

**Minneapolis Institute of Art**

# **Black American Arts and Artists**

**(in-person tours)**

# **Mia**

“Using various media, artists have documented and celebrated the African American experience. Discover and explore their important contributions, from self-taught artist William Edmondson to contemporary artist Nick Cave.”

Choose a theme to connect the artworks.

The teacher may also provide focus.

Note: From the [Burns Halperin Report 2022](#): “Black American [is] an individual of African or Afro-Caribbean descent, who was born in, raised in, or currently resides in the United States.”

“Black American” is generally seen today as a more inclusive term. Aziz Osman, for example, who emigrated here from Somalia, now resides in Minnesota. His work could be included on this tour.

However, many Black artists identify as African-American. If you know of an artist’s identity, use that preferred term.



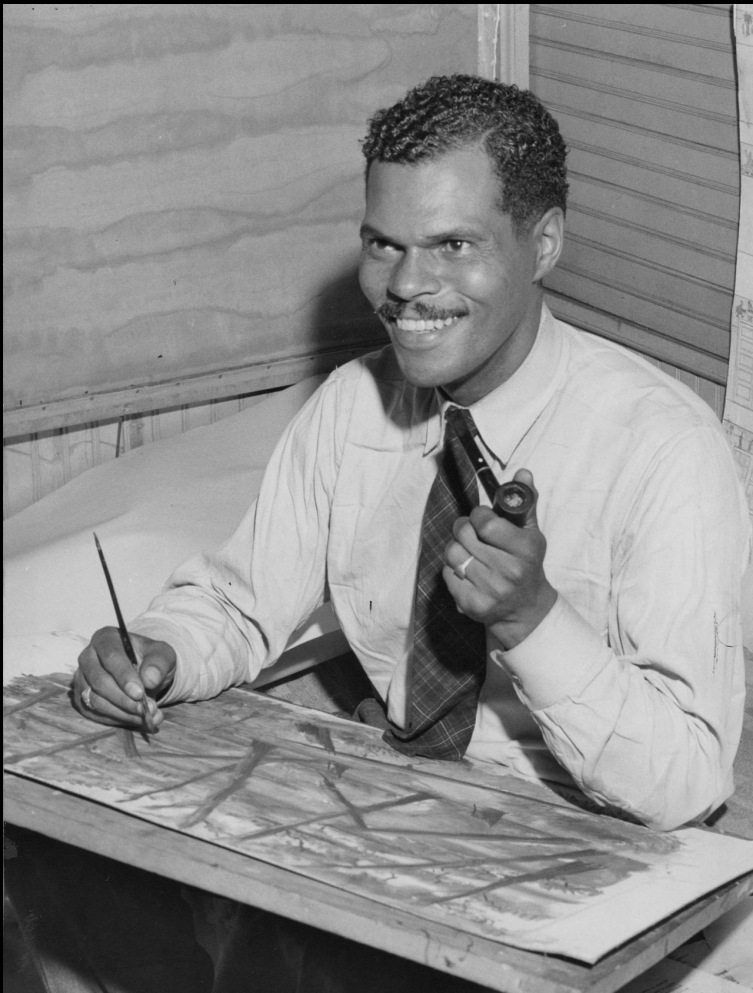
Joshua Johnson, Portrait of Richard John Cock, 1817, Oil on canvas, Gift of Sam and Patty McCullough in loving memory of their son, Evan, 2018.113

Gallery 304

**Minneapolis Institute of Art**







Henry W. Bannarn, United States, 1910–1965, *Cleota Collins*, 1932, Plaster, pigment, Gift of funds from the Decorative Arts, Textiles, and Sculpture Affinity Group, 2011.64, Copyright of the artist, artist's estate, or assignees

Gallery 302

Left, Henry Bannarn, Hennepin County Library

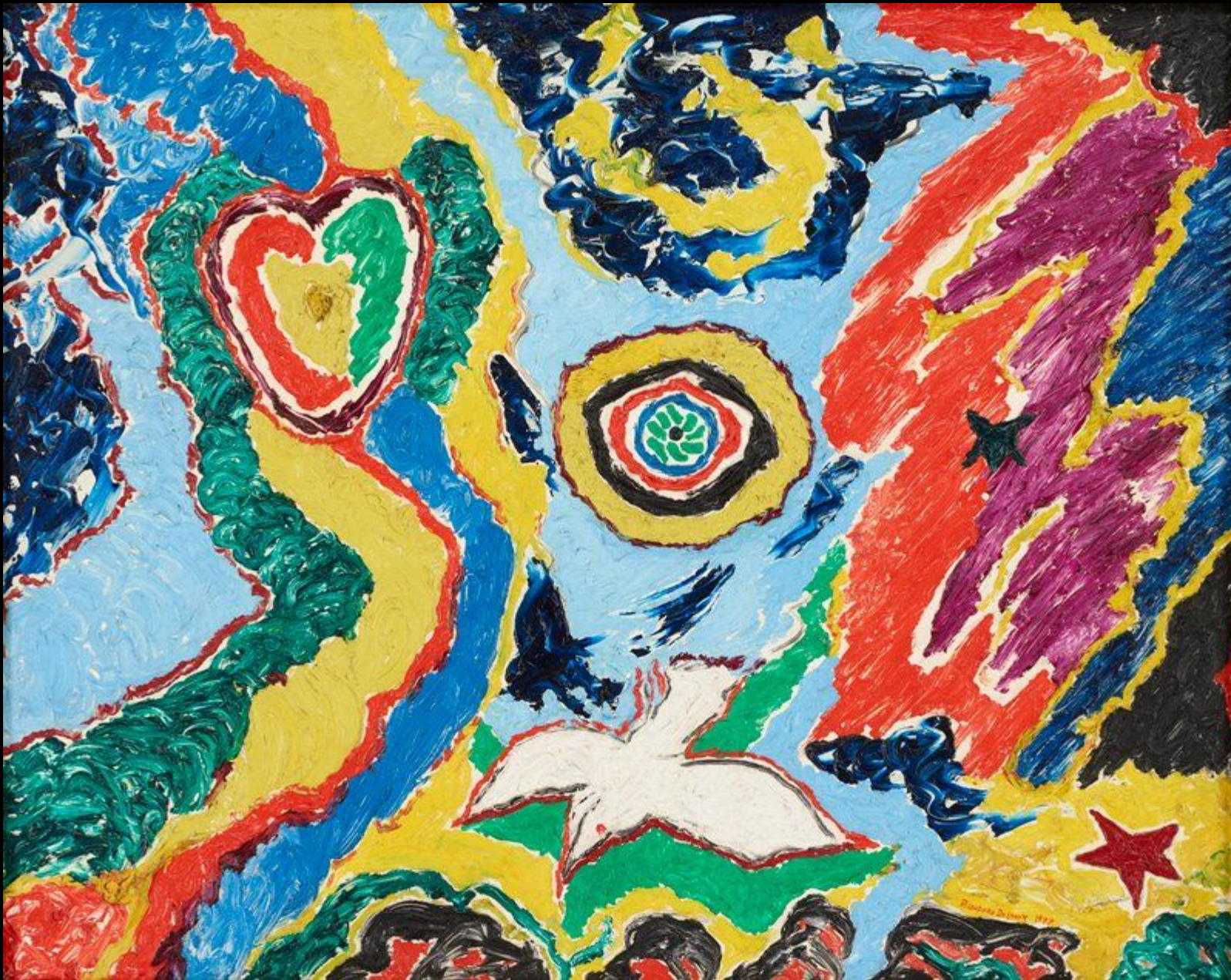


Jacob Lawrence, *Subway Acrobats*, 1959, tempera on board, Myron Kunin Collection of American Art, L2014.234.55. Above, Jacob Lawrence, Photo by George Rose/Getty Images, ArtNet

G359







Beauford Delaney, United States, 1901–79, *Untitled*, 1947, Oil on masonite, Gift of Dolly J. Fiterman, 2017.138.7, © Estate of Beauford Delaney / Derek L. Spratley, Esq., Court Appointed Administrator

Gallery 376

Above, Beauford Delaney, Wikiart





Vincent D. Smith, Basketball Players, 1965, oil on board, Myron Kunin Collection of American Art L2014.234.551

G359

Left. Vincent D. Smith, Getty Images







Above: Tawny Chatmon, Photo 2022, Maryland News

Right: Tawny Chatmon, Archival pigment print with gold leaf and acrylic paint, 2020.64

G377







Above, James Phillips.  
Photo: The History Makers

James Phillips, Cosmic  
Connection, 1971

G375





# Suggested works for older students



Kehinde Wiley, United States, 1977, Santos Dumont - The Father of Aviation II, 2009, Oil on canvas, Gift of funds from two anonymous donors, 2010.99, © 2009 Kehinde Wiley

G374

Above, Kehinde Wiley, The Guardian.





Bob Thompson, Self-Portrait, 1964-1965, oil on canvas, Myron Kunin Collection of American Art, L2014.234.469

Above, Bob Thompson, Photo: Medium





Sonya Clark, American, born 1967, Cornrow Chair, 2011, Upholstered chair, cotton thread, Gifts of funds from Mary and Bob Mersky, Ellen Michelson, and David Crosby 2022.19 Photo © Sonya Clark

G281

Left. Vincent D. Smith, Getty Images







Clementine Hunter, United States, 1885–1988, *Picking Cotton*, 1950s, Oil on board, The Ethel Morrison Van Derlip Fund, 91.88.1

Gallery 304 ([The Wash](#) is in an AA set, and hung next to this work.)

Above, Clementine Hunter, 64parishes.org

## Other artworks in our collection for School Tours

In particular, for more choices for a Black American Arts and Artists tour, check out the teachers' resource guide for In the Presence of Our Ancestors:

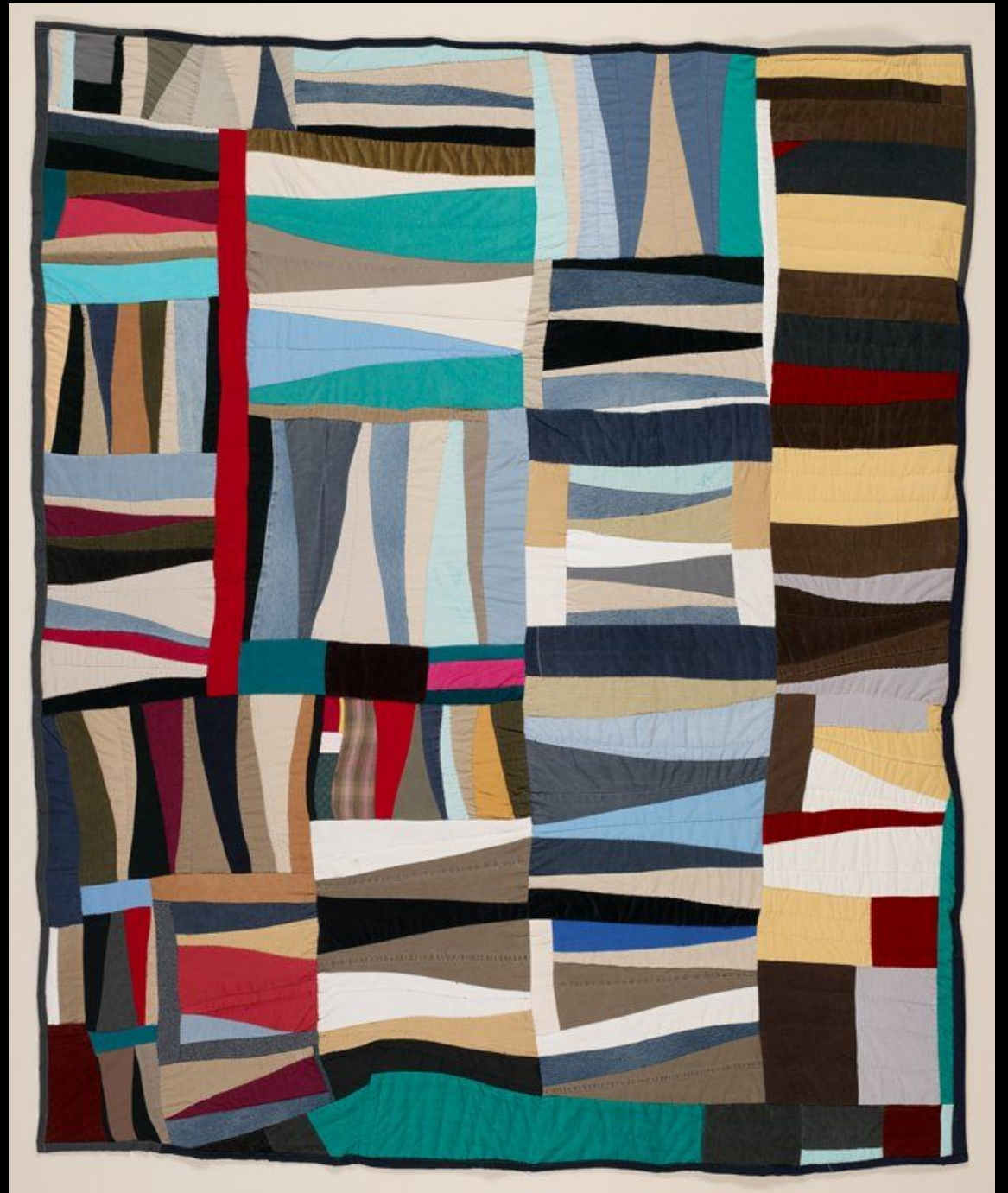
<https://live-artsmia.pantheonsite.io/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/In-the-Presence-of-Our-Ancestors-Teachers-Guide.pdf>





Mary Lee Bendolph, *Strings*, 2003–2004, Cotton, wool; quilted; 2011.74.3, © Mary Lee Bendolph (Also could use other quilts from Gee's Bend, such as artist Lottie Mooney)

Above, Mary Lee Bendolph, 2005, The Bott Collection



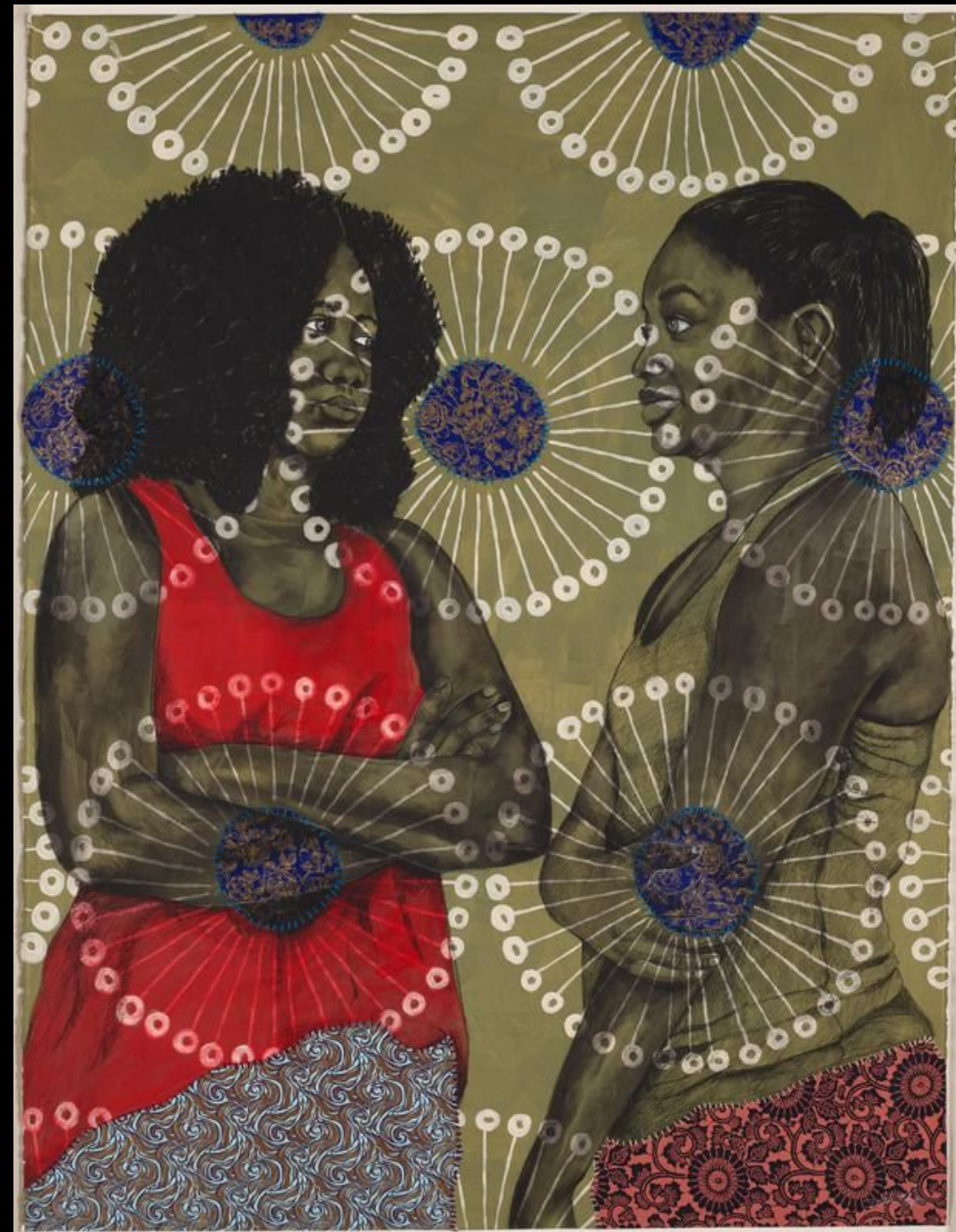




Delita Martin, *Between Sisters*, 2018, Acrylic, charcoal, colored pencil, decorative papers, and hand-stitching on paper, Gifts of funds from Lucy Mitchell, Julie Steiner, and Kaywin Feldman, 2019.35.2, © Delita Martin

(Also a [Delita Martin currently up in Rituals of Resistance](#))

Above: Delita Martin, Photo: Karen E. Segrave, Little Rock Family







Joe Overstreet, United States, 1933–2019, *Evolution*, 1970, Acrylic on canvas with metal grommets and cotton rope, 2020.96.12, © Joe Overstreet / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

Above: Joe Overstreet, *Black Art in America*

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Dawoud Bey, *Sunshine Bracey and a Friend*, Brooklyn, NY, 1990, Gelatin silver print, The Richard and Beverly Fink Endowment for Art Acquisition, 2019.28.4, © Dawoud Bey ([other examples of his work](#))

Above: Dawoud Bey, Bates College



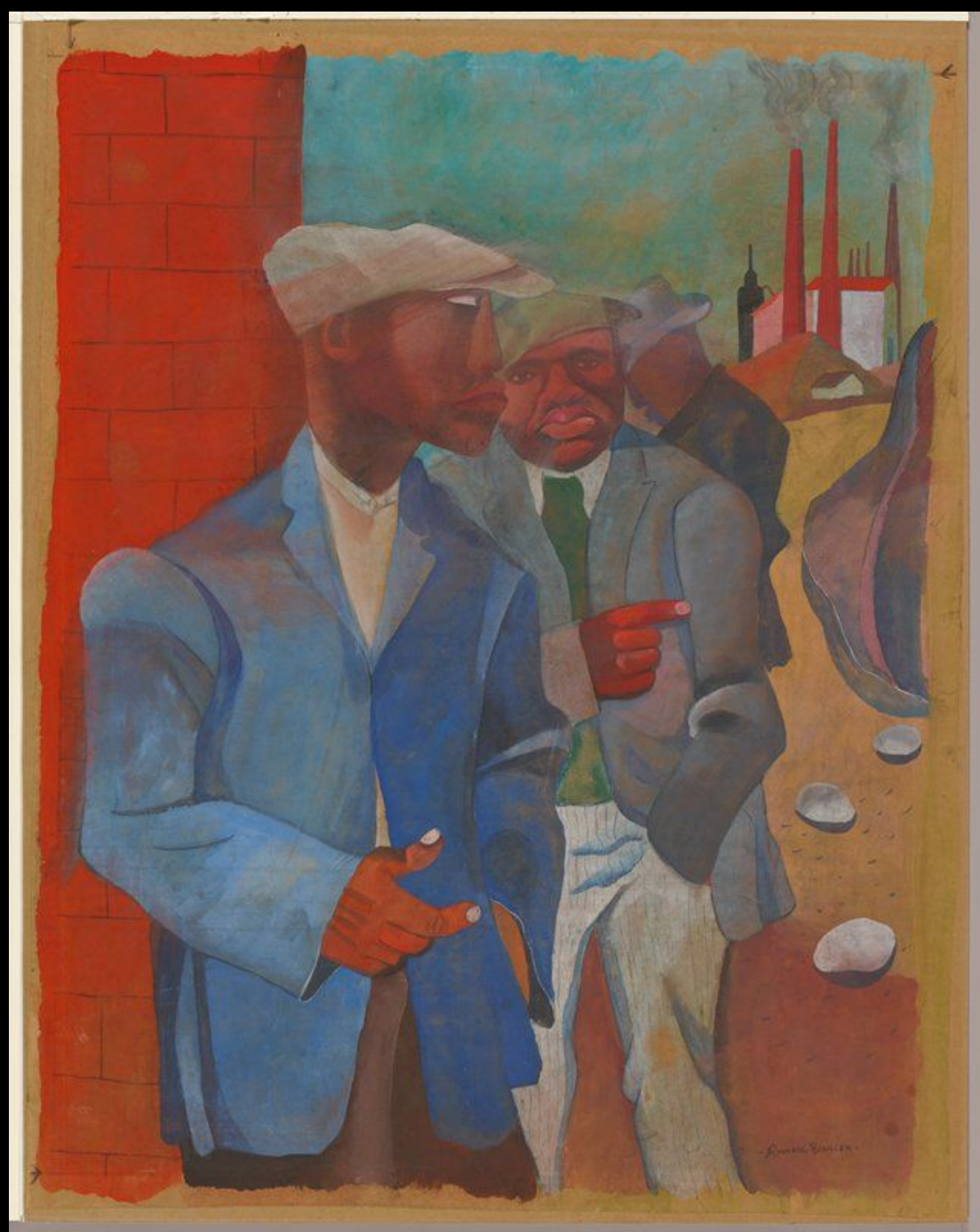




Romare Howard Bearden, United States, *Factory Workers*, 1942, Gouache and casein on brown kraft paper mounted on board, The John R. Van Derlip Fund, 92.24, © Romare Bearden Foundation / Licensed by VAGA at Artists Rights Society (ARS), NY. Also in the collection:

<https://collections.artsmia.org/art/8866/the-fall-of-troy-romare-howard-bearden>

Above photo: Romare Bearden, madison.com







Nellie Mae Rowe, *Rocking Chair*, 1981, Crayon, felt-tip pen, pencil on paper, 2019.16.29

Above: Nellie Mae Rowe, Photo: Souls Grown Deep





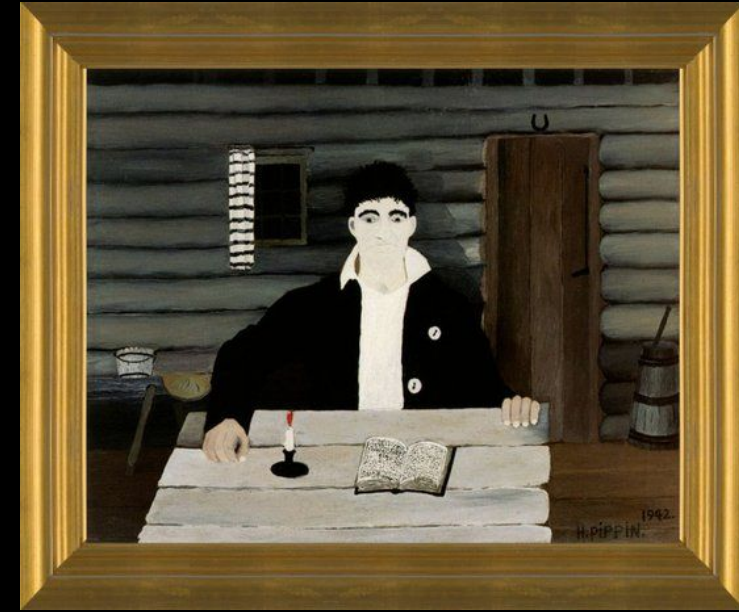
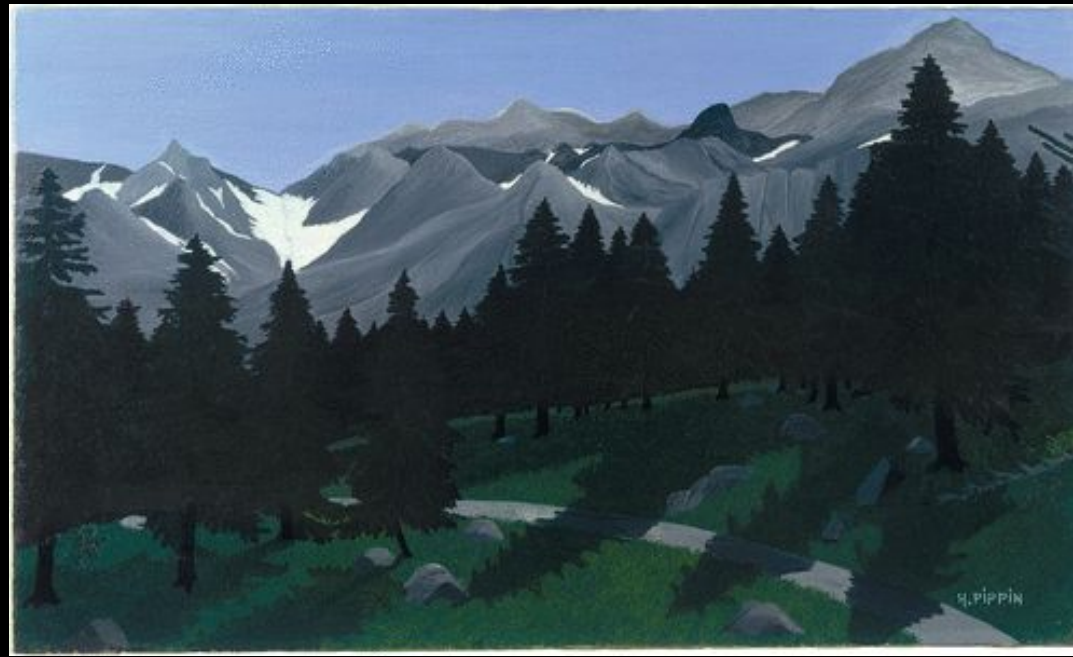


Joe Minter, United States, 1943, Old Rugged Cross, 1998, Found wood, nails,  
The Ethel Morrison Van Derlip Fund and gift of the Souls Grown Deep  
Foundation from the William S. Arnett Collection, 2019.16.15, © Joe Minter /  
Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

Above: Joe Minter, Photo: Souls Grown Deep







Horace Pippin. Mountain Landscape (Lush Valleys), ca. 1936–39; Birmingham Meeting House, 1940; John Brown Reading His Bible, 1942. Myron Kunin Collection of American Art, on loan to the Minneapolis Institute of Art

Above: Self-portrait, 1944, Metropolitan Museum of Art





Clementine Hunter, United States,  
1885–1988, Picking Cotton, 1950s,  
Oil on board, The Ethel Morrison Van  
Derlip Fund, 91.88.1

G304





Art Adventure artworks (only use for an in-person Black American Arts and Artists tour if no AA tours are being given on your tour day)





Clementine Hunter, United States, 1885–1988, *The Wash*, 1950s, Oil on board, The Ethel Morrison Van Derlip Fund, 91.88.2

G304





William Edmondson, United States, 1874–1951, *Ram*, 1938–1942, Limestone, The John R. Van Derlip Fund, 2013.56





Nick Cave, United States,  
1959, *Soundsuit*, 2010,  
Metal, wood, plastic,  
pigments, cotton and acrylic  
fibers Gift of funds from  
Alida Messinger,  
2011.12a,b, © Nick Cave  
and Jack Shainman Gallery,  
NY





Elizabeth Catlett; Publisher:  
Published by the artist and  
Taller de Grafica Popular,  
Mexico City; Printer: Printed  
by the artist and Jose  
Sanchez, United States,  
1915–2012, *Sharecropper*,  
1952 (printed c. 1952–57),  
Color linocut on cream  
paper, The Ethel Morrison  
Van Derlip Fund, P.97.1, Art  
© Elizabeth Catlett /  
Licensed by VAGA at Artists  
Rights Society (ARS), NY





Attributed to William Howard, United States, 1805) active until c. 1870, Writing desk, 1870, Yellow pine, tobacco box and cotton crate wood, 2012.11





James Van Der Zee, Wedding Day, Harlem, 1926 (printed 1974), Gelatin silver print (printed 1974), The Stanley Hawks Memorial Fund, 74.36.12, © Estate James VanDerZee