

Vodou in the Age of Consciousness

Exploring the Role of Vodou in Art, Culture, and History.

July 1, 2023 | Contact: Matt Dunn info@haitianartsociety.org

Los Angeles—

The Haitian Art Society explores VODOU IN THE AGE OF CONSCIOUSNESS at The Fowler Museum at UCLA in a symposium inspired by the exhibition of Myrlande Constant: *The Work of Radiance*. This symposium expands on the groundbreaking retrospective of a female artist living and working in Haiti, renowned for monumental beaded textiles that evolve the dazzling tradition of 'drapo Vodou' or Vodou flags.

Vodou is a theme throughout Constant's oeuvre and part of the artist's identity and worldview. Constant's work features the lwa (Vodou spirits), Catholic saints, and regular people in meticulously detailed beaded narratives centered on religious ceremonies, moments in Haitian history, and everyday life. The artist's insistence on the importance and ubiquity of Vodou spirits challenges Western art histories and foregrounds postmodern Black aesthetics and the role of Haiti in Black Atlantic visual culture.

Vodou in the Age of Consciousness gathers leading scholars, museum professionals, curators, and collectors to reflect on the role of Vodou in Haiti's Art, Culture, and History.

Registration is required to attend the July 1, 2023, symposium. Registration (\$75) includes a \$50 tax-deductible donation and a one-year membership to the Haitian Art Society.

To register, visit HaitianArtSociety.org

About the Haitian Art Society:

The Haitian Art Society (HAS) was formed in 2003 as an international membership organization designed to strengthen and expand interest in and understanding of Haitian art and artists. HAS is a thriving community of art collectors, gallerists, museum professionals, scholars, and researchers, all connected by a mutual appreciation and affection for Haitian art. HAS is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization.

About Vodou in the Age of Consciousness

Participants in the panel discussion include Kyrah Malika Daniels, Assistant Professor of African American Studies at Emory University; Peter Haffner, Assistant Professor of Art History at Centre College; Eziaku Atuama Nwokocha, Assistant Professor of

Africana Religions at the University of Miami and author of *Vodou en Vogue*; Patrick Polk, Curator of Latin American and Caribbean Popular Arts at The Fowler Museum at UCLA; Joanna Robotham, Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at The Tampa Museum of Art; Kathryn Smith, Curator and Research Associate of Haitian Arts, The Fowler Museum at UCLA, and Curator of *Myrlande Constant: The Work of Radiance*.

About the Fowler

The Fowler Museum at UCLA explores global arts and cultures with an emphasis on Africa, Asia, the Pacific, and the Indigenous Americas—past and present. The Fowler enhances understanding of world cultures through dynamic exhibitions, publications, and public programs, informed by interdisciplinary approaches and the perspectives of the cultures represented. The work of international contemporary artists is presented within complex frameworks of politics, culture, and social action.

Museum Information

308 Charles E Young Dr. N | Los Angeles, CA 90095 | fowler.ucla.edu/visit Parking in UCLA Lot 4: 198 Westwood Plaza at Sunset Blvd, \$3/hr. Rideshare drop-off: 305 Royce Drive