

# **William Edward Johnson**

**Born: Charlottesville, Virginia**

## **Art statement:**

My work reflects the experiences of African –American. As an artist, I am driven by needs that are both aesthetic and social. I am in search of cultural identity, self-discovery and understanding. It is very important that my work becomes a vital community resource. I want to establish a direct relationship with people of all socioeconomic and educational levels. I want my work to reflect a continuum of aesthetic principles derived from Africa and America. My challenge, as an artist is to find ways to use both the spiritual and materials powers of art is such a way that my expressions become a vehicle for the understanding of people.

## **Education:**

BFA, Virginia Commonwealth University, 1982

Graduate studies, Virginia Commonwealth University, 2000 – 2005

Partner in the Arts, University of Richmond, 2009-2012

## **Professional Experiences:**

Adjunct Faculty, Virginia State University, 2005 - present

Art Instructor, Richmond Public Schools, 1993 – present

Adjunct Faculty, Educational Outreach Program, Virginia Museum of Fine Art, 1985-1993

Art in Residence, Virginia Commission for the Arts, 1985-1995

## **Solo Exhibitions:**

“Recent Works”, MCV-VCU Medical Center, 2010

“Works by William E. Johnson”, University of Virginia Medical Center, 1999

“Lifestyle: Past, Present and Future”, The Last Stop Gallery, 1987

J. Sergeant Reynolds, 1987

"Sensual Forms", The Amber gallery, 1985

Richmond City Library, 1983

Virginia Union University, 1983

**Group Exhibitions:**

National Art Show, VCU Medical Center, Richmond, VA, 2015

Congruent Images, Elegba Folklore Society, Richmond VA, 2015

BAAR, MCV-VCU Medical Center, 2015

VSU Faculty Exhibition, Capitol One, Chester, VA 2015

First Baptist Church, Richmond VA 2015

BAAR, MCV-VCU Medical Center, 2014

African-American Art: Inspirations from Past, Present & Future, Capital One, West Creek campus, 2014

VSU Faculty Exhibition, Capital One, Chester, VA, 2014

First Baptist church, Richmond, VA, 2012- 2014

BAAR, MCV-VCU Medical Center, 2013

Imani Intergenerational Community, 2013

Virginia State University's Faculty Show, 2013

"Branch/Johnson", Corporate and museum Frame, 2011

"African American art images of the past, present and future", Virginia State University, 2007

"Visualizing African American Culture", Capital One Corporate Headquarter, 2006

African American Artist, Pine Camp Art center, 2005

Black Artists of Virginia, Capital one Corporate headquarter, 2005

"Noteworthy Images" Corporate & Museum Frame, 2004

"Repeating Points", Elegba Folklore Society, 2003

"Expanded Visions for Virginia Black Artists", Daura Gallery, Dillard Fine Arts center, Lynchburg college, 1997

"15 PRINTMAKERS", Main Art Gallery, 1996

"30 Years of Printmaking at RPI-VCU, Artspace, 1996

"The First Biennial Exhibition", The Hand workshop Art Center, 1996

"Common Spirits", Jewish Community Center", 1994

"Portfolio Works", The Daura Gallery, Dillard Fine Arts Center, Lynchburg College, 1993

"The Golden Age of Black Art", NCA, Howard University, Washington, D.C., 1991

National Conference of Artists, Gilman Room, Richmond Public Library, 1986

"Contemporary African American Artists", Bayly Museum, University of Virginia, 1984

"The Tredegar Ironwork Exhibition", Richmond, Virginia, 1983

**Public Collections:**

Daura gallery, Lynchburg College

University of Virginia medical Center

MCV-VCU Medical College of Virginia

CSX Corporation

Consolidated Bank & Trust

Richmond Community Hospital

Federal Reserve Bank

Nathan's clothing store

C&P Telephone Company

Arts and Humanities Center, Richmond Public Schools

**Private Collections:**

Joseph Kastner, Esquire

Pamela Boston, Esquire

Anthony Robinson, Esquire

Phyllis Wingate

Donna Bailey

Carolyn Adams

Dr. Thomas Wright

King David, PH D

Carol Woodward

Andrea Wiley

Lavon Booker

Yvonne Burgess

Charles Baughman

Ginny Campbell

Mary Lee Jones

Janine Bell

Wanda C. Thompson

Sophia N. Johnson

Philip Branch

Helen and Oho Konrad

Kathy Reid

**Commissions:**

"Malcolm X", mural Painting, Black Jazz Theater

Lucy Brooks, watercolor painting, Friend association for children

"Rhythms" Acrylic painting, Richmond city

Christmas Murals, Richmond City

Mural: Richmond, MCV\_VCU Medical Center

**Articles/reviews:**

"VSU Art & Design: William "Blue" Johnson", Virginia State University, NBC 12, 2013

"Daura opens second Show", The Critograph, Lynchburg College, Thursday, November, 1993

RCM Reaches Out: Common tradition, On the Move, The Richmond's children Museum, May/June

"Art Eye: teaching Kid Where They Fit In", Richmond Times -dispatch, March 6, 1991

Barbara green, "Blue Johnson's Art remains True to His Roots", Richmond New Leader, August 27, 1985

Ruth Latter, "Popularity of Black Artist Increasing Due to more outstanding works of art", The Daily Progress, Charlottesville, Virginia, February 19, 1984