallery



for Diasporic African Women's Art

***EYE LEVEL GALLERY
2182 GOTINGEN STREET, 2ND FLR.
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA
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Eye Level Gallery

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HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA
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Eye Level looks forward to presenting "Black Wimmin When and Where We Enter".

for Eye Level Gallery

for Diasporic African Women's Art

Black Wimmin: When and Where We Enter is a touring exhibition of artworks commissioned from ten Black Canadian Women artists. The body of work addresses the theme of Black women's experience in Canada. Conceived by Diasporic African Women's Art (DAWA), the exhibition will tour Canada from February 1989 to October 1989 as part of a project to develop an environment in which Black artists can exhibit their work. The marginality of experiences of Black women in Canada has served to keep their culture unrepresented in the mainstream arts community. This lack of representation has however added power to their visions. DAWA provides Black women with a context in which to realize and express this vision.

This exhibition challenges the eurocentric concept of art which often separates creative expression from other areas of life. Instead, Black Women When and Where We Enter offers a view based on the lives of Black women, where art, community, politics, work, spirituality and emotion are presented as a whole entity. Traditionally, Black art is not separate from craft nor pleasure from necessity. This exhibition is an attempt to celebrate the connectedness of all things in the lives of these artists.

The curatorial aims and objectives are:

- to contribute to and stimulate discourse related to the nature of contemporary Black art.
- to address the aesthetic, critical and social concerns of Black artists in Canada.
- to create a forum in which the public can address the artists and in which the artist may interact with the public on issues relating to art and society.
- to encourage Black women artists to create a body of original work documenting their experiences in Canada.
- to present these works in a context relevant to their creation.
- to provide additional visual and audio documentation to accompany the tour.

This exhibition describes two historical perspectives..that of being Black in Canada and that of being a woman. It is the first Canadian exhibition composed entirely of Black women's imagery. The curators are Grace Channer and Buseje Bailey; both are artists and members of DAWA. Participating include Khadeja, Dzian Lacharite, Buseje Bailey, Winsom, Suli Williams, Foluke, Claire Carew, Kim McNeilly and Marie-Avrile Jordon. These artists were chosen by the following criteria: 1) First and foremost they are known for their commitment to the development of their skills, and the output of cultural images. 2) These artists demonstrate an interest in developing a Black aesthetic in terms of women's experience. 3) The artists represent Black women's experiences from several cities across Canada.

DAWA

DIASPORIC AFRICAN WOMEN'S ART

3 Jacob Fisher Drive Scarborough, Ont., M1B 4J9

AGREEMENT:

April 3 1989

BETWEEN EYE LEVEL GALLERY and **DIASPORIC AFRICAN WIMMIN'S ART (DAWA)**

D.A.W.A. accepts the terms of the agreement for the exhibition
Black Wimmin When & Where We Enter on these two conditions:

- 1) Accomodation between September 1 1989 to September 25 be provided in Nova Scotia close to the Eye Level Gallery or The Nova Scotia Black Cultural Centre for the set-up (4 persons, Sept. 1 - 6), duration and take down (2 persons, Sept 1 - 24), of the exhibition.
- 2) A food allowance be provided for two persons from September 1 to September 24.

A detailed rider will follow shortly.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Please contact Grace Channer 1 (416) 469 1692
before May 5 1989 or after June 28 1989 OR
Buseje Bailey 1(416) 282 2940

Sent to Cities mag.

A NON PROFIT ARTISTS CENTRE

MEDIA RELEASE

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The exhibition consists of multi-media works, including painting and sculptural installation, by eleven Black women artists who incorporate the aesthetics of Africa and the west from the viewpoints of Black women in Canadian society. This touring exhibition, curated by Grace Channer and Buseje Bailey, will expose to many people the various cultures of the Canadian Black population, their contributions, and their creations toward the cultural mosaic of Canada.

The artists in this exhibition live in Toronto, Ottawa, Kingston, Montreal, and Edmonton. They are: Buseje Bailey, Claire Carew, Grace Channer, Khadeja, Dzian Lacharite, Kim McNeilly, Foluke Olubayo, Chloe Onari, Barbara Prezau, Suli Williams, and Winsom.

The public is invited to attend the opening of the exhibition on Tuesday, September 5, at 8 pm. Eye Level Gallery is located at 2182 Gottingen Street, 2nd floor, Halifax. Gallery hours are Tuesday to Saturday 12 to 5 pm and Thursday to 12-7 pm.

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Suzanne Saul
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Eye Level Gallery
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Media Release

D. A. W. A. (diasporic African Women's Art) presents

BLACK WIMMIN: WHEN AND WHERE WE ENTER

A touring exhibition, from January to September 1989

An exhibition of multi-media works, including painting, and sculptural installation, by 11 Blackwomen artists who incorporate the aesthetics of Africa and the west from the view points of Black women in Canadian society.

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The exhibition will tour Canada throughout 1989. Opening first at A Space, it will travel to Ottawa, Vanouver, Montreal, and Halifax.

D.A.W.A. was founded in 1984 to promote Black wimmins culture in Canada. It has been involved in Black heritage workshops in schools, community centres and libraries. Its sponsorship of BLACK WIMMIN WHEN AND WHERE WE ENTER will provide the first exhibition which exclusively on Black wimmins art in Canada.

For further information on the exhibition or the artists, please contact Buseje Bailey (416) 282 2940) or Grace Channer (416) 469 1692)

"BLACK WIMMIN: WHEN AND WHERE WE ENTER" is a project of Diasporic African Women's Art (diasporic meaning African and Canadian wimmin in the arts). The exhibition consists of multi-media works, including painting and sculptural installation, by eleven Black women artists who incorporate the aesthetics of Africa and the west from the viewpoints of Black women in Canadian society. This touring exhibition of Afro-Canadian artists will expose to many people the various cultures of the Canadian Black population, their contributions, and their creations toward the cultural mosaic of Canada.

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Grace Channer and Buseje Bailey, the curators of the exhibition, are both practising artists and members of D.A.W.A. Founded in 1984 to promote Black wimmin culture in Canada, D.A.W.A. has been involved in Black heritage workshops in schools, community centres, and libraries. Its sponsorship of "BLACK WIMMIN: WHEN AND WHERE WE ENTER" will provide the **first** exhibition which is exclusively on Black wimmin art in Canada.

The exhibition, touring Canada throughout 1989, opened first at A Space and then travels to Ottawa, Vancouver, Montreal, and Halifax. In conjunction with the exhibition, workshops have been planned, pending funding. A brief outline of these workshops:

HANDS ON -

A hands-on workshop about the Diasporic African sensibility focusing on children ages kindergarten to grade 8. Included will be percussional instrument making, clay masks, and interiors.

WEST AFRICAN TEXTILES -

An adult workshop including some demonstrations about west African dying techniques. Also a workshop for kids to work with dying textiles.