

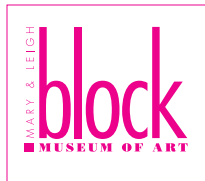
FALL 2014 EXHIBITIONS



WANGECHI MUTU:
A FANTASTIC JOURNEY

ECOLOGICAL LOOKING:
SUSTAINABILITY & THE END(S) OF THE EARTH

Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art
Northwestern University
www.blockmuseum.northwestern.edu



40 Arts Circle Drive
Evanston, IL 60208

block-museum@northwestern.edu
www.blockmuseum.northwestern.edu
(847) 491-4000

Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art Northwestern University Fall 2014

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE BLOCK

All events are free and open to the public except as noted.

Opening Day Celebration

Saturday, September 27, 2-5pm
Artist talk at 2:30pm at Louis Theater
Wangechi Mutu will provide an overview of her work and participate in a conversation with Huey Copeland, associate professor of art history, Northwestern University.

Curators in Conversation:

Notes towards documenta in Kassel in 2017
Saturday, October 11, 2pm
McCormick Auditorium, Norris University Center
Polish-born art critic, curator, and newly appointed artistic director of documenta 14 Adam Szymczyk will discuss the conceptual framework of the next documenta exhibition for the first time in the US. He will be joined in conversation by Carolyn Christov-Bakargiev, Northwestern visiting professor and former artistic director of documenta in 2012.

Art Theory & Practice Visiting Artist Talk and Screening: **John Smith in Person**

Wednesday, October 15, 7pm
Join Northwestern's department of art theory & practice and Block Cinema for a film screening and discussion with London-based, experimental filmmaker John Smith.

Screening: **Space Is the Place**

(John Coney, 1974, US, 35mm, 85 min.)
Thursday, October 16, 7pm
This Afrofuturistic extravaganza directed by John Coney stars the incredible Sun Ra who travels through space and time to save the black race while being pursued by the FBI.

Curator's Talk: **On Ecological Looking**

Wednesday, October 22, 5pm
Join Jacob Leveton, art history PhD student and curator of *Ecological Looking: Sustainability & the End(s) of the Earth*, for an in-gallery conversation that will bring together art historical, scientific, and activist perspectives.

Chicago Humanities Festival's Evanston Day

Saturday, October 25
Tickets \$9/\$12/\$5
(Member/General/Students and Teachers)
The Block will host three discussions. Visit chicagohumanities.org/events to purchase tickets.
Liminal Camera, 12:30-1:30pm
The Bride of Christ Goes to Hell, 2:30-3:30pm
Riva Lehrer: A Self-Portrait in Formaldehyde, 4:30-5:30pm

Screening: **Fantastic Planet**

(René Laloux, 1973, France/Czechoslovakia, 35mm, 72 min.)
Thursday, October 30, 7pm
René Laloux's animated cult classic *Fantastic Planet*—which inspired Wangechi Mutu's *The End of eating Everything*—shows a terrifying future in which human-like beings are kept as pets or exterminated by giant blue creatures. *Please note: Due to its violent and sexual content this film may be unsuitable for younger audiences.*

Panel Discussion: **Voyaging the Fantastic: Afrosurrealism and Afrofuturism in Wangechi Mutu and Contemporary Black Art**

Saturday, November 1, 2pm
Moderated by Northwestern African American studies faculty member Alexander Weheliye, this roundtable will bring together preeminent Chicago-based artists including D. Denenge Akpem and Krista Franklin for a conversation that takes Mutu's work as a springboard for consideration of the place of Afrosurrealism and Afrofuturism in contemporary black art.

Department of Art History's Elizabeth and Todd Warnock Lecture Series: **The Ise Shrines and the Metabolism of Japanese Architecture**

Wednesday, November 5, 5pm
Japan's Ise Shrines have been entirely rebuilt almost every 20 years since the late 7th century. Yukio Lippit, professor of the history of art and architecture at Harvard University, will consider the

various ways in which their "renewal" has been understood throughout history.

Panel Discussion: **Deploying and Shattering Stereotypes**

Wednesday, November 12, 6:30pm
Joy Bivins, curator, Chicago History Museum and organizer of the recent exhibition, *Inspiring Beauty: 50 Years of Ebony Fashion Fair*; Maud Lavin, faculty member and cultural historian, School of the Art Institute of Chicago; and Kathleen Bickford Berzock, the Block's associate director of curatorial affairs and an expert on African art, will explore Wangechi

Mutu's work as a starting point for considering and challenging stereotypes around women and the body, blackness, and what it is to be African.

Interdisciplinary Gallery Talk

Wednesday, November 19, 5:30pm
Join Melika Bass, faculty member, radio/television/film; Antawan I. Byrd, Northwestern PhD candidate in art history; and Sakhile Mathare, Northwestern PhD candidate in sociology, as they bring their diverse perspectives to an in-gallery conversation about the exhibition *Wangechi Mutu: A Fantastic Journey*.

BLOCK CINEMA

This fall Block Cinema will pay homage to the Cinémathèque Française film archive and its cofounder, Henri Langlois, through an eclectic selection of classic and silent films. Block Cinema will also present films that inspired Block Museum featured artist, Wangechi Mutu.

For a complete list of programs, visit www.blockmuseum.northwestern.edu/view/cinema



EXHIBITIONS

9/19 – 12/07/2014
MAIN GALLERY AND ALSDORF GALLERY

9/19 – 11/30/2014
KATZ GALLERY

WANGECHI MUTU: A FANTASTIC JOURNEY

Spanning the mid-1990s to the present, this first survey of the art of Wangechi Mutu unites more than 50 works, from the artist's most iconic collages to rarely seen early works and a recently commissioned video installation, *The End of eating Everything* (on view in the Alsdorf Gallery through November 30). Born in Nairobi, Kenya, and living in New York since the 1990s, Wangechi Mutu is best known for depicting female figures in lush, otherworldly landscapes. Her work explores the relationships between issues of gender, race, war, globalization, colonialism, and the black female body.

Organized by the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University by Trevor Schoonmaker, chief curator and Patsy R. and Raymond D. Nasher Curator of Contemporary Art. Made possible by the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. Major support is provided by Marilyn M. Arthur, the Ford Foundation, the Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, Katherine Thorpe Kerr, and Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects. Additional generous support is provided by Duke University's Council for the Arts; Gladstone Gallery, New York; Victoria Miro Gallery, London; and the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources. Support for the presentation at the Block Museum has been provided by the Diane and Craig Solomon Contemporary Art Fund and an anonymous donor. Additional generous support has been provided by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.

Image: Wangechi Mutu, *Riding Death in My Sleep*, 2002, ink and collage on paper. Collection of Peter Norton, New York. © Wangechi Mutu.

ECOLOGICAL LOOKING: SUSTAINABILITY & THE END(S) OF THE EARTH

This exhibition, curated by Northwestern art history PhD student Jacob Leveton, considers representations of industry—mining, agriculture, oil extraction, and refining—through an ecological lens. Combining prints and photographs from the Block's permanent collection and examples from Northwestern's Herskovits Library of African Studies, and framed by thought-provoking quotations from critical thinkers and writers, the exhibition considers the impact industrial practices have had on the planet.

Support for exhibitions in the Katz Gallery is provided by Ellen Philips Katz and Howard C. Katz, the Norton S. Walbridge Fund, and contributors to the Annual Fund.

Image: David Em, *Transjovian Pipeline*, 1979, dye destruction print (Cibachrome) of computer monitor display. Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University, Gift of David and Michele Em, 2008.8. Courtesy of the artist.

EXHIBITION TOURS

Saturdays and Sundays at 1pm, October 4 – December 7
Groups may request tours by contacting blockeducation@northwestern.edu.