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**FAITH RINGGOLD STORY QUILT HEADLINES APRIL  
AFRICAN-AMERICAN FINE ART AUCTION AT SWANN**

New York— On **Thursday, April 7**, Swann Galleries will hold an auction of **African-American Fine Art**, featuring works by modern and contemporary artists.

The sale is headlined by Faith Ringgold's 1988 story quilt, *Double Dutch on the Golden Gate Bridge*, the second quilt in her important 1988 *Woman on a Bridge* series. The series depicts women floating above the famous bridges of San Francisco and New York and includes Ringgold's most famous story quilt, *Tar Beach*. This is only the second of Ringgold's signature story quilts to come to auction: the first, *Maya's Quilt of Life*, sold at Swann in September 2015 as part of *The Art Collection of Maya Angelou*, realizing \$461,000, a record for Ringgold's work at auction. *Double Dutch on the Golden Gate Bridge*, which has been shown extensively in museum exhibitions, is estimated at \$150,000 to \$250,000.

Modern highlights begin with Allan Freelon's beautiful *Baiting Trawls*, oil on canvas, circa 1930-35 (\$30,000 to \$40,000). This scene of Gloucester is the largest painting by the artist to appear at Swann. Hughie Lee-Smith's 1938 oil on canvas, *Portrait of a Boy*, is a very rare example from his WPA era in Cleveland, and one of the earliest portraits by Lee-Smith to come to auction (\$30,000 to \$40,000). Elizabeth Catlett's *My right is a future of equality with other Americans*, linoleum cut, 1947, is a scarce early color proof from her important series *I am the Negro Woman* (\$7,000 to \$10,000).

Also featured in the sale is a strong group of works by Norman Lewis from the 1940s and 50s. Included are two striking modernist oil paintings – *Untitled (Figurative Abstraction)*, 1945 (\$75,000 to \$100,000), and *Untitled*, 1947 (\$60,000 to \$90,000, and the cover lot for the sale) – which show the range of his experimentation in his first years of abstraction. Lewis's *Untitled (Processional Figure Composition)*, oil, pen and ink on cream wove paper, 1956, is a complex example of his "little figures" in the largest format the artist used for works on paper.

A figurative, postwar work that is sure to be of great interest is one of Palmer Hayden's best-known paintings, *The Blue Nile*, 1964, depicting a reclining African mother and child sleeping beside the river (\$35,000 to \$50,000).

**MORE**

Contemporary abstraction is well represented with excellent works by Frank Bowling, Sam Gilliam, Jack Whitten William T. Williams and Kenneth Victor Young. A highlight is Sam Gilliam's colorful *Rondo IX*, acrylic and collage on cotton canvas, 1983 (\$50,000 to \$75,000). Exhibited in *Modern Painters at the Corcoran: Sam Gilliam*, it is the first example from his *Rondo* series to come to auction. Frank Bowling's *Irv Sandler's Visit*, acrylic on canvas, 1977, is the first canvas from the artist's "poured paintings" series to come to auction (\$35,000 to \$50,000).

Important works by contemporary artists Carrie Mae Weems and Wadsworth Jarrell round out the auction. Weems' iconic *Blue Black Boy*, triptych of three toned gelatin silver prints, with Prestype and frame, 1987-88, from her celebrated *Colored People* series, is one of her best known images (\$40,000 to \$60,000). Jarrell's *The Messengers*, acrylic on canvas, 1979, is his largest work on canvas and the first from his important 1970's period to come to auction (\$30,000 to \$40,000).

The auction will be held Thursday, April 7, beginning at 2:30 p.m. The auction preview will be open to the public Saturday, April 2 from noon to 5 p.m.; Monday, April 4 through Wednesday, April 6 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m; and Thursday, April 7 from 10 a.m. to noon.

An illustrated auction catalogue is available for \$35 from Swann Galleries, Inc., 104 East 25th Street, New York, NY 10010, or online at [www.swannalleries.com](http://www.swannalleries.com).

For further information or to make advance arrangements to bid by telephone during the auction, please contact Director of African-American Fine Art Nigel Freeman at 212-254-4710, extension 33 or via e-mail: [nfreeman@swannalleries.com](mailto:nfreeman@swannalleries.com).

Contact Alexandra Nelson, Communications Director, with press inquiries via [alexandra@swannalleries.com](mailto:alexandra@swannalleries.com) or (212) 254-4710, ext. 19.

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