

BLACK faith's ^vart notes

Dr. Samella Lewis

February 27, 1923 - May 27, 2022



artist, an activist, a historian, an author, a curator, a professor, a gallerist, a collector and a beloved mentor

the first time I met Unity Lewis he asked "you may know my grandmother, Dr. Samella Lewis?!"

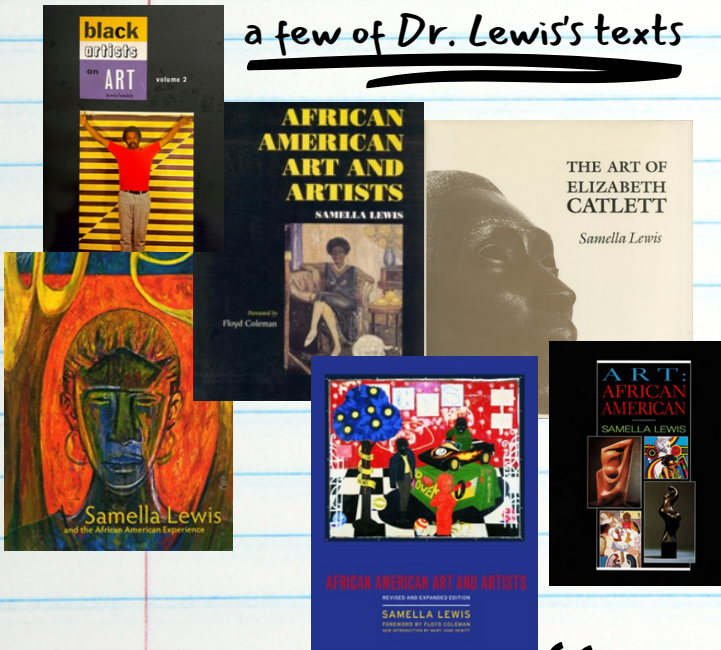
What a silly question I thought. I, a Black woman art historian, writer, critic, collector, and scholar, building institutions and legacy for Black artists...

did I know Dr. Samella Lewis!?! > <

Dr. Lewis is widely known as the Godmother of Black art, becoming the first Black woman to earn a doctorate in art history.

After her transition, I realized just how many people are actually misguided and do not know her contributions to preserving Black art history. WE, her children, grandchildren, and Godchildren won't have it!

a few of Dr. Lewis's texts



“...Compiling those books about Black artists and writing the art history of African American art wasn't done for career objectives—it was a necessity.”
—Dr. Samella Lewis



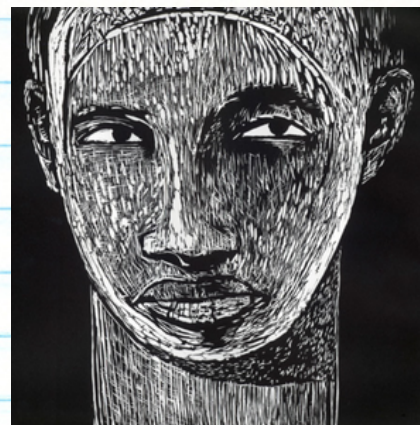
@unityakayp is a visual artist, musician, educator, curator, Dr. Samella Lewis's grandson, and my friend. He has been carrying her legacy forward for several years through 'Black Artists On Art' (BAOA) exhibitions and programs throughout California.

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BLACK faith's art notes

a few of my favorites of Dr. Lewis's artwork



- * First African-American woman to earn a master's & doctorate in fine art and art history (Ohio State University).
- * Started a group called Concerned Citizens for Black Art
- * In the 1960s, Dr. Lewis made several short documentaries highlighting the careers of African American artists such as John Outterbridge, Bernie Case and Richmond Barthé.
- * Mentored by Elizabeth Catlett and Charles White
- * co-Founded the journal Black Art: An International Quarterly in 1975
- * In 1976 founded the city's Museum of African American Art

“Art really helps to speak to the past, present and to a large extent helps to guide you into the future.”

-Dr. Samella Lewis

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BLACK faith's art notes

Juneteenth '22 3-6 PM

@ Heart of Sacramento Gallery inside Arden Mall (1st floor next to J. Crew)

Dr. Samella Lewis and Family, Curated by Unity Lewis

"This exhibit highlights the art of Dr. Samella Lewis, alongside the artwork of her son Claude Lewis and grandson Unity Lewis. The works presented in this exhibit display the power of Dr. Lewis' influence acting as an inspiration to push a legacy of creativity forward." - exhibition statement

The Light Within Richmond Barthé, Curated by Unity Lewis

w/ performances, bites & beverages by:

DJ Yodeci, Sita Kali Ma'at, Spidermonkey's Dessert Studio, LemonMob, and Complimentary wine & water provided by Arden Fair

Artist Talk w/ Unity Lewis

@ 4:00PM

join Unity and me in conversation in the gallery talking about his creative practice, his grandmother's legacy, and the future for BADA .

Wow!

first 200 guests will receive a print from artist and activist, Elizabeth Catlett!!!

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BLACK faith's art notes

The Heart of Sacramento gallery is also a reminder of the legacy of Dr. Lewis. In 1984, she opened The Museum of African American Art inside the May Department Store, A MALL in Los Angeles' Crenshaw neighborhood.

“...Being located in the May Company is good because people can shop and go to the museum at the same time”

Dr. Lewis told the Los Angeles Sentinel

A very special & public **THANKS** goes to:



1). Arden Fair Mall - not only did Nathan Spradlin & his team extend the use of this retail space for a non-commission gallery, but they were extremely supportive throughout the install & programming of all exhibitions.

@ardenfair



2). UpperCloud Media - the agency behind all of the creative placemaking happening at Arden Fair Mall.

@uppercloudmedia



3). Sarah Marie Hawkins - truly a force in this city, an artist, curator, photographer, and survivor, Sarah is extremely intentional and takes NO SHIT! Forever grateful to her for including me in this project and for constantly advocating for us.

@artbysarahmarie

see you Sunday!
xo, Faith J. McKinnie

SACRAMENTO faith's art notes

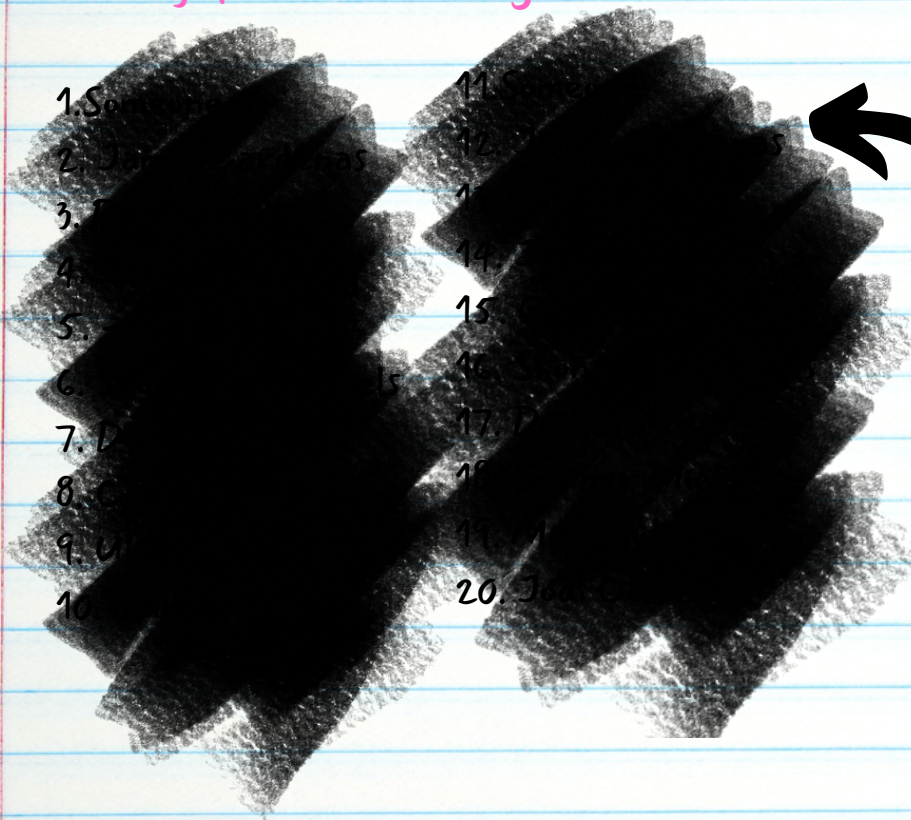


The City of Sacramento's Office of Arts + Culture (OAC) has launched **SEEDING CREATIVITY**

a \$450,000 grant program targeting individual artists in Sacramento County. 45 artists will receive a grant of **\$10K** to sustain their practice and further their creative work.



arts.cityofsacramento.org/Grants/For-Individual-Artists



I created a list of 20 artists that I would LOVE to see do something with \$10k, but I've redacted it to ensure no undue influence. 😊

**APPLY BY
6/20/22**



Speaking of the City of Sac:

"...finally! happy to see that we are getting a new **Dir. of Convention & Cultural Services** in the City of Sacramento, becausewe deserve so much better! IYKYK & if you don't "you better ask somebody" ...seriously, ask anybody!"

BYE!

the future
looks
bright

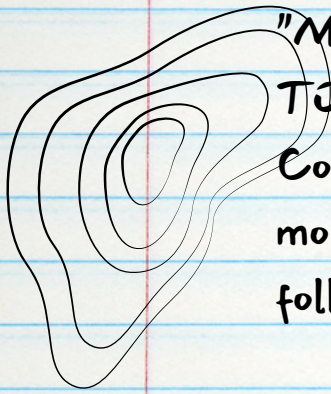


(someone good) **APPLY BY 7/13/22!**
<https://wbcpinc.com/job-board>

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SACRAMENTO faith's^v art notes



"Modern Topography"

TODAY'S coordinatesexhibition.com/artisttalks with Jodi Connelly, Kim Garza of Atlas Lab Inc., and Dan Tran & moderated by curator Genesis "the Mayor" Torres.
follow [@coordinatesexhibition](https://twitter.com/coordinatesexhibition)

[@sacmusicals](https://twitter.com/sacmusicals) returns from a two-year pandemic closure with **Kinky Boots**, the cast was fantastic (young & old Lola stole the show), and the costumes & choreography (the Angels!!) were on point!

10/10 recommend.

broadwaysacramento.com for tickets. closes June 19

Q & A

who is on your list of **TOP 10** artists in Sacramento? I am putting together my own and it's no easy feat. If you have the courage to post them on IG/stories tag me [@faithsartnotes](https://twitter.com/faithsartnotes) or DM... I want to compare notes 😊

see you in the streets!

xo
/

[@faithsartnotes](https://twitter.com/faithsartnotes) / www.faithjmckinnie.com

faith's

June 11 - 12, 2022

Second Saturday Notes

1. Andres Alvarez

"37bit: A Virtualography" @ WAL Public Market Gallery

Widely known for his understanding of the photographic language of documenting others, Alvarez moves to his other medium (painting/drawing), placing himself in the frame instead. Looking back on his childhood to deconstruct a learned visual language, 37bit: A Virtualography is the outcome of that critical interrogation. Like his photography, Alvarez constructs these paintings with connections to culture, class, and technology suggesting alternative narratives. Unlike the shared visual language and understanding of his photographs, I found myself searching for clues in each of the paintings that could help me better understand their meaning.

Since there is no artist talk, I will plan a walk-through with Alvarez before it closes on June 29th. I am interested in hearing the meanings behind some of the objects found in the paintings and how the knowledge & tools may affect his work (painting AND photography) in the future?!

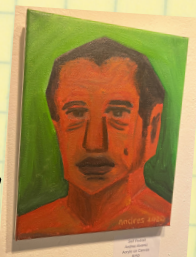


@andresideas

@walpublicmarketgallery

"Self Portrait"

acrylic on
canvas



faith's

Second Saturday Notes

2. Jeffrey Tover

"Personal Journey" @ Sparrow Gallery

I am a sucker for Abstraction, so I am here for Tover's colors, forms, and lines! A personal journey indeed.

That is the thing about abstraction, it is impossible **NOT** to find yourself connected to the expressive moments of movement & color as if they were created just for YOU!

“You have to be emotionally present ✓ to understand abstract art. its beauty is beyond definition. Its seduction connects to your soul.” - Jeffrey Tover

closes 7/1/22



@jeffreytoverart
@sparrow_gallery

"Rothko Was Here"
mixed media on paper
29"x21"



faith's
Second Saturday Notes

3. Summer Ventis

"Alternative Greetings" @ Axis Gallery

For the last two years, Ventis has been collaborating with the public through her projects "Alternative Greetings / Alternative Meetings" (5 volumes!) and "Heavier Than Air" and this exhibition is a celebration of the effort. Ventis has created an archive of the moment finding multiple ways for us to connect, respond, and be seen/heard and these zines are the quintessence of her printmaking + social art practice.

Thank you Summer for holding onto the weight of our collective grief. ♥

closes 6/26/22

Instagram icon @summerventis
@axisgallery

Zine
available at
the gallery
\$45



Heavier than Air.

faith's Second Saturday Notes

4. memory.unshift() @ Axis Gallery

featuring:

alexanna_bonomo

glenda_drew

jesse_drew

william_mead



@axisgallery

This group exhibition places the viewer directly in the middle of the exigent relationship between humans & technology and forces us (the humans) to interrogate it. closes 6/26/22

5. Pippa Garner



"Immaculate Misconceptions" @ Verge Center for the Arts

Honestly, I am still processing this show!

It was fantastic and I will be visiting a few more times before it closes 9/25/22.

Thanks, Verge Dir. @liv_moe for taking the time to talk & answer my questions...I have more!!!



@misc.pippa

@vergeart

see you for 2nd Saturday in July.

xo

@faithsartnotes | www.faithjmckinnie.com | faithjmckinnie@gmail.com

faith's

SACRAMENTO ART NOTES

Happy Sacramento PRIDE!

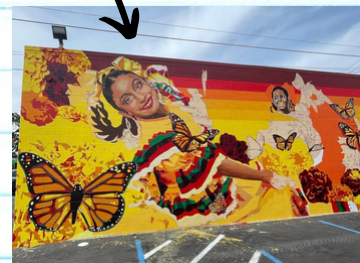
can you name 5 queer/trans artists working in Sacramento?
& have you purchased work from at least one of them this year?

2 Black women you could thank today!



artist @bethconsettarubel portrait of dir. of
catranscends.com @ebonyavaharper

1. Ebony for her commitment and dedication to the Sacramento Black and Queer/Trans communities
2. Beth for creating the best mural in Sac via the Northgate community mural



@ 2630 Northgate Blv.

Lavender Library is back OPEN!

Sat 12-3 PM and Sun 12-3 PM

take a look, it's in a BOOK!



My Second Saturday Recos



Summer Ventis
"Alternative Greetings"

@ Axis Gallery 5-8 PM

and then next door to

@vergeart for "Immaculate
Misconceptions" by Pippa Garner

5-8 PM

"...There is more air around the image which creates the space to experience/emotionalize the work, yet simultaneously creating a commitment of focus to capture its details." by @genesis.portfolio

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SACRAMENTO ART NOTES

My Second Saturday Recos

Andres Alvarez
 "37bit: A Virtualography"
 @ WAL Public Market Gallery

“ The works in this show were formulated after a ruminating idea to deconstruct the visual languages that raised me. If the beginning makes the whole, what were my beginnings?...”

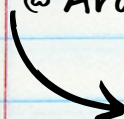
”



Dr. Samella Lewis and Family

curated by Unity Lewis

@ Arden Fair Mall (next to J. Crew) 1-6 PM



Dr. Samella Lewis transitioned on 5/27/22 at the age of 99 and this exhibition features some of her extraordinary work alongside the work of her son Claude and grandson Unity.

On Juneteenth, I will be moderating an artist talk with Unity about his grandmother's work and how he intends to continue to care for her legacy. @ Arden Fair Mall (next to J. Crew)

6/19/22

3-6 PM

P.S. visit coordinatesexhibition.com/artisttalks to hear @coordinatesexhibition artists discuss their installation work.

see you in the galleries!

xo