

# PERMUTATIONS CONCEPTS<sup>1</sup>



THE SILBER ART GALLERY

Sanford J. Ungar Athenaeum | Goucher College



# PERMUTATIONS

## CONCEPTS<sup>1</sup>

### WORKS BY:

NINA CHANEL ABNEY

LAYLAH ALI

JARVIS BOYLAND

ZOE CHARLTON

NOAH DAVIS

JOHN EDMONDS

DEREK FORDJOUR

JERRELL GIBBS

TITUS KAPHAR

DELITA MARTIN

NAUDLINE PIERRE

TAJH RUST

D'ANGELO LOVELL WILLIAMS

Silber Gallery is pleased to present *A Periodic Table*, an exhibition that pairs the work of Conor Backman and Taylor Baldwin. A painter and a sculptor, respectively, Backman and Baldwin both use their work to explore questions of value, tropes, and traditional methods within their medium and, ultimately, the academic role of the artist. At once representational and conceptual, neither artist's work is exactly as it seems. The whole is both a singular form and a display of its components that, in turn, supply a deeper narrative.

*A Periodic Table* asks its audience to be participatory, rather than passive, in the viewing experience. The work is generous in its offerings but encourages careful observation and discovery. Together, Backman and Baldwin's works demonstrate both impeccable artisanship and a dedication to their art practice as a platform for research and inquiry.

— Alex Ebstein  
director of exhibitions & curator

# DARRYL ATWELL, M.D.

## HOW HE GOT STARTED

Atwell's interest in art developed while he was living in Cleveland. With little to do socially, he started going to the museum because it had jazz on Saturday nights. As he walked through the galleries, the beauty of the art struck him. He purchased his first works from Malcolm Brown Gallery, a (now-defunct) black-owned gallery, and began studying the history of African American art by reading books such as *Collecting African American Art: Works on Paper and Canvas*, by Halima Taha.

He initially favored 20th-century artists, acquiring Robert Blackburn, Elizabeth Catlett, Charles Alston (his first "serious" purchase), and Norman Lewis. As much as he admires the masters, buying their work proved cost-prohibitive. When he moved to the Washington, DC, area, he transitioned to collecting contemporary works. A Howard University alumnus, he also made supporting locally grown artists, such as Ellington Robinson and Zoe Charlton, a priority.

## WHO HE COLLECTS

Works by contemporary artists, including Leonardo Drew, Titus Kaphar, Kevin Beaseley, Jordan Casteel, Torkwase Dyson, Samuel Levi Jones, Wardell Milan, and Toni Lewis, are in his collection. He is particularly proud to have acquired works by critically celebrated artists before many of them received national recognition and appeared on the cover of mainstream art magazines: Xaviera Simmons (*Art Pulse*, Spring 2012), Wangechi Mutu (*Art in America*, June 2007), Rashid Johnson (*Modern Painters*, April 2012), Radcliffe Bailey (*Sculpture*, June 2012) and Theaster Gates (*Art in America*, December 2011).



**TITUS KAPHAR**

*Push*

2011

oil on canvas

45 x 70"





**JARVIS BOYLAND**

*Holding Still*

2017

oil on canvas

60 x 70"



**NAUDLINE PIERRE**

*Tread Lightly*

2017

oil on canvas

48 x 38"



**D'ANGELO WILLIAMS**

*Until We Separate (Mom)*

2019

pigment print

50 x 40"



**JOHN EDMONDS**

*Untitled*

2016

archival print

50 x 30"



**JOHN EDMONDS**

*Untitled - Hood 9*

2017

archival print, 1/3

50 x 33"



**TAJH RUST**

*Deleeja*

2016

oil and acrylic on canvas

47.5 x 71"





**JERRELL GIBBS**

*Different Cloth*

2019

oil on canvas

48 x 60"



**NINA CHANEL ABNEY**

*Untitled (Black and Silver)*

2011

acrylic on canvas

48 x 36"





**ZOE CHARLTON**

*Undercover - Yellow*

2014

graphic and acrylic on canvas

60 x 40"



**NOAH DAVIS**

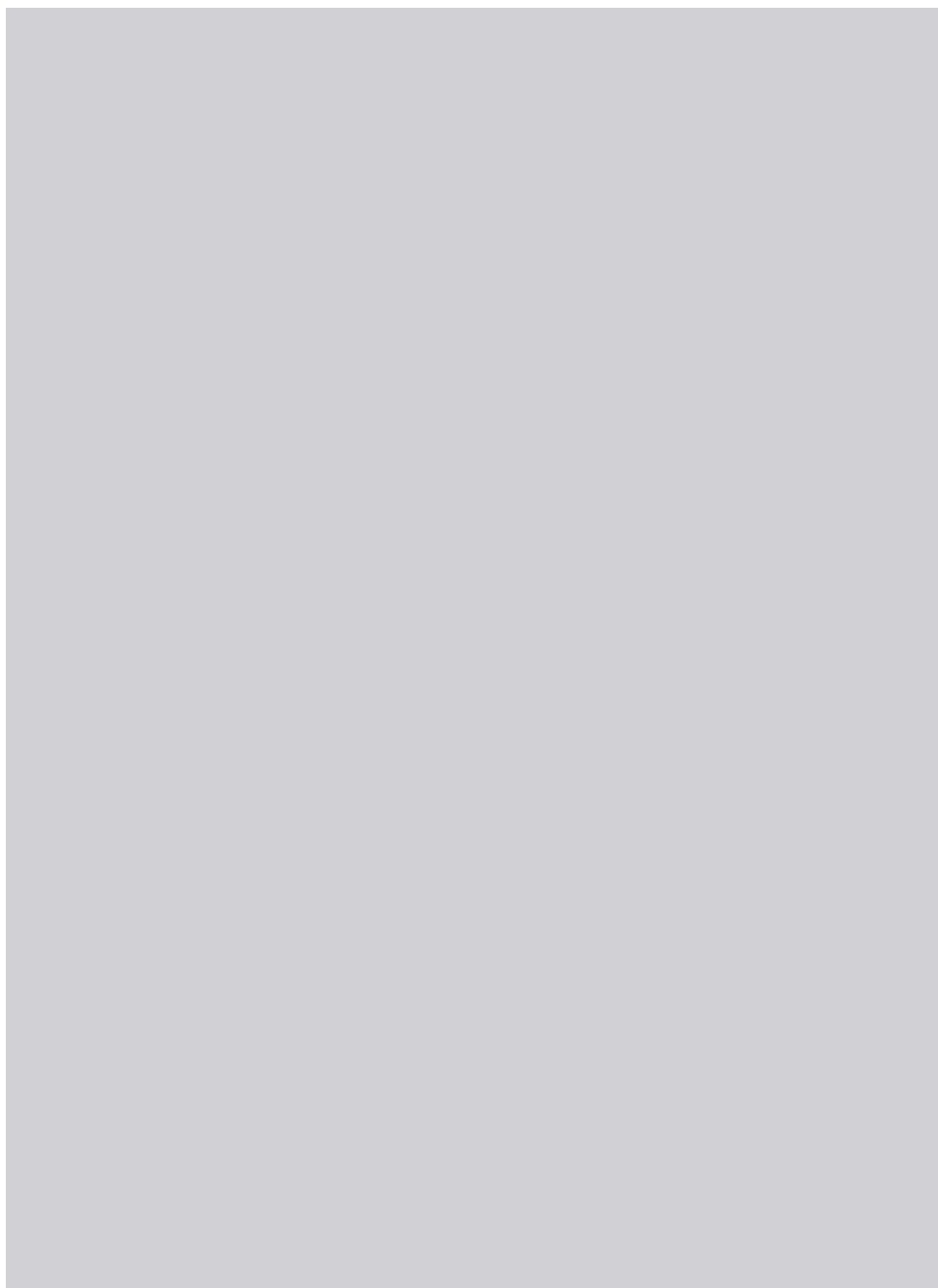
*Naked in the Park*

2011

oil on canvas

60 x 74"





# LISA GREGORY, ESQ.

## HOW SHE GOT STARTED

Lisa's interest in art was developed by her mother, who collected while she was growing up. Her mother taught at Howard and regularly attended the Colloquium at its infancy. After living abroad, Lisa moved back to DC and settled in an apartment that art could spruce up. Her thought process shifted after hearing a story. A professor at Howard University's Business School had sold a portion of his collection to pay for his children to attend college.

## WHO SHE COLLECTS

Lisa collects art that has a spiritual quality to it that moves her. Much of her collection includes artists from the diaspora and women.



**DEREK FORDJOUR**

*No. 61*

2017

oil pastel, charcoal,  
acrylic, cardboard, and  
carved newspaper  
mounted on canvas

24 x 30"



**DELITA MARTIN**

*Quilted Angel*

2015

gelatin printing,  
hand-stitched fabric,  
and conte

53 x 41"





**LAYLAH ALI**

*Untitled*

2005

archival print

14 x 11"





**TOM MILLER**

*Summer in Baltimore*

1994

From the collection of Jean Silber, on  
long-term loan to Goucher College

color lithograph, 33/195

21 x 29"

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DEREK FORDJOUR • JERRELL GIBBS • TITUS KAPHAR  
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D'ANGELO LOVELL WILLIAMS

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## OCTOBER 15 – DECEMBER 14

ARTISTS' RECEPTION: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 6-9 P.M.

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## THE SILBER GALLERY

Sanford J. Ungar Athenaeum

### DIRECTIONS

Baltimore Beltway, I-695,  
to exit 27A. Make first left  
onto campus.

### GALLERY HOURS

11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Tuesday – Sunday  
410-337-6477

The exhibit is free and open to the public.

The Silber Gallery program is funded with the assistance of grants from the Maryland State Arts Council, an agency funded by the state of Maryland and the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Baltimore County Commission on the Arts and Sciences.

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