

Kara Walker: My Complement, My Enemy, My Oppressor, My Love

March 2 - June 8, 2008

Exhibition Related Programs

Hammer Conversations

Kara Walker and Gary Garrels, Sunday, March 2, 4pm

Join Kara Walker as she discusses her work and the exhibition with chief curator Gary Garrels.

Danzy Senna & Gary Younge, Thursday, March 6, 7pm

Danzy Senna's debut novel, *Caucasia*, about bi-racial sisters growing up in 1970s Boston, was the winner of the BOMC Stephen Crane Award for First Fiction and of a *Los Angeles Times* Best Book of the Year. Her second novel *Symptomatic* continues to examine the complicated topics of race in America. In addition to fiction, Senna also writes essays on issues of race, identity, and gender.

Gary Younge, the Alfred Knobler Journalism Fellow at The Nation Institute, is the New York correspondent for *The Guardian* (UK) and the author of *No Place Like Home: A Black Briton's Journey Through the Deep South (Mississippi)* and *Stranger in a Strange Land: Travels in the Disunited States* (New Press). He is also a contributor to *The Nation*.

Bliss Broyard & Rebecca Walker, Thursday, May 29, 7pm

Bliss Broyard is the author of the collection of stories, *My Father, Dancing* which was a *New York Times* notable book of the year, and *One Drop: My Father's Hidden Life--A Story of Race & Family Secrets*. Her fiction and essays have been anthologized in *Best American Short Stories*, *The Pushcart Prize Anthology* and *The Art of the Essay*, and have appeared in *Grand Street*, *Ploughshares*, *"O" Magazine*, and *Cookie*. She is a frequent contributor to *Elle Magazine* and *The New York Times Book Review*.

Rebecca Walker is the author of *To Be Real: Telling the Truth and Changing the Face of Feminism*, and the bestselling memoir *Black, White, and Jewish: Autobiography of a Shifting Self*. Rebecca's latest memoir, *Baby Love: Choosing Motherhood After a Lifetime of Ambivalence* was published in 2007. Her essays, articles, and reviews have appeared in *The Washington Post*, *The Huffington Post*, *Spin*, *Salon*, *Vibe*, and several award-winning anthologies.

Exhibition Walk Through

Wednesday, March 12, 7pm

With Paul Von Blum, senior lecturer in African American Studies, Communication Studies, and Art History at UCLA. Paul Von Blum has taught at the University of California for 38 years and has received Distinguished Teaching Awards at UC Berkeley and UCLA. His most recent book is *RESISTANCE, DIGNITY, AND PRIDE: African American Artists in Los Angeles*, published by the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA.

Saturday, April 26, 2pm

Exhibition walkthrough with Artist Ken Gonzales-Day

Ken Gonzales-Day is Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Art at Scripps College. His book, *Lynching in the West: 1850-1935* was published by Duke University Press in 2006. Gonzales-Day has exhibited widely including solo exhibitions at Steve Turner Contemporary, Los Angeles; LA><ART, Los Angeles; Pomona College Museum of Art, Claremont; CUE Art Foundation, New York; and White Columns, New York. His work is also included in the upcoming exhibition *Phantom Sightings: Art After the Chicano Movement* at Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art. He was a fellow in the Whitney Museum of American Art's Independent Study Program and at the National Portrait Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution, where Gonzales-Day was a Senior Fellow in Latino Studies.

Hammer Lectures

Darby English, Wednesday, May 21, 7pm

Darby English is the author of *How to See a Work of Art in Total Darkness*, and co-editor of *Kara Walker: Narratives of a Negress*. He is associate professor of art history at the University of Chicago, where he teaches modern and contemporary American art and cultural studies. He is also affiliated faculty in the Department of Visual Arts, as well as at the Center for Gender Studies and Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture.

Hammer Discussions

Word is Bond: History, Storytelling, and the Work of Kara Walker

Wednesday, May 14, 7pm

Roderick A. Ferguson is associate professor of race and critical theory in the Department of American Studies at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. He is the author of *Aberrations in Black: Toward a Queer of Color Critique* (2004) and is currently working on a book tentatively titled *The Re-Order of Things: Birth of the Interdisciplines*.

Jenny Sharpe is Professor of English at UCLA and author of *Ghosts of Slavery: A Literary Archeology of Black Women's Lives* (2002), which moves between past and present, history and fiction in order to tell the everyday life stories of slave women.

Organized and moderated by Naima Keith, PhD candidate, Department of Art History, UCLA.

Bunche Center Circle of Thought

Kara Walker in Conversation with Steven Nelson

Wednesday, February 27, 12pm

Steven Nelson, Associate Professor of African and African American Art History and Vice-Chair of the UCLA Department of Art History, is the author of *From Cameroon to Paris: Mousgoum Architecture in and out of Africa*. He has written extensively on the contemporary and historic arts and its diasporas, African American art history, and queer studies.

Co-presented with the UCLA Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies. This event takes place at Haines Hall 135, for further information call 310-206-8267.

UCLA Extension Course

Racial Stereotypes and Artistic Resistance: The Work of Kara Walker

Saturdays, May 3 & 10, 10am – 1pm

Offered in conjunction with the exhibition, this two-day course taught by Paul Von Blum, presents an overview of Kara Walker's work followed by a visit to the exhibition. Von Blum is senior lecturer in African American Studies, Communication Studies, and Art History at UCLA.

To register for the course please call 310-206-1422 or visit www.uclaextension.edu. Hammer Members receive a special discount on registration.

Hammer Screenings

Films Selected by Kara Walker

Tuesdays, April 1 – 29, 7pm

***Body and Soul* (1925) Dir. Oscar Micheaux**

Paul Robeson makes his screen debut in this silent masterwork by black independent director Oscar Micheaux. Set in a small Southern town, the film was a direct condemnation of the power of the clergy, with Robeson playing dual roles as a mild-mannered inventor and a crooked ex-convict who impersonates the town's preacher. The smooth-talking righteousness of phony Reverend Isaiah Jenkins allows him to pursue his true intentions of murder, rape, and intoxication as he uses his power to seduce a young member of the congregation, played by Mercedes Gilbert.

Running time: 102 minutes; 35mm.

***I Walked With a Zombie* (1943) Dir. Jacques Tourneur**

Legendary horror producer Val Lewton teams with director Jacques Tourneur (*Cat People*) to retell Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*. Recounted in a seamless, unsettling flashback, a Canadian nurse (Frances Dee) is hired to take care of the lifeless wife of a plantation owner on the island of San Sebastian in the West Indies. Resorting to Voodoo in order to find a cure, she soon realizes a terrifying truth about her situation.

Running time: 69 minutes, 35mm

***Tamango* (1958) Dir. John Berry**

Banned for its inter-racial romance, and helmed by black-listed director, John Berry, *Tamango* follows the voyage of a Dutch slave captain (Curd Jürgens), who faces a revolt sparked by a captured African slave (Alex Cressan). The rebellion reaches a showdown when the captain's mistress (a devastating Dorothy Dandridge) is taken prisoner.

Running time: 98 minutes, VHS

***Black Orpheus* (1959) Dir. Marcel Camus**

Winner of the *Palme d'Or* at the 1959 Cannes Film Festival as well as the 1960 Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, this ancient love story is based on the musical *Orfeu da Conceição*, by Vinícius de Moraes. With a celebrated bossa-nova soundtrack by Antonio Carlos Jobim and Luis Bonfá, the film re-imagines the Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice in the slums of Rio de Janeiro during Carnivale.

Running time: 100 minutes, 35mm.

***Beloved* (1998) Dir. Jonathan Demme**

This adaptation of Toni Morrison's novel, depicts the harrowing and lasting psychological impacts of slavery in the form of a ghost story. Set years after emancipation, Oprah Winfrey portrays Sethe, a former slave now living a peaceful life in rural Ohio. The horrors of her past are seen through chilling flashbacks, casting light on the tragic events that led to the haunting of her idyllic home.

Running time: 172 minutes, 35mm.