



NATIONAL
GALLERY
CAYMAN ISLANDS



CONTEMPORARY ARTS CENTER NEW ORLEANS

INDEPENDENT CURATORS INTERNATIONAL

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The National Gallery of the Cayman Islands
invites you to

EN MAS'
CARNIVAL and PERFORMANCE ART
of the CARIBBEAN

Image and Artwork: Ebony G. Patterson, *Invisible Presence: Bling Memories*, 2014, Jamaica (detail).
Courtesy of the artist and Monique Meloche Gallery. Photo: Monique Gilpin and Philip Rhoden.

EN MAS': Carnival and Performance Art of the Caribbean is an exhibition curated by Claire Tancons and Krista Thompson; organised by the Contemporary Arts Center (CAC), New Orleans, and Independent Curators International (ICI), New York, NGCI installation and coordination by Natalie Urquhart and Kerri-Anne Chisholm.

The international travelling exhibition *EN MAS': Carnival and Performance Art of the Caribbean* is pioneering exploration of the influences of Carnival on contemporary performance practices in the Caribbean, North America, and Europe. Conceived around a series of commissioned performances across six different countries, the exhibition considers the connections between Carnival and performance, masquerade and social criticism, diaspora and transnationalism. Its title comes from a pun on "Mas" (short for masquerade and synonymous with carnival in the English speaking Caribbean).

EN MAS' takes a look at the history of performance that does not take place on the stage or in the gallery, but rather in the streets, addressing not the few but the many. The exhibition introduces

performance art with a focus on the influence that Carnival and related masquerading traditions in and of the Caribbean and its Diasporas have had on contemporary performance discourse and practice, in both the artistic and curatorial realms.

Featured artists include: John Beadle (Bahamas), Charles Campbell (Jamaica), Christophe Chassol (France), Nicolás Dumit Estévez (Dominican Republic and USA), Marlon Griffith (Trinidad), Hew Locke (UK), Lorraine O'Grady (USA), Ebony G. Patterson (Jamaica), and Cauleen Smith (USA).

The exhibition is made possible by an Emily Hall Tremain Exhibition Award. Additional support is provided by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, and by the Institut français in support of African and Caribbean projects. The exhibition debuted at CAC New Orleans in spring 2015. NGCI is the first step on it's international tour.

A Members' Reception for National Gallery members and guests will be held on Thursday, 14 January 2016 from 6 pm until 8 pm.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

15 January - 26 March, 2016

■ Caribbean-Style Family Day

Saturday, 23 January, 10 am to 5 pm, Exhibition Hall

Join the NGCI Education Department for free family fun art activities based on the *EN MAS': Carnival and Performance Art of the Caribbean*. Activity sheets and art materials will be available for children of all ages, and self-guided tour packs can be collected in the gallery for families to use as they explore the temporary exhibition. Beverages and snacks will be available for purchase in the Art Café. For additional details email education@nationalgallery.org.ky or call 945 8111.

■ EY's Art Talk for Older Adults

Monday, 1 February; Monday, 7 March
10 am to 11 am, Exhibition Halls

The EY Art Talk is open to the public and facilitates seniors' creative contributions to their communities, while improving their health and strengthening their sense of well-being. Free coffee, tea and snacks are provided for seniors (over 55yrs). Doors open at 9:00am for games and time to socialise before starting a guided tour and group discussion at 10:15am. For additional details or to RSVP please email education@nationalgallery.org.ky or call 945 8111.

■ Friends of Film Tour

Thursday, 4 February, 6 pm to 8 pm, Exhibition Halls

NGCI welcomes film professionals and film enthusiasts for a free tour of the temporary exhibition *EN MAS': Carnival and Performance Art of the Caribbean*. The tour will be followed by a group discussion with Friends of Film (FoF) in the NGCI Art Studio. Friends of Film is a diverse group of film professionals dedicated to motion picture production in the Cayman Islands. All are welcome and admission is free. Refreshments will be available. For additional details email communications@nationalgallery.org.ky or call 945 8111.

■ Garden Lunch and Guided Tours

Thursday, 18 February; Wednesday, 16 March
Lecture begins at 12pm and lunch is served until 2pm

Go behind-the-scenes with NGCI Assistant Curator, Kerri-Anne Chishlom who will discuss how the exhibition *EN MAS': Carnival and Performance Art of the Caribbean* was developed and explain the themes and fascinating stories behind the contemporary work. The tour is free and open to the public and will be followed by a delicious garden lunch inspired by the flavors and eclectic style of New Orleans cuisine. Lunch will be served by the NGCI Art Café in the gardens between 12:30 noon and 2:00 pm. Reservations are recommended for groups of four or more. For menu details email events@nationalgallery.org.ky or call 945 8111.

■ Cayman Arts Festival Musical Performance

Wednesday, 24 February, concert begins at
6 pm doors open at 5 pm

Celebrate the sounds of African and Caribbean music as the Cayman Arts Festival showcases the musical talents of Woz Kaly, member of the Mokhtar Samba Band, and local artist Beneil Miller. Gallery doors open at 5 pm and the 45-minute performance in the Sculpture Garden will begin at 6 pm, giving visitors an opportunity to view the National Gallery's newest exhibition *EN MAS': Carnival and Performance Art of the Caribbean*. Admission is free and refreshments will be available. For details email events@nationalgallery.org.ky or call 945 8111.

■ CineClub Movie Screening - "Black Orpheus"

Thursday, 11 February, 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm

Black Orpheus (Portuguese: *Orfeu Negro*) is a 1959 film made in Brazil by French director Marcel Camus and starring Marpessa Dawn and Breno Mello. It is based on the play *Orfeu da Conceição* by Vinicius de Moraes, which is an adaptation of the Greek legend of Orpheus and Eurydice, set in the modern context of a favela in Rio de Janeiro during Carnival. The film was an international co-production between production companies in Brazil, France and Italy.

The film is particularly noted for its soundtrack by two Brazilian composers: Antônio Carlos Jobim, whose song "A felicidade" opens the film; and Luiz Bonfá, whose "Manhã de Carnaval" and "Samba de Orpheus" have become bossa nova classics. The songs sung by the character Orfeu were dubbed by singer Agostinho dos Santos.

■ Late Night - Brought to you by The Butterfield Young Patrons' Circle

Friday, 11 March, 5 pm to 10 pm

The National Gallery will be open to the public for a late night viewing of the exhibition *EN MAS': Carnival and Performance Art of the Caribbean*. Admission is free and all are welcome. Fun, art and networking with like-minded individuals with an eye for arts and culture, brought to you by The Butterfield Young Patrons' Circle (YPC). For more details or to talk anything YPC please get in touch by emailing YPC@nationalgallery.org.ky or by calling 945 8111.

■ The History of Carnival, Special Lecture with Henry Muttoo

Date and time to be announced

Learn about the fascinating and complex history of Caribbean Carnival with the Artistic Director of the Cayman National Cultural Foundation, Henry Muttoo. The lecture is free and open to the public. For event details email events@nationalgallery.org.ky or call 945 8111.

■ Family Pop-Up Station

Fun family activities for all ages
15 January until 26 March

An interactive family pop-up station designed specifically for the *EN MAS'* exhibition will accompany the artists' work. Students will learn about the history of carnival and get creative with free hands on activities. Self-guided tour packs can also be collected at reception for families to use as they explore the temporary exhibition.

■ Gallery Shop

Our Gallery Shop works with NGCI curators and artists to find the very best products to support our exhibition schedule. Gorgeous coffee table books on contemporary art will be available for purchase as well as other specialty books and gift items. The National Gallery Gift Shop is open during regular gallery hours and NGCI members receive a 10% discount.

CONTACT US

For more information regarding any of the events listed above and to RSVP please get in touch by emailing info@nationalgallery.org.ky or by calling (345) 945 8111.