

Long-Sharp Gallery and Galerie Myrtis announce joint representation of Lavett Ballard

Two woman-owned, established galleries join forces to promote artist Lavett Ballard, whose portrait of Rosa Parks made the cover of TIME Magazine in March 2020.

UNITED STATES, October 13, 2020 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Two woman-owned, established galleries join forces to promote artist Lavett Ballard, the emerging artist whose portrait of Rosa Parks made the cover of TIME Magazine in March 2020.

Ballard creates what she describes as “reimagined visual narratives of people of African descent”. Her current body of work uses collaged photos adorned with paint, oil pastels, and metallic foils, deconstructed and layered on reclaimed wooden fences.

Named by Black Art in America as one of the Top 10 Female Emerging Artists to Collect, Ballard has placed works in the private collections of the African American Museum of Philadelphia, the Colored Girls Museum, the Petrucci Family Foundation Collection, among others. Gallery owners Myrtis Bedolla and Rhonda Long-Sharp were watching.



As of October 1, 2020, Lavett Ballard appeared on the “represented artist” list for each of their respective galleries. Galerie Myrtis, located in Baltimore, specializes in twentieth and twenty-first century American art with a focus on work created by African American artists. Long-Sharp Gallery, located in Indianapolis and New York, specializes in twentieth century modern masters and contemporary art, with a growing roster of contemporary female artists.

Long-Sharp, who has been following Ballard since 2018, is “delighted to join forces with the inimitable Myrtis Bedolla to shine a light on Ballard’s work”. According to Bedolla, “Long-Sharp Gallery has an exemplary reputation in the fine art world. I am honored to have the opportunity to collaborate with Rhonda to advance Lavett’s career. She is an artist of such great promise.”

Lavett Ballard's first solo exhibition with Long-Sharp Gallery, *When She Roars*, will take place in Long-Sharp Gallery | Virtual this month. The gallery will publish a printed catalogue as well as an e-catalogue to commemorate Ballard's first exhibition. Bedolla already included Ballard in a group exhibition which opened earlier this year. That exhibit, *Women Heal through Rite and Ritual*, remains open until the November 30th (and now features Ballard as a represented artist). An e-catalogue accompanies the exhibition.



Photo of Lavett Ballard, Courtesy of Ted Waters

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About Lavett Ballard

Lavett Ballard holds a dual Bachelor's degree in Studio Art and Art History with a minor in Museum Studies (Rutgers University), as well as a MFA in Studio Arts (University of the Arts, Philadelphia). She describes her work as a re-imagined visual narrative of people of African descent, using imagery reflecting social issues which affect primarily Black women's stories within a historical context. Her current body of work uses collaged photos adorned with paint, oil pastels, and metallic foils which are deconstructed and layered on reclaimed wood fences; the use of fences is a symbolic reference to how fences keep people in and out physically, just as racial and gender identities do so socially.

Her artwork has been featured on the cover of TIME Magazine, selected for the "100 Women of the Year" edition in 2020. Named by Black Art in America as one of the Top 10 Female Emerging Artists to Collect, Ballard has placed works in the private collections of the African American Museum of Philadelphia, the Colored Girls Museum, the Petrucci Family Foundation Collection, and the Grant and Tamia Hill Private Collections.

About Long-Sharp Gallery

Long-Sharp Gallery (LSG) specializes in works on paper, multiples, and drawings by modern and contemporary masters including Picasso, Miró, Francis, Frankenthaler, Gilliam, Warhol, Haring, Indiana, and Lichtenstein. In addition, LSG is dedicated to a contemporary program that incorporates paintings, photography, and sculpture, as well as conceptual and multimedia art by a growing roster of regional, national, and international artists, with a growing focus on women artists. With several physical and virtual galleries, LSG features a rigorous exhibition schedule and enjoys increased participation in top-level art fairs in the U.S. and Europe. LSG clients are

worldwide, and consist of institutions, corporations, and fine art collectors and enthusiasts – both experienced and new. LSG is a member of the IFPDA (International Fine Art Dealers Association) and a WBE (Women's Business Enterprise).

About Galerie Myrtis

Established in 2006, Galerie Myrtis specializes in twentieth and twenty-first century American art with a focus on work created by African American artists. The gallery's mission is to utilize the visual arts to raise awareness for artists – known or unknown – who deserve recognition for their contributions in artistically portraying our cultural, social, historical, and political landscapes; and to recognize art movements that paved the way for freedom of artistic expression.

Represented is a diverse stable of emerging to mid-career artists who have achieved regional, national and international acclaim. Their works have been featured in many important museum exhibitions and are in the permanent collections of institutions, corporations, and private clients across the country and abroad.

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