



FEBRUARY 11, 2021 @ 10:00 AM * FREE via ZOOM

donations to Fine Arts Society of Peoria accepted at
PO Box 10002, Peoria, IL 61612

“Mercy, Mercy Me”: How African American Artists Addressed the Environment
Lecture by Juarez Hawkins: Artist, Educator, Curator, Professor of Art History

From earthworks to recycled art, an increasing number of African American artists have turned their creative energies to exploring the earth, its resources, and issues of sustainability and social justice. Artist Juarez Hawkins will explore the myriad ways several artists addressed the environment in their work, including Martin Puryear (born 1941, Washington, DC), Chakaia Booker (born 1953, Newark, NJ), and Candace Hunter (born circa 1955, Chicago, IL).



Puryear has trained both in handcraft and fine art in the United States and abroad. His mastery of material and mixing of minimalism and traditional craft has established him as a leading voice, exploring both public and private narratives of objects, experiences, and identity. His *Bodark Arc* installation outside Chicago addresses issues of Native American life and African identity.

Booker is an internationally renowned and widely collected sculptor known for creating monumental, abstract works from recycled tires and stainless steel for both the gallery and outdoor public spaces. Tires resonate with her for their versatility and rich range of historical and cultural associations. Booker slices, twists, weaves, and rivets this medium into radically new forms and textures, which easily withstand outdoor environments.



Hunter studied the plastic arts and performance arts at Barat and Mundelein Colleges in the Chicago area. Her *Dust in Their Veins* series is comprised of mixed media art works that bring discussion and action to the plight of women and children who are adversely affected by the lack of rights to clean water, due to either the global water crisis or living in conflict areas of the world.

Hawkins holds a BA from Northwestern University and MA in Interdisciplinary Arts from Columbia College Chicago. She has exhibited widely throughout Chicago, taught at several Chicago-area schools, and organized exhibitions at a variety of galleries. She currently teaches art history at Chicago State University. Hawkins is a member of Sapphire and Crystals, a collective of African American female artists in Chicago.

Register in advance to receive the Zoom link for the lecture:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZltcu-hqjMjGdRvQ-P20QGo7-gh9s9e_oil

For more information and the full 2020-2021 schedule plus a membership form, please visit www.FineArtsSociety.net or contact FAS_President@comcast.net.

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