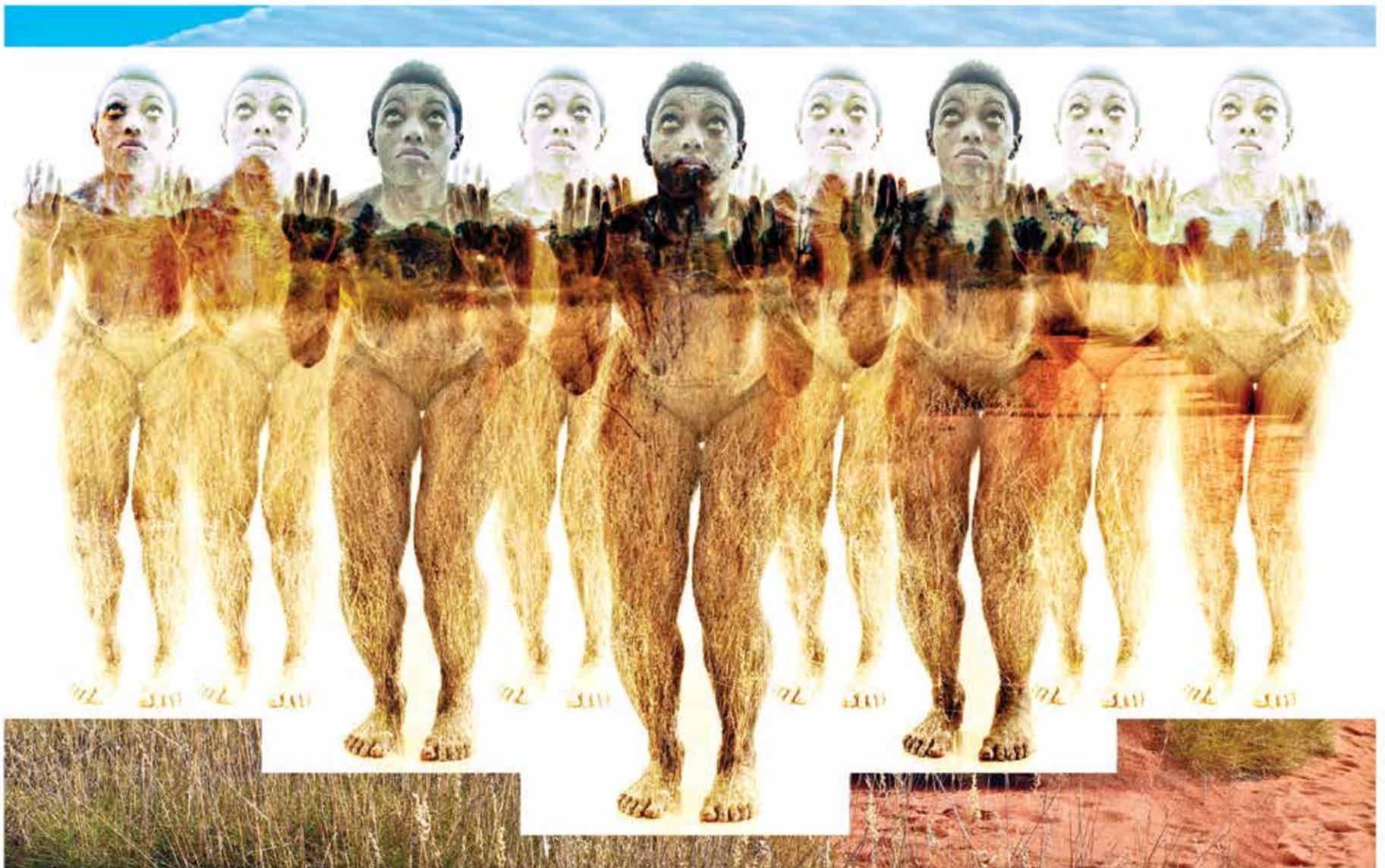


MILESTONES

THE SONJA HAYNES STONE CENTER FOR BLACK CULTURE AND HISTORY

spring 2015 · volume 12 · issue 2

unc.edu/depts/stonecenter



SPRING 2015 ART EXHIBITION *RITUAL + TIME TRAVEL = REBIRTH* SHOWCASES DIGITAL IMAGERY AND SPOKEN WORD BY COUPLE MICHAEL PLATT AND CAROL BEANE

From January 29 through May 11, 2015 *Ritual + Time Travel = Rebirth: Images and Words* by Michael Platt and Carol Beane exhibition will take place in the Robert and Sallie Brown Gallery and Museum at the Sonja Haynes Stone Center.

The exhibition features the work of Michael Platt and his partner Carol Beane. Long known as a printmaker, Platt now prefers the more encompassing designation, “imagemaker.” His artwork recently has turned to digital imagery and book art that combines image and poetry—fragments, allowing us glimpses of our selves. He continues to create artwork that centers on figurative explorations of life’s survivors - the marginalized - referencing history and circumstance in the rites, rituals and expressions of our human condition. “Until Carol and I did our first artists’ book, I had primarily created my art in a solitary fashion. Back then, out of necessity I was working with other people, but not collaborating” said Platt. “Being married to the person you’re collaborating with is something else...”

Beane has always written poetry. “For me it documents history and memory—both the personal and the collective” Beane says. “Living with Michael, increasingly I find that my words seek out more nuanced rhythms, colors, and textures; that I am all the more inclined to explore new ways to convey and claim a sense of space, volume, pain—particularly in response to the circumstances that inform those images.”

For Platt and Beane, the creation of these images and poems was an endeavor—typical of their usual manner of sharing the same living, working,

cooking, creative/creating space...thoughtful, mostly easy, together trying to find just the right combination of elements to “make magic.”

Beane’s work is represented in private and public collections, among them: Library of Congress’ special collections, Howard University; the New York Public Library’s Schomburg Research Center in Black Culture; Yale University Art Museum; and the National Museum of Women in the Arts. She is an Assistant Professor at Howard University, teaching Spanish language, Latin American literature, and simultaneous interpretation and translation.

Platt has exhibited internationally and nationally. Some of his most recent work, collaborative images done with DC based painter Katherine Tzu-Lan Mann, was exhibited in Paris, France, in 2013. His latest solo exhibitions were in Australia in 2012: *Michael B Platt: Telling Stories, Framing Time*. In 2010, The Harvey B. Gantt Center for African American Arts + Culture, Charlotte, NC, presented *Spirits and Spaces: The Prints of Michael B. Platt*.

An opening reception for the exhibition featuring an artist talk by Michael Platt and Carol Beane will be held on January 29 at 7p.m. at the Stone Center. This event and all programs associated with it are free and open to the public.

Gallery hours for the Robert and Sallie Brown Gallery and Museum are 10am – 8pm Monday- Friday, or by appointment. For information on the exhibition call 919-962-9001 or visit <http://sonjahaynestonectr.unc.edu>. ■

Howl-N-Madd

“Real blues is what’s coming from the heart.”

Bill “Howl-N-Madd” Perry

Mississippi Blues Family Man

A film by Lee Quinby

Produced by: Erickson Blakney

Directed by: Lee Quinby

Written by: Lee Quinby

Edited by: Daniel Cowen

Director of Photography: Daniel Cowen

<http://truedeltaproject.org/>

ON JANUARY 31, AT 7PM, DOCUMENTARY FILM-MAKER LEE QUINBY AND MISSISSIPPI DELTA BLUES MUSICIANS HOWL-N-MADD AND SHY PERRY WILL BE AT THE STONE CENTER FOR A FREE SCREENING OF QUINBY'S LATEST FILM, "HOWL-N-MADD, MISSISSIPPI BLUES FAMILY MAN".

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE AMERICAN SOUTH PARTNERS WITH THE STONE CENTER TO PRESENT AN EVENING OF MISSISSIPPI DELTA BLUES WITH HOWL-N-MADD AND SHY PERRY

On January 31, at 7pm, documentary film-maker Lee Quinby and Mississippi Delta blues musicians Howl-N-Madd and Shy Perry will be at the Stone Center for a free screening of Quinby's latest film, **"Howl-N-Madd, Mississippi Blues Family Man"**. Following the film screening, there will be a concert and discussion of the blues.

This event is Free and Open to the public. The event is sponsored by: the Center for the Study of the American South, the Sonja Haynes Center for Black Culture and History, the Institute for the Arts and Humanities, and the Department of African, African American and Diaspora Studies at UNC at Chapel Hill.

HOWL-N-MADD, MISSISSIPPI BLUES FAMILY MAN

"I come from a long line of moonshiners," laughs Bill "Howl-N-Madd" Perry, adding, "I have a lot of bad habits, but drinking is not one of them." Growing up picking cotton in Mississippi hill country, Billy Joe Perry moved to Chicago to make a new life for himself. But his real success came when he returned 40 years later as "Howl-N-Madd," an engaging bluesman devoted to his music and his family. Candid interviews capture the captivating personality of this talented blues musician and also reveal the struggles integral to his compelling life story. Perry's determination to rise above the constraints of southern poverty and racism and to live a life entertaining others through his music has inspired audiences across America, in Asia, and Europe. The film celebrates Perry's musical career by highlighting magnetic live performances, from deep in Mississippi up to the Terra Blues Club in New York City, featuring Bill, his son Bill Perry, Jr., and his daughter, Sharo Perry. And it shows how Pauline Perry, who is unflagging in her devotion to her husband, embodies the spirit of the song he wrote for her after 45 years of marriage, "Delta Women," who, as Perry sings, "know how to shake that thing."

For more information on this event or to RSVP, please contact the Center for the Study of the American South at 919-962-5665, csas@unc.edu. ■

SEEKING APPLICATIONS FOR: SEAN DOUGLAS LEADERSHIP FELLOWS PROGRAM

The Sean Douglas Leadership Fellows (SDLF) Program provides an opportunity for undergraduate students interested in gaining practical experience in planning and managing arts, cultural and academic programs while serving as an intern at the Stone Center and working closely with the Director and Stone Center staff.

The Sean Douglas Fellow will participate in various Center activities that may include participation in staff, Board and other key meetings, working on specially designed projects, assisting the Director in drafting project, program and special reports and serving as Stone Center representative at selected gatherings.

Sean Douglas Fellows will receive a stipend for completing the program. The internship covers a 10-week period and is open to all registered UNC at Chapel Hill sophomores, juniors and seniors in good academic standing who are interested in African American and African diaspora arts and cultures. The deadline to apply for the Fall SDLF is March 8, 2015 at 5 pm.

Applicants for the SDLF will be selected on the basis of a combination of factors including scholarship, record of campus and off-campus participation

in service/social justice activities, clarity in describing their objectives for participating in the program, and quality of recommendations submitted in support of their application.

► APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT:

- A brief narrative of no more than 4 pages that addresses the criteria described above;
- An official or unofficial transcript (you may also include a brief resume outlining your extracurricular activities, awards, and other supporting background information);
- Two letters of recommendation (from a faculty or staff member that is familiar with you and your work).

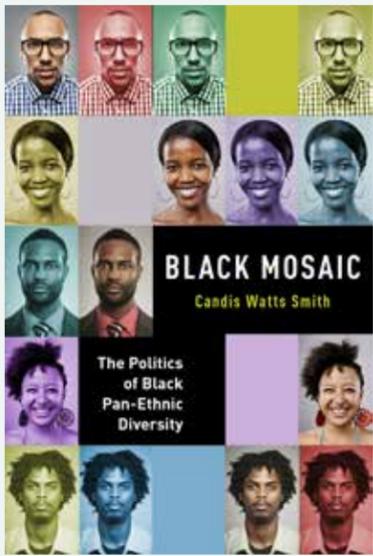
Submit your application electronically to stonecenter@unc.edu, or you may hand deliver to Christopher Wallace at Room 215, The Stone Center. For information call (919) 962-9001 or email chrislw@email.unc.edu. ■

WRITER'S DISCUSSION SERIES EXPLORES BLACK IMAGES AND ICONS FOR SPRING 2015.

Beginning on February 5, the Stone Center will host a 3-part Writer's Discussion series featuring book readings and discussion with authors from across the country. The final discussion in the series will also include a film screening of "Through a Lens Darkly" and will take place at 7pm at the Stone Center. The series is co-hosted with the Bull's Head Bookshop and all events will take place at the Bookshop unless otherwise noted.

February 5 | 3:30 pm
Bull's Head Bookshop
(2nd floor UNC Student Bookstore)

CANDIS WATTS SMITH: *BLACK MOSAIC: THE POLITICS OF BLACK PAN-ETHNIC DIVERSITY*

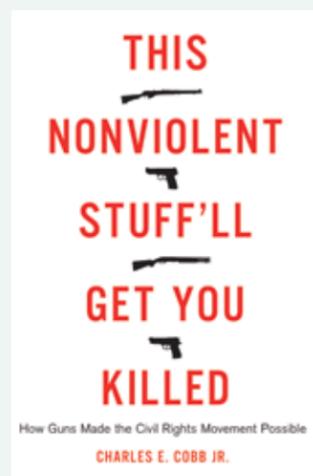


Historically, Black Americans have easily found common ground on political, social, and economic goals. Yet, there are signs of increasing variety of opinion among Blacks in the United States, due in large part to the influx of Afro-Latino, Afro-Caribbean, and African immigrants to the United States. In fact, the very definition of "African American" as well as who can self-identify as Black is becoming more ambiguous. Should we expect African Americans' shared sense of group identity and high sense of group consciousness to endure as ethnic diversity among the population increases? In "Black Mosaic", Candis Watts Smith addresses the effects of this dynamic demographic change on Black identity and Black politics.

◀ **CANDIS WATTS SMITH** is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Williams College. She received her Ph.D. at Duke University. Her research interests and areas of expertise are Racial and Ethnic Politics and American political behavior. Smith's work appears in journals like *Annual Review of Political Science*, *The Journal of Black Studies*, *Politics, Groups & Identities* as well as in edited book volumes.

March 3 | 3:30 pm
Bull's Head Bookshop
(2nd floor UNC Student Bookstore)

CHARLES COBB: *THIS NONVIOLENT STUFF'LL GET YOU KILLED: HOW GUNS MADE THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT POSSIBLE*

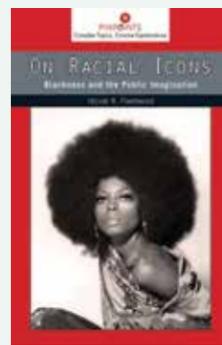


Giving voice to the World War II veterans, rural activists, volunteer security guards, and self-defense groups who took up arms to defend their lives and liberties, "This Nonviolent Stuff'll Get You Killed" lays bare the paradoxical relationship between the nonviolent civil rights struggle and the Second Amendment. Drawing on his firsthand experiences in the civil rights movement and interviews with fellow participants, Cobb provides a controversial examination of the crucial place of firearms in the fight for American freedom.

◀ **CHARLES E. COBB JR.** is a former field secretary for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, a former *National Geographic* magazine staff writer, and has also served as a Visiting Professor in Brown University's Department of Africana Studies.

March 26 | 7:00 pm
Stone Center Hitchcock Multipurpose Room

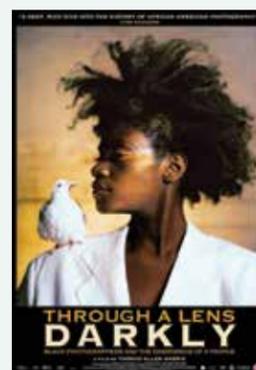
NICOLE FLEETWOOD: *ON RACIAL ICONS: BLACKNESS AND THE PUBLIC IMAGINATION*



"On Racial Icons" looks at visual culture and race in the United States, in particular the significance of photography to document black public life. It examines America's fascination with representing and seeing race in a myriad of contexts as emblematic of national and racial progress at best, or as a gauge of a collective racial wound. Investigating the concept of the icon in the context of photographic history, national and cultural histories, and racial relations, Nicole R. Fleetwood focuses a sustained lens on how racial icons circulate and acquire meaning within the broader public.

◀ **NICOLE R. FLEETWOOD** is Associate Professor in the Department of American Studies and Director of the Institute for Research on Women at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. She researches and teaches in the areas of visual culture and media studies, black cultural studies, ethnography, gender theory, and culture and technology studies.

Professor Fleetwood's talk will include a screening of the film, **THROUGH A LENS DARKLY**



Dir: Thomas Allen Harris/Documentary/US/English/
92 minutes /2013

The first documentary to explore the role of photography in shaping the identity, aspirations and social emergence of African Americans from slavery to the present, "Through a Lens Darkly" probes the recesses of American history by discovering images that have been suppressed, forgotten and lost.

Bringing to light the hidden and unknown photos shot by both professional and vernacular African American photographers, the film opens a window into lives, experiences and perspectives of black families that is absent from the traditional historical canon. These images show a much more complex and nuanced view of American culture and society and its founding ideals. ■



STONE CENTER'S FALL 2014 SEASON CELEBRATED 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BUILDING WITH SIGNATURE PROGRAMMING AND SPECIAL EVENTS

This fall the Sonja Haynes Stone Center celebrated the 10th Anniversary of the Stone Center building. The 44,500 square foot facility that houses seminar rooms, classrooms, a 10,000-volume library, publication suite, art gallery, 400-seat auditorium, a dance studio and office suites opened its doors in August 2004.

The anniversary season kicked off with *La Sombra y el Espíritu III/Bodies of Resistance, Roots of Remembrance* art exhibition in the Stone Center's Robert and Sallie Brown Gallery and Museum. Artists Stephen Hayes, Louis Luma and Lucía Méndez Rivas attended the opening reception on September 18th to discuss their work.

The celebration continued with an expanded anniversary edition of the Diaspora Festival of Black and Independent Film. The festival opened on September 9 and included a total of 23 films and discussions with scholars and film directors such as Cuban filmmaker and scholar Gloria Rolando.

UNC at Chapel Hill alum and Assistant United States Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs, Karol Mason, returned to UNC on October 9th to deliver the 22nd Annual Stone Memorial Lecture. The season closed with a lecture by New York Times best-selling author and columnist Bill Rhoden. ■



CHECK US OUT ON *vimeo!*

Did you miss a "can't-miss" Stone Center event or lecture? Don't worry-- you can view video from Stone Center lectures, conferences, book talks and other programs and special events on our Vimeo page. Vimeo is a platform used to upload video

content and share it on the internet—via your Vimeo page. You can access the Stone Center Vimeo page here: <http://vimeo.com/stonecenter>

We've upgraded our account so that we can share more content with you. You can access videos from past programs and lectures as well as current content from our most recent events. We look forward to seeing you at an event this Spring! (But if you can't make it, we've got you covered.)

◀ CHECK US OUT AT: VIMEO.COM/STONECENTER ■

SEEKING APPLICATIONS FOR: THE SUMMER-FALL 2015 UNDERGRADUATE INTERNATIONAL STUDIES FELLOWSHIP

The Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History will be accepting applications from UNC undergraduates for its Summer and Fall 2015 Undergraduate International Studies Fellowship (UISF) beginning January 31, 2015. The Stone Center, established in 1988 to support the critical examination of all dimensions of African and African-American and diaspora cultures, created the UISF program in support of the University's effort to globalize the campus and internationalize the curriculum.

UISF recipients are awarded up to \$2,500 toward academic research or study in an international setting. Through the fellowships, the UISF program

supports the participation of students of color and other underrepresented students in travel and study abroad programs. Students who plan to study abroad in the summer or fall of 2015 who are in good standing and enrolled full-time are eligible to apply for the fellowship. Preference is given for programs from six-weeks to a year in length.

Full instructions and applications are available at the Stone Center, suite 215 or on the Center's website at <http://sonjahaynesstonectr.unc.edu/programs/scholarship-scholarly-initiatives/>. The application deadline is March 8, 2015. For more information on the fellowship, contact Chris Wallace at (919) 962-9001 or email chrislw@email.unc.edu. ■

JOIN THE STONE CENTER IN WELCOMING 3 NEW FACES TO UNC!



◀ **MIREILLE DJENNO** is the newly appointed University Librarian for African, African American and African Diaspora Studies, based in the Sonja Haynes Stone Center Library. She was most recently Reference & Instruction Librarian and Liaison to the Jane Addams College of Social Work at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Djenno received an MA in Library and Information Studies and an MA in Comparative Literature from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She also holds a Graduate Certificate in Special Collections (Rare Books and Manuscript Studies) from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



◀ **CHAITRA POWELL** is new African American Collections and Outreach Archivist for the University Library and will participate in curatorial work for the Southern Historical Collection in the Wilson Special Collections Library. She will coordinate the African American Family Documentation Initiative and conduct visits, tours, and consultations. She comes to the Library from

California, where she held positions as consulting archivist for the Frances E. Williams estate in Los Angeles and project archivist and archival fellow at the Mayme A. Clayton Library and Museum in Culver City. She has been an archival fellow at The HistoryMakers in Chicago, Illinois. Chaitra holds a B.A. in sociology and an M.A. in information resources and library science from the University of Arizona in Tucson. She is a certified archivist and holds a certificate in digitization from Pasadena (California) City College.



◀ **BARBARA WILLIAMS** joins the Stone Center as the new Administrative Manager. She is a native of Rocky Mount, NC and received a BA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, a MBA from Clark Atlanta University and a MA from the University of Florida. Her professional experience includes extensive administrative and instructional experience at post-secondary

institutions, not-for-profit and for-profit organizations. In her spare time, Barbara enjoys volunteering with young people in the community. She speaks fluent Spanish.



HE WAS A POEM, HE WAS A SONG PROGRAM BRINGS GRAMMY NOMINATED SINGER AND SONGWRITER CAROLYN MALACHI FOR A FREE CONCERT EVENT

Join the Stone Center and the Friday Center for Continuing Education at UNC on Tuesday, January 20th at 7pm for a free concert event headlined by Grammy nominated R&B singer, Carolyn Malachi. *He was a Poem, He was a Song* is a tribute to the legacy of Dr. King in verse and song and is part of UNC at Chapel Hill's annual MLK week celebration. The program will also include performances by UNC's EROT (Ebony Readers Onyx Theatre) and Sacrificial Poets.

CAROLYN MALACHI

Carolyn Malachi is a Grammy-nominated singer and songwriter who counts Sarah Vaughan, Yasiin Bey (formerly Mos Def), and Radiohead among her greatest influences. Her unique style and sound blends jazz, R&B, and hip-hop and has garnered international acclaim including MTV naming her "one of five R&B artists to obsess over". Using her music and platform as a force for good, Carolyn advocates and champions for global access to education and technology. Between studio sessions and tour dates, she also maintains a tech column for the popular blog Black Girl Nerds.

This event is FREE and Open to the Public. For more information or to RSVP please email stonecenter@unc.edu, call 919-962-9001 or visit <http://sonjahaynesstonectr.unc.edu> ■

STONE CENTERS SEEKS APPLICANTS FOR STUDENT SCHOLARS ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Sonja Haynes Stone is looking for eight students to serve as Student Scholars Advisory Council (SSAC). Scholars will serve as the primary student advisory group for the Stone Center staff. The SSAC members will collaborate with and support the Stone Center as it plans arts, cultural, service and scholarly programs, and organizes fundraising and other events. The Stone Center's SSAC are also tasked with increasing student participation and involvement at the Stone Center. The primary focus of the advisory work group is to raise campus and community awareness of the mission of the Stone Center. SSAC members must be:

- 1) students in good standing with the University;
- 2) aware of, or seriously interested in learning about key historical and contemporary issues, movements, and scholarship on African American and diaspora communities;

- 3) interested in increasing campus awareness of the Stone Center's work, particularly among UNC students, and willing to monitor student response;
- 4) willing and able to represent the Stone Center's interests to both internal and external audiences, when asked to do so.

The SSAC will be convened and co-lead by the Stone Center's Leadership Fellows and will meet twice monthly. A Stone Center staff person will serve as liaison to the SSAC, however all Stone Center staff will be available for consultation and support. SSAC terms are for 2 year staggered terms.

- ◀ Applications can be found here: <http://goo.gl/forms/k4NiFNzmDq>
- ◀ If you have any questions, please contact Kimberly Clarida at kclarida@live.unc.edu. ■

Sonja Haynes Stone Center

SPRING 2015

Calendar of Events

For more info on events, visit us at www.unc.edu/depts/stonecenter or email stonecenter@unc.edu or call 919-962-9001.
All events are Free and Open to the Public unless otherwise noted.



▲ KUTTIE PIE

January 29 | 7 pm
Stone Center Robert and
Sallie Brown Gallery and Museum

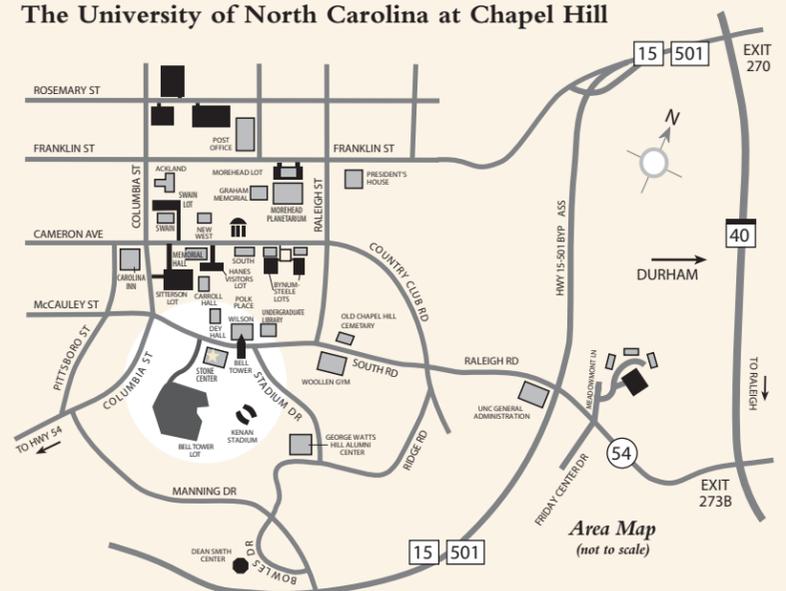
Exhibition Opening Reception, featuring an
artist talk by Michael Platt and Carol Beane

RITUAL + TIME TRAVEL = REBIRTH: IMAGES AND WORDS BY MICHAEL PLATT AND CAROL BEANE

Ritual + Time Travel = Rebirth: Images and Words by Michael Platt and Carol Beane features the work of married artists Michael Platt and Carol Beane. Platt creates artwork that centers on figurative explorations of life's survivors, the marginalized, referencing history and circumstance in the rites, rituals and expressions of our human condition. For Platt and Beane, the creation of these images and poems was an endeavor—typical of their usual manner of sharing the same living, working, cooking, creative/creating space...thoughtful, mostly easy, together trying to find just the right combination of elements to “make magic.”

Ritual + Time Travel = Rebirth: Images and Words by Michael Platt and Carol Beane will be shown at the Stone Center's Robert and Sallie Brown Gallery and Museum from January 29 through May 11, 2015.

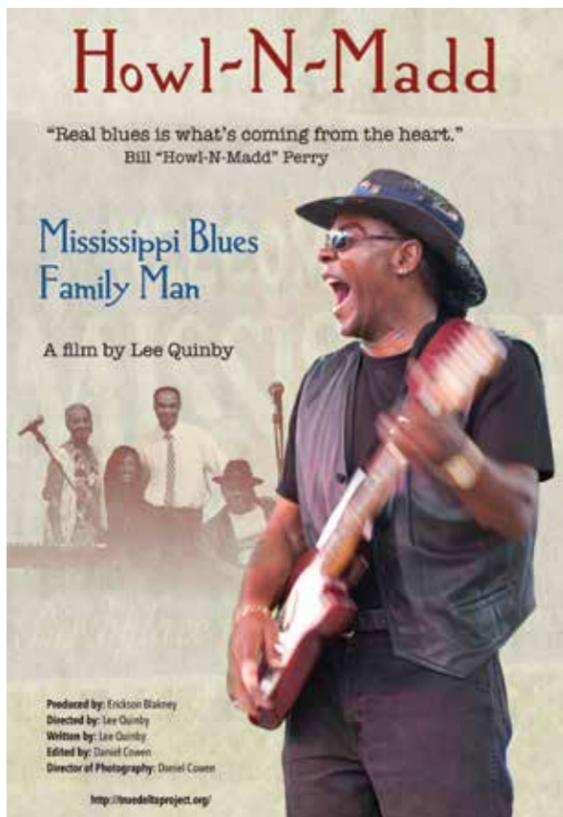
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



January 20 | 7pm
Stone Center Auditorium

HE WAS A POEM, HE WAS A SONG. UNC MARTIN LUTHER KING JR WEEK COMMEMORATION EVENT

A tribute to the legacy of Dr. King in verse and song, featuring Grammy-nominated singer and songwriter Carolyn Malachi. Her unique style and sound blends jazz, R&B, and hip-hop and has garnered international acclaim. The program will also include performances by UNC's EROT (Ebony Readers Onyx Theatre) and Sacrificial Poets. This event is part of UNC at Chapel Hill's annual MLK week celebration. This event is FREE and Open to the public. To RSVP to this event please visit: <http://sonjahaynesstonectr.unc.edu> or call 919-962-9001.



January 31 | 7:30 pm
Stone Center Auditorium

AN EVENING OF MISSISSIPPI DELTA BLUES WITH HOWL-N-MADD AND SHY PERRY

Join documentary film-maker Lee Quinby and Mississippi Delta blues musicians Howl-N-Madd and Shy Perry for a free film-showing, concert, and discussion of the blues. This event is FREE and Open to the public.

Sponsored by the Center for the Study of the American South, the Sonja Haynes Center for Black Culture and History, the Institute for the Arts and Humanities, and the Department of African, African-American and Diasporic Studies.

February 5 | 3:30 pm
Bull's Head Bookshop
(2nd floor UNC Student Bookstore)

Writer's Discussion Series

CANDIS WATTS SMITH: BLACK MOSAIC: THE POLITICS OF BLACK PAN-ETHNIC DIVERSITY

Historically, Black Americans have easily found common ground on political, social, and economic goals. Yet, there are signs of increasing variety of opinion among Blacks in the United States, due in large part to the influx of Afro-Latino, Afro-Caribbean, and African immigrants to the United States. In fact, the very definition of "African American" as well as who can self-identity as Black is becoming more ambiguous. Should we expect African Americans' shared sense of group identity and high sense of group consciousness to endure as ethnic diversity among the population increases? In "Black Mosaic", Candis Watts Smith addresses the effects of this dynamic demographic change on Black identity and Black politics.

CANDIS WATTS SMITH is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Williams College. She received her Ph.D. at Duke University. Her research interests and areas of expertise are Racial and Ethnic Politics and American political behavior. Smith's work appears in journals like *Annual Review of Political Science*, *The Journal of Black Studies*, *Politics, Groups & Identities* as well as in edited book volumes.

March 3 | 3:30 pm
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(2nd floor UNC Student Bookstore)

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CHARLES COBB: THIS NONVIOLENT STUFF'LL GET YOU KILLED. HOW GUNS MADE THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT POSSIBLE

Giving voice to the World War II veterans, rural activists, volunteer security guards, and self-defense groups who took up arms to defend their lives and liberties, "This Nonviolent Stuff'll Get You Killed" lays bare the paradoxical relationship between the nonviolent civil rights struggle and the Second Amendment. Drawing on his firsthand experiences in the civil rights movement and interviews with fellow participants, Cobb provides a controversial examination of the crucial place of firearms in the fight for American freedom.

CHARLES E. COBB JR. is a former National Geographic magazine staff writer and a former field secretary for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, and has also served as a Visiting Professor in Brown University's Department of Africana Studies. A veteran journalist, he is an inductee of the National Association of Black Journalists Hall of Fame, and his reporting has won multiple awards. Cobb lives in Jacksonville, Florida and Providence, Rhode Island.

March 26 | 7:00 pm
Stone Center Hitchcock Multipurpose Room

Writer's Discussion Series and Diaspora Festival
of Black and Independent Film Screening

NICOLE FLEETWOOD: ON RACIAL ICONS: BLACKNESS AND THE PUBLIC IMAGINATION

"On Racial Icons" looks at visual culture and race in the United States, in particular the significance of photography to document black public life. It examines America's fascination with representing and seeing race in a myriad of contexts as emblematic of national and racial progress at best, or as a gauge of a collective racial wound. Investigating the concept of the icon in the context of photographic history, national and cultural histories, and racial relations, Nicole R. Fleetwood focuses a sustained lens on how racial icons circulate and acquire meaning within the broader public.

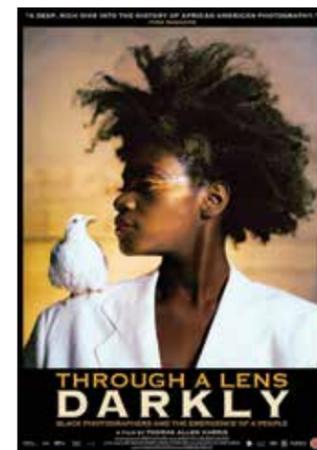


NICOLE R. FLEETWOOD is Associate Professor in the Department of American Studies and Director of the Institute for Research on Women at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. She researches and teaches in the

areas of visual culture and media studies, black cultural studies, ethnography, gender theory, and culture and technology studies.

THROUGH A LENS DARKLY

Dir: Thomas Allen Harris/Documentary/US/
English/92 minutes /2013



The first documentary to explore the role of photography in shaping the identity, aspirations and social emergence of African Americans from slavery to the present, "Through a Lens Darkly" probes the recesses of American history by discovering images that have been suppressed, forgotten and lost.

Bringing to light the hidden and unknown photos shot by both professional and vernacular African American photographers, the film opens a window into lives, experiences and perspectives of black families that is absent from the traditional historical canon. These images show a much more complex and nuanced view of American culture and society and its founding ideals. ■



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Check out the Stone Center on Facebook at [facebook.com/stonecenter](https://www.facebook.com/stonecenter) and follow us on Twitter @UNCStoneCenter

SCHOLAR OF PUERTO RICAN CULTURE, STONE CENTER SUPPORTER AND FRIEND, JUAN FLORES PASSES AWAY AT 71

The Stone Center lost a great supporter and friend with the death of Puerto-Rican Cultural Scholar, Juan Flores. Flores was a visiting scholar at the Center in 2003 and spoke about his book *From Bomba to Hip-Hop: Puerto Rican Culture and Latino Identity*. He was also a valuable consultant as the Stone Center revised its mission statement in 2002. The following is excerpted from Carmen Dolores Hernández tribute in *El Nuevo Día*.

His legacy is boundless. In a dozen or so books and a large number of articles and essays he explored the subject of identity in a changing world. Insularismo e ideología burguesa (1980); Divided Borders: Essays on Puerto Rican Identity (1993); La venganza de Cortijo (1997); From Bomba to Hip-Hop: Puerto Rican Culture and Latino Identity (2000) delved into different modalities of being Puerto Rican and Caribbean and how these were changed by migration. In The Diaspora Strikes Back. Caribeño Tales of Learning and Turning (2009), he reflected not only on migrants, but on the two poles of their trajectory: their places of origin and the societies to which they had relocated. He examined how new and complex identities forged in the Diaspora transformed both spaces due—in the case of the places of origin—to the migrants' frequent returns or through their symbolic returns through remittances or cultural exchanges.

His thought captured the ever-changing dynamics of relations between ethnic, racial and national groups, between the metropolis and the periphery, between imperial centers and colonies, between the places occupied by a nationality. Flores understood that it is impossible to essentialize—immobilized, any identity.

His very own personal identity was a changing one. Born in New York, son of Puerto Rican scholar Ángel Flores, editor of important anthologies of Latin American short stories, he answered to the name “John” during his youth. His mother, Kate Flores, of Hungarian-Russian ancestry, wrote Relativity and Consciousness, a comparison of the theories of Einstein and Darwin.

That field has broadened thanks to his contributions. His death deprives us of a great Puerto Rican intellectual, of a lucid and non-conformist mind, of an exceptional scholar of Caribbean diasporas.