

ARTISTS SPACE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Programs:

tOo bLACK, tOo sTRONG!

Artists Space
Exhibitions and Events

An exhibition of videotapes and works on paper organized by
Reginald Woolery.

Artists Grants
Exhibition Funding

APRIL 14 - MAY 14, 1988

OPENING RECEPTION: THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 1988

GALLERY HOURS: TUESDAY - SATURDAY, 11-6pm

Artists File
N.Y.S. Slide Registry

The program will be screened continuously from 11am until
6pm, Tuesday through Saturday. Call for schedule
information.

Some People, by Mary Easter, color, 19 minutes, 1988.

Suppositions in History, by Albert Marshall, color, 29
minutes, 1985.

**Shopping Bag Spirits and Freeway Fetishes: Reflections on
Ritual Space**, by Barbara McCullough, color, 60 minutes,
1984.

Water Ritual, by Barbara McCullough, B&W, 4 minutes, 1980.

What Goes Around, Comes Around, by Philip Mallory Jones,
color, 3 minutes, 1986.

The Trouble I've Seen, by Philip Mallory Jones, color, 10
minutes, 1976.

Extra Rooms, by Philip Mallory Jones, color, 20 minutes,
1980.

Storme: A Life in the Jewel, by Michelle Parkerson, color, 21
minutes, 1987.

Contacts, Ponytails, Noses and Bleach, by Daniel Tisdale,
slide presentation, 1988.

Watermelon Series, collages by LaMonte Westmoreland, 1986.

Untitled, xerox collages by Reggie Woolery, 1987.

Artists Space is pleased to present **too Black, too Strong!**,
an exhibition of videotapes and works on paper produced by
African-American artists, performers, and writers influenced
by video imagery and the mass media. The title is taken from
a lyric written by Public Enemy, a group of street hard-rock
rappers from Long Island. The title refers to the diversity
of experiences within Black society and the exhibition
explores issues of access, freedom, aesthetics, sexual
politics and representation. Reginald Woolery, a painter,
was formerly the Distribution Manager for The Black Filmmaker
Foundation and is currently the Membership Coordinator at The
Media Alliance.

Mary Easter's video explores the lives of 7 black characters



through their own personal commentary as well as that of their dancing alter-egos. **Albert Marshall's** video dramatizes the story of a young girl who leaves her job as a domestic in the South and moves to Chicago to pursue her dream of becoming a jazz singer. **Michelle Parkerson** continues her series of portraits of black women with her video on Storme DeLarverie, the emcee of the Jewel Box Revue, a multi-racial troupe of female impersonators that toured in the 1950's and 1960's. **Philip Mallory Jones'** three videos present an introspective animation, a multi-layered look at life among rural Black families, and a room by room exploration of sexuality. **Barbara McCullough** investigates the various concepts (religious, cultural...) and uses of ritual in her videos by interviewing artists from various disciplines.

In **Reginald Woolery's** xerox collages, autobiographical references are mixed with racially relevant media imagery situating the artist in the contemporary political arena. In **Daniel Tisdale's** slides of works on paper, the faces of historical black leaders are "altered" via contact lenses, nose jobs, and skin bleaching in response to Michael Jackson's dramatic transformation. In **LaMonte Westmoreland's** collages, it is the white men who are eating the watermelon, thereby depriving the Black man once again.

Artists Space activities are made possible by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency; New York State Council on the Arts; New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; Art Matters, Inc., Chase Manhattan Bank N.A., Cowles Family Charitable Trust, Foundation for Contemporary Performance Arts, Inc., Jerome Foundation, W. Alton Jones Foundation, Charlottesville, VA., The J.M. Kaplan Fund, Lannan Foundation, Leonhardt Foundation, The Joe and Emily Lowe Foundation, Inc., The New York Community Trust, Betty Parsons Foundation, The Reed Foundation, Inc., Mark Rothko Foundation, Robert Sterling Clark Foundation, American Express Company, Consolidated Edison, Equitable Real Estate Group, Inc., General Atlantic Corporation, R.H. Macy Company, Mobil Foundation, Inc., Morgan Guaranty Trust of New York, Philip Morris Companies, Inc., The Artists Space Exhibition Circle, as well as numerous friends.

Artists Space is a member of the National Association of Artists Organizations (NAAO) and Media Alliance.