

re: Miki Baird, 2012 candidate: **Women To Watch 2012**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Kansas City Jewish Museum of Contemporary Art (KCJMCA) is pleased to present the Museum Without Walls exhibition, *Women to Watch UMKC 2012: Focus on Fiber & Textiles* in the Dean's Gallery of the Miller Nichols Library on the Campus of UMKC September 17 – November 16, 2012.

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Kansas City, MO / Overland Park, KS — The Kansas City Jewish Museum of Contemporary Art is pleased to partner with the Women's Center and Miller Nichols Library of the University of Missouri – Kansas City to present *Women to Watch UMKC 2012: Focus on Fiber & Textiles* in the Dean's Gallery, featuring works of art by 22 of the original 24 candidates from KCJMCA's 2012 competition and exhibition *Women to Watch 2012: Focus on Fiber & Textiles*.

Women to Watch UMKC 2012: Focus on Fiber & Textiles is currently on view in the Dean's Gallery, located on the second floor of the Miller Nichols Library on the UMKC campus, where a public **Exhibition Reception** will be held on **Thursday, October 11, 2012 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.** This exhibition will remain on view **through Friday, November 16, 2012.**

Women to Watch UMKC 2012: Focus on Fiber & Textiles

Continuing its relationship with the Greater Kansas City Area Committee of the National Museum of Women in the Arts, KCJMCA is pleased to partner with UMKC's Women's Center of UMKC and Miller Nichols Library to invite all the candidates from the 2012 biennial competition of the National Museum of Women in the Arts to participate in *Women to Watch UMKC 2012: Focus on Fiber & Textiles*. This group exhibition features works of art from 22 of the 24 candidates and finalists of the 2012 competition that represented a partnership between KCJMCA, the Greater Kansas City Area Committee of NMWA, Kemper Museum of

Contemporary Art, and the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.

Arzie Umali, Artist, Assistant Director, Women's Center, University of Missouri-Kansas City and one of KCJMCA's 2012 NMWA Nomination/Selection Committee members has invited each candidate from the 2012 competition to participate in an exhibition in which she has curated both new and existing works of art from 22 of the original 24 candidates and finalists for this exhibition in the Dean's Gallery of the Miller Nichols Library. *Women to Watch UMKC 2012* is hosted concurrent with the National Museum of Women in the Art's international exhibition *High Fiber: Women to Watch 2012*, held in Washington, D.C. November 2, 2012-January 6, 2013.

Related Quote

"We are delighted to partner with the Women's Center to bring this Museum Without Walls exhibition program to the campus of UMKC," says Marcus Cain, Executive Director/Curator of KCJMCA. "This opportunity represents exactly the kind of momentum we were hoping to generate for the NMWA's biennial competition. By inviting Arzie to serve on our original Nomination/Selection panel, it gave her an opportunity to invite us to partner and bring an expanded version of this program to a larger audience. Through her curation of as many candidates from the original competition as we could reach, she has produced an exhibition that amplifies the intent of this program, to identify and celebrate our community's many great women artists."

The National Museum of Women in the Arts

Founded in Washington, D.C. in 1981 by Wilhelmina Cole Holladay and her husband Wallace Holladay, the National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA) mission is to redefine traditional histories of art, and it is the only museum dedicated to celebrating the diverse artistic achievements of women. NMWA's biennial *Women To Watch* program is an exhibition series that features emerging and underrepresented artists from states and countries in which the museum has outreach committees, and each biennial competition highlights a different media. Curators from these respective regions are invited to jury a selection of five representative artists to serve as finalists from whom NMWA curators select one artist to participate in representing that region within a national group exhibition in Washington D.C.

Candidates:

Miki Baird, Debbie Barrett-Jones, Jennifer Boe, Nedra Bonds, Sandy Cahill, Kim Eichler-Messmer,

Linda Filby-Fisher, Jennie Frederick, Mindy Goodman, Erika Lynn Hanson, Tanya Hartman, Hadley Johnson, Janet Kuemmerlein, Ke-Sook Lee, Anne Lindberg, Eugenia Ortiz, Rachel Rolon, Gerry Trilling, Susan White

Jurors:

- Marcus Cain, Artist; Director/Curator Kansas City Jewish Museum of Contemporary Art
- Rachel Blackburn Cozad, former Director/CEO Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art; Independent Art Appraiser; Juror, 2010 Women to Watch: Painting

Nomination/Selection Committee:

- Kate Hackman, Co-Director Charlotte Street Foundation/Urban Culture Project; Curator; Writer
- Anne Pearce, Artist; Director of the Greenlease Gallery, Rockhurst University; Art Instructor, Rockhurst University; Finalist, 2010 Women to Watch: Painting
- Jason Pollen, Artist; Professor and former Chair of Fiber Department, Kansas City Art Institute
- Raechell Smith, Director/Curator of the H&R Block Artspace of the Kansas City Art Institute
- Arzie Umali, Artist; Curator; Assistant Director, Women's Center, University of Missouri-Kansas City

Established in 1991, the purpose of Kansas City Jewish Museum of Contemporary Art (KCJMCA) is to provide innovative art exhibitions and related programming that engage seniors and diverse audiences from all segments of our community to enrich lives and celebrate our common humanity through art. KCJMCA realizes this goal through its celebrated Epsten Gallery venue at Village Shalom, Museum Without Walls exhibition partnerships, and ARTicipation community arts activity programs.

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