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JUNETEENTH EXHIBITIONS AT COLLECTED DETROIT

BAM: My Art Is My Voice and Sisters of the Cloth

DETROIT, MI, June 2, 2021 – The Collected Detroit exhibitions at 2439 4th St., *BAM: My Art is My Voice, and Sisters of the Cloth* opening June 19th, give visual form to Collected Detroit's roots within the art community in honor of the 156th anniversary of the Juneteenth Freedom Day celebrations.

June 19th, Juneteenth, began as a commemoration of African-American emancipation in the state of Texas, the last Confederate state for it to be ended in 1865. Since then it has grown into an annual celebration of black culture, black history, black contributions, and the continuing struggle for civil rights and a national dialogue on our nation's history.

BAM: My Art is My Voice, in the main gallery, is a tribute to both Civil Rights, the Black Arts Movement and how Black Art Matters. Five local artists are featured: Judy Bowman, Laura Gibson, Henry Heading, Onzie D. Norman and Darin Darby. The art explodes with vibrant colors and thought-provoking messages that pay homage to the struggle of African-Americans and African-American art.

Darin Darby, curator, was inspired to create a show that portrayed significant events during his lifetime and during the Covid-19 quarantine. The Black Arts Movement (1965-1975) was primarily for writers and poets, but Black art includes more and is the voice of many life stories.

Najma Ma'at-Wilson and Mandisa Smith present *Sisters of the Cloth* as fiber artists. The ubiquitous uses of cloth throughout history communicate forms of comfort, cultural significance and serve as a record of the past.

Collected Detroit is a fine arts gallery committed to the belief that the Detroit area is an enormous well of world-class art. It carries Detroit's established and emerging artists along with internationally renowned artists. Collected Detroit supports the city's creativity and talent and works towards spotlighting Detroit as a destination and resource for curious, emergent, and inspired artists and collectors.

Exhibitions open Juneteenth, June 19, 2021, and close July 19, 2021. An evening reception is scheduled for June 19th.

For more details: collecteddetroit.com

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