



Smithsonian

Anacostia Community Museum

Traditions from There to Here: Mixed Media Works by Lydia Thompson Exhibition Records

Britney Crawford, 2024 December

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	
Administrative Information	1
Biographical / Historical	1
Scope and Contents	2
Arrangement	2
Names and Subjects	
Container Listing	
Series 1: Correspondence	4
Series 2: Exhibit Files	5
Series 3: Photographic Material	6
Series 4: Printed Material	8

Collection Overview

Repository:	Anacostia Community Museum Archives
Title:	<i>Traditions from There to Here: Mixed Media Works by Lydia Thompson</i> Exhibition Records
Date:	1994
Identifier:	ACMA.03-087
Creator:	Anacostia Community Museum Thompson, Lydia
Extent:	2 Folders .41 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	This exhibition, organized by the Anacostia Museum's Community Gallery, was held from June 18 to August 15, 1994. The works in the exhibition were produced by Richmond, Virginia artist, Lydia Thompson. She created an intimate space by using elements from fragments of landscapes, interior spaces, and the figure to create a shelf-type unit. The units make references to ceremonial altars and shrine format.

Administrative Information

Processing Information

Britney Crawford, 2024 December.

Preferred Citation

The *Traditions from There to Here: Mixed Media Works by Lydia Thompson Exhibition Records*, Anacostia Community Museum, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

Use of the materials requires an appointment. Please contact the archivist to make an appointment: ACMarchives@si.edu.

Biographical / Historical

Lydia C. Thompson is a mixed media artist. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 1983 from Ohio State University and her Master of Fine Arts degree from the New York College of Ceramics at Alfred University in 1985. Her awards include a Fulbright Hays grant to conduct research on traditional architecture in Nigeria, a Windgate Distinguished Fellow for Innovation in Craft, South Arts Individual Artist Career Opportunity Grant, National Endowment for the Arts, Arts & Science Council Artist Support Grant, and received the NCECA Honorary Member award. She was an artist-in-resident at the Medalta Ceramic Center in Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada, the Guldagergaard International Ceramic Research Center in Denmark and at the Hambidge Center for the Creative

Arts & Sciences. Her work has been exhibited in galleries, art centers, and museums such as the Mindy Solomon Gallery, the Society for Contemporary Crafts, the Baltimore Clayworks, the Ohr O'Keefe Museum, the Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft, James A. Michener Art Museum, the Crocker Art Museum, the Mint Museum, and the Northern Clay Center. She has completed public commissions for businesses and her work is in private and public collections in the US, New Zealand, Austria, Switzerland, and Italy. She has conducted workshops for youths and adults, given public lectures and served as a juror and curator for national and regional exhibitions. Currently she resides and maintains her studio in Charlotte, NC and is a Professor of Ceramics in the Department of Art & Art History at UNC Charlotte.

Scope and Contents

This exhibit featured over a dozen collages by Richmond, Virginia artist, Lydia Thompson. These records document the planning, organizing, execution, and promotion of the exhibition. Materials include correspondence, brochures, exhibit script, newspaper clippings, and photograph prints.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into four main categories:

Series 1: Correspondence

Series 2: Exhibit Files

Series 3: Photographic Material

Series 4: Printed Materials

Featured Artwork

These selected works of art were featured in the exhibition Traditions from There to Here: Mixed Media Works by Lydia Thompson:

A Song for My Father, 1994

After the Rain, 1991

Guided by the Politician, 1994

Untitled (Yellow Figure), 1994

House in My Heart, 1994

Landscape III, 1989

Roof Series I, 1993

Roof Series II, 1994

House of Raffia, 1994

Meditation, 1991

Untitled (Green/Orange Face), 1994

Crowned Collage 1, 1994

Crowned Collage 2, 1994

Crowned Collage 3, 1994

Dream Series 1, 1990

Dream Series 3, 1990

Dream Series 4, 1990

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- African American artists
- Art
- Mixed media (Art)
- Museum exhibits
- Women artists

Types of Materials:

- Clippings
- Correspondence
- Exhibition records -- 1990-1994
- Photographic prints
- Slides (photographs)

Names:

- Anacostia Community Museum
- Anacostia Museum

Places:

- Washington (D.C.)

Container Listing

Series 1: Correspondence

Box 1

Scope and Contents: This series contains correspondence, including letters, facsimiles, and memoranda, related to the proposal, planning, and closing reception of the exhibition. Additionally, it includes attachments with delivery and installation instructions, accompanied by maps.

Box 1, Folder 1 Correspondence, 1993-1994

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 2: Exhibit Files

Box 1

Scope and Contents: This series comprises files related to the development and execution of the exhibition, including requisition forms, checklists, exhibitor guidelines shared with Lydia Thompson, and a finalized list of works. It also contains biographical materials on the artist and copies of her initial exhibition proposal.

Box 1, Folder 2	Biographical Material
Box 1, Folder 3	Checklist for Anacostia Community Gallery Exhibition, 1994-06-1994-08
Box 1, Folder 4	Community Gallery Exhibit Proposal
Box 1, Folder 5	Exhibition Script
Box 1, Folder 6	Guidelines for Exhibitors
Box 1, Folder 7	Handwritten Notes
Box 1, Folder 8	List of Work
Box 1, Folder 9	Press Release
Box 1, Folder 10	Requisition Forms

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 3: Photographic Material

Box: 1

Scope and Contents: This series comprises photographic materials, including prints, slides, and Polaroids of the work featured in the exhibition. The Polaroids appear to have been taken prior to the exhibition. Additionally, the series includes contact sheets featuring the artist holding a young male child.

Box 1,, Folder 11 Contact Sheets

Box 1, Folder 12 Photograph Prints

Box: 1, Folder 13 Polaroids

Slides

Box: 1, Folder 14

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 4: Printed Material

Box:1

Scope and Contents: This series contains newspaper clippings covering the exhibition, including features from publications such as The Washington Post. It also includes multiple copies of the final exhibition brochure, along with a draft paper copy.

Box 1, Folder 15	Brochures
------------------	-----------

Box: 1, Folder 16	Newspaper Clippings
-------------------	---------------------

[Return to Table of Contents](#)