

William T. Williams



Noon's Look

written by penny shaw

“Each day you have the opportunity to discover something, to invent something and to explore and understand what the human spirit is all about. It’s life affirming. For me, as an artist, that’s what it’s all about.”

William T. Williams

William T. Williams was born in Cross Creek, N.C., to the late William and Hazel

Davis Williams. He was raised in New York City, but was heavily influenced by images from family gatherings and trips to rural North Carolina. His traditional training at Pratt and Yale has garnered him recognition as a formidable painter and printmaker. Williams is known as a color-field painter that incorporates abstract images with combinations of geometric and organic forms. His works are non-objective and concerned with the spiritual qualities of basic forms.

River to Sea



Tumble Weed

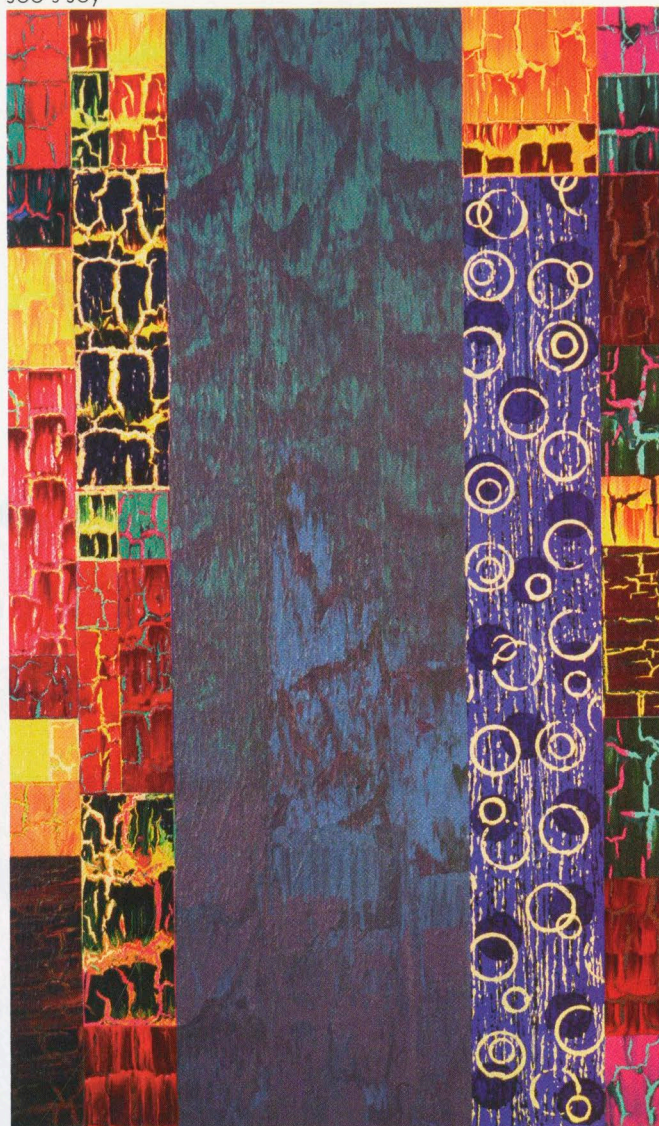


Williams signing *Time of Song* print for Brandywine Workshop

Sam's Call



Joe's Joy



Williams states, "My parents always encouraged and never discouraged my interest in art. They were strong disciplinarians. As children, my brother James and I had no questions on how things should be. They instilled in us a strong work ethic and believed that you work for what you get. I have embraced this in my career. I get up each morning and go to my job to work at my craft of being an artist."

He has established a discipline that consumes his interest. "I paint and develop my ideas at a steady progress that is work-like. As I journey on subways and trains I see images and become a human conduit of things that I see, hear, read, and then internalize into a new way of seeing."

Williams says his southern origins have always provided him with many subjects. "As part of a large extended family, I internalized the geometric patterns found in the stained glass windows of churches and the quilts on clotheslines that permeated the countryside. I embraced the sense of presence that we know intuitively that the quilt maker has used in selecting colors and pattern. The human experience of mixing colors and the subtle tones from washing serve as the roots of my artistic expressions. As the bedrock of my artistic career, people should know that I make art for the people."

His artistic journey has taken him from humble roots to recognition as one of the two 2005 Van Der Zee recipients presented

by the Brandywine Workshop. In June and July of last year Williams spent time as an artist-in-residence at the Brandywine Workshop. His muse allows him to create art for the people and about the people that he encounters. He notes that art allows him to explore the human spirit daily and allows him to make marks that anticipate, guide and direct a path that is consistently and persistently his own. His efforts are rewarded with formal compositions that resonate with the earlier principles of art and design, but with a new freedom of movement and strength that his earlier hardedge abstractions did not possess.

Mr. Williams is a prolific artist and has received numerous rewards, grants, and commissions. He continues dreaming his

Sugar Hill Redux



Williams at work designing print at Brandywine Workshop.

dream of sharing art and helping students develop an analytical approach to seeing the world. He encourages viewers and students to continue making imaginary castles and finding new solutions to questions that will be rewarding to humanity and our commonalities. He currently serves as a professor

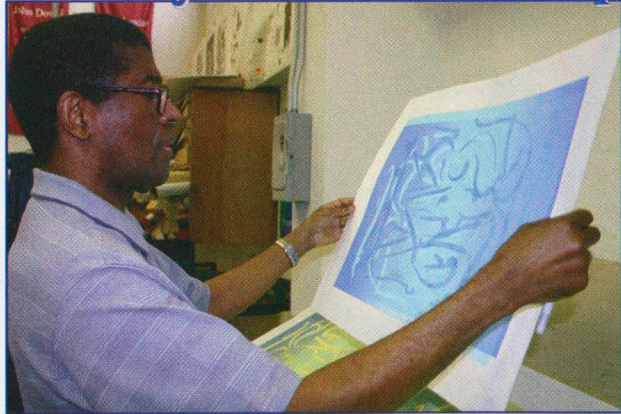
of art at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York. ■

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Brandywine Workshop



Artist William T. Williams

African American Artist Portfolio Promotion:

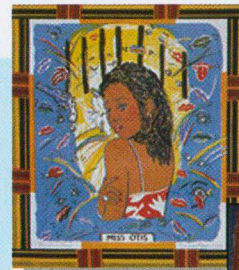
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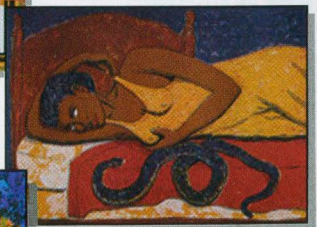
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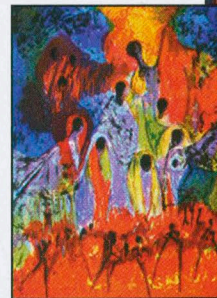
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