

NEWS RELEASE

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Tampa, July 30, 2015 – The USF Contemporary Art Museum (USFCAM) is pleased to present the exhibition ***A Family Affair***, open August 24 through December 12, 2015. The exhibition highlights seven artists who explore personal identity and family relationships through photography, video, performance and animation.

The artists of *A Family Affair* adopt a range of approaches, from documentary to fiction, to articulate visions of self within interpersonal and historical family contexts as well as broader frameworks of race, class and gender, often collaborating with family members to realize their art.

[Renee Cox](#) is known for her provocative photographic works that overturn race and gender stereotypes. In *Olympia's Boyz* (2001), a 14-ft-wide Cibachrome print mounted on aluminum, Cox restages Manet's iconic painting *Olympia* (1863), replacing the image's central figures—a white prostitute and a black maid—with herself, an empowered black matriarch in the nude, and her biracial sons.

[LaToya Ruby Frazier](#)'s documentary photographs explore the relationships between three generations of women—Frazier, her mother and grandmother—against the backdrop of Braddock, Pennsylvania, a struggling industrial borough outside of Pittsburgh. Along with a selection of Frazier's black-and-white photographs, the exhibition features *Detox (Braddock U.P.M.C.)* (2011), a video that addresses healthcare inequity and environmental contamination in Braddock.



Jacolby Satterwhite, *Country Ball 1989-2012*, 2012

[Kalup Linzy](#)'s *Queen Rose Family Tree* (2014-2015), a new installation of photographic collages commissioned for *A Family Affair* by USFCAM, details a fictional family tree that resembles Linzy's actual family and includes invented cousins Taiwan and Kaye Braswell. Embodying the Braswell cousins and others from the tree in video and photographs, Linzy performs original songs and soap operatic narratives investigating love, loss and the challenges of artistic and sexual self-realization.

[Jacolby Satterwhite](#) creates surreal 3D animations that combine his dance performances with animated drawings of everyday objects and inventions by his mother, Patricia Satterwhite. His *Country Ball, 1989-2012*, draws on video of a 1989 family picnic.

A Family Affair includes individual and collaborative works by [Hank Willis Thomas](#) and [Deborah Willis](#). A collaborative self-portrait, *Sometimes I See Myself In You* (2008), merges the faces of both artists, who are son and mother. In *Words To Live By* (2008), Thomas and Willis pair images of the mouths of ethnically diverse friends and family with proverbs that offer advice for living wisely.



Deborah Willis and Hank Willis Thomas, From the *Words to Live By* Series, 1-9, 2008

During the exhibition Dutch-born, Detroit-based photographer [Corine Vermeulen](#) will be in residence at USFCAM. Vermeulen will undertake a three-month community-based project in collaboration with the [University Area Community Development Corporation](#), photographing residents of the University Area neighborhood adjacent to USF's Tampa campus in exchange for stories of community and family life. An installation of Vermeulen's photographs and the accompanying stories will accumulate at USFCAM over the course of the exhibition.

A Family Affair is curated by Associate Curator Megan Voeller and organized by USFCAM.

Exhibition Sponsors: The exhibition catalogue for *A Family Affair* is supported in part by a grant from the Elizabeth Firestone Graham Foundation. Corine Vermeulen's residency is made possible with assistance from Caspers Company and Sharmila and Vivek Seth.

RELATED EVENTS:

A Family Affair Conversation with Artists Renee Cox, Kalup Linzy and Deborah Willis

August 28, 6–7pm USF School of Music Barness Recital Hall (MUS)
American Sign Language Interpreter will be present

A Family Affair Exhibition Reception

August 28, 7–9pm, USF Contemporary Art Museum (CAM)

ART Thursday: *Through a Lens Darkly* Film Screening

September 17, 7pm, USF School of Music Barness Recital Hall (MUS)

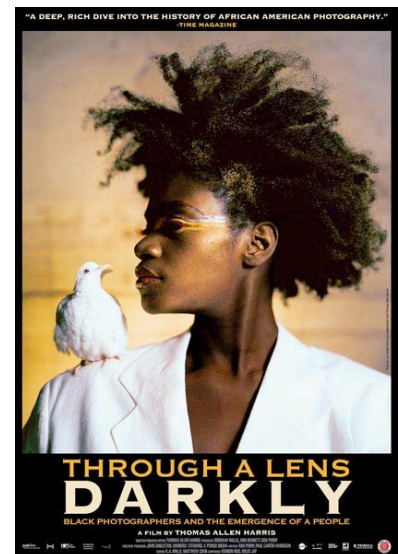
A Family Affair Curator's Tours

October 8, 7pm, USF Contemporary Art Museum (CAM)
November 5, 12pm, USF Contemporary Art Museum (CAM)

ART Thursday: Corine Vermeulen Talk

November 19, 7pm, USF Contemporary Art Museum (CAM)
American Sign Language Interpreter will be present

- All events are free -



Through A Lens Darkly poster photo by Lyle Ashton Harris (in collaboration with Thomas Allen Harris)

Museum Hours + Admissions

USFCAM Hours: Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 1-4pm. Closed Sunday and University holidays including: September 7 (Labor Day); November 11 (Veterans Day); and November 26 and 27 (Thanksgiving).

Admission to the Museum is free; however a USF parking permit (\$5.00 daily) or pay-per-space parking is required. Please visit our website <http://ira.usf.edu/> for parking, directions, or more information on events associated with the exhibitions. Groups and organizations interested in tours should contact CAM to schedule at least two weeks in advance. Or call (813) 974-4133 for additional information.

The Institute for Research in Art is recognized by the State of Florida as a major cultural institution and receives funding through the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Arts Council of Hillsborough County, Board of County Commissioners. The USF Contemporary Art Museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.