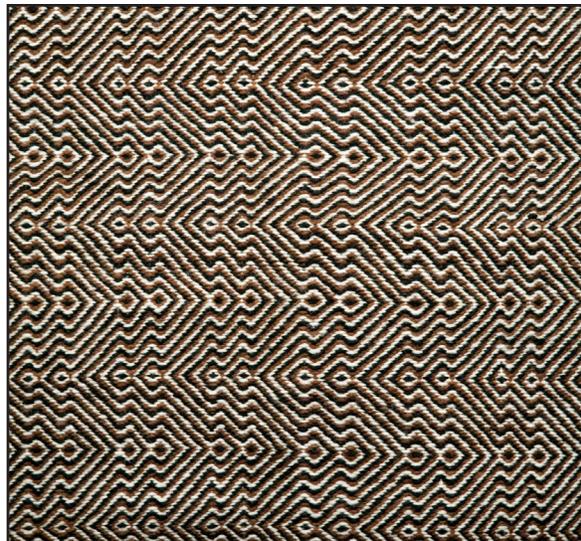
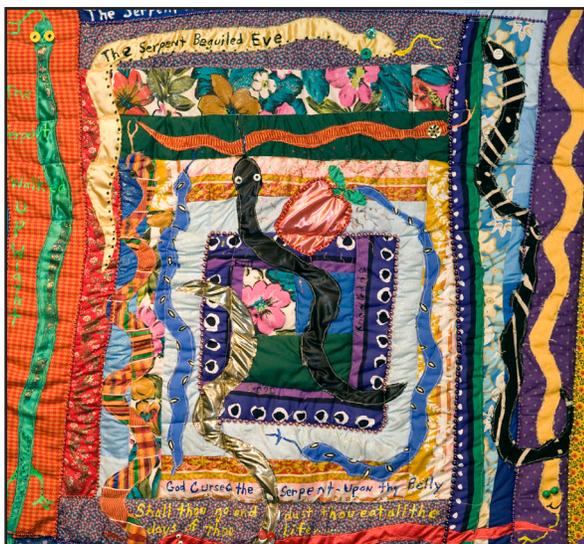


Collecting Experiences: Selected Memories of Georgine & Jack Clarke

On display through August 28, 2013 in the Alabama Artists Gallery
located inside the RSA Tower in downtown Montgomery



This exhibition features a variety of artwork from the collection of Georgine and Jack Clarke and is a tribute to Georgine's legacy and service to the arts and artists in Alabama. A gallery renaming and opening reception will be held Friday, July 19 from 3:00-5:00 with a dedication ceremony at 4:00pm



In Celebration of a Magical Life Georgine Rummage Clarke 1940-2012



Georgine was born on June 18, 1940 in Zuni, New Mexico to George and Mahala Rummage. She learned jewelry making and art collecting from her father. Examples of Georgine's metalwork and Navaho rugs passed down from her father's collection are on display in this exhibition. Georgine graduated from the University of New Mexico in 1961 with a degree in Biology and from the Ohio State University in 1963 with a Master of Arts in Psychology. She and her husband Jack moved to Tuscaloosa in 1971 and she became the founding director of the Kentuck Association.

The first Kentuck Festival was held in the fall of 1972. Georgine's vision and dedication created the foundation for an organization that now provides year-round programming and a festival with a national reputation that will be celebrating its 42nd year in October. Kentuck has a reputation as a festival that is incredibly hospitable to artists. This reputation exists because Georgine always did what was best for artists and she nurtured, mentored, and encouraged countless Alabama artists over the years. She also bought the work of artists and believed that the best way to show an artist that you appreciated their work was to buy their work. Georgine did not think of her art purchases in terms of building a collection of work, but instead she spoke of collecting experiences and valued the interactions she had with artists. The artwork in her collection serves as a reminder of her interactions with the artist and each piece holds special meaning beyond what meets the eye.

Georgine and Jack moved to Montgomery in 1994 after she accepted a job as Visual Arts Program Manager at the Alabama State Council on the Arts. Part of that job included directing the Alabama Artists Gallery, which gave Georgine the opportunity to continue working directly with Alabama artists. Georgine curated over 100 exhibitions during her tenure at ASCA and showcased both emerging and established artists in the gallery. Georgine's memory lives on through her family and the hundreds of artists that she influenced over the years. The ASCA council members and staff are proud to honor her service and legacy through the renaming of our gallery to the Georgine Clarke Alabama Artists Gallery.

This exhibition, *Collecting Experiences: Selected Memories of Georgine and Jack Clarke* was curated by Elliot Knight in collaboration with Jack Clarke and is on display through August 2013. The exhibition seeks to tell the story of Georgine's life and her work with artists through the objects that populate the Clarke household. There is a story behind each piece shown here and all of the artwork symbolizes the relationships Georgine built while traveling around the state promoting, encouraging, and mentoring artists from all walks of life. Georgine is missed by all that had the pleasure of knowing her, but her legacy and the impact she had on the Alabama art scene will live on forever.



The Gallery is open Monday-Friday from 8:00am-5:00pm.

For more information about the Alabama Artists Gallery, please contact Gallery Director Elliot Knight at 334-242-4076 Ext. 250 or Elliot.Knight@arts.alabama.gov

201 Monroe Street — Suite 110 — Montgomery, AL 36104
