

Little Haiti Cultural Complex



“Expressions of the Caribbean”
January 28 - March 28, 2009

“Expressions of the Caribbean”



Dear Residents,

Welcome to the Little Haiti Cultural Complex, a place where community and culture will mingle. This is an exciting occasion for the residents in the City of Miami. After many years of planning, the doors at the Little Haiti Cultural Complex are finally open. I am extremely excited about the opening of the Little Cultural Arts Complex and what it will offer to the Little Haiti/ Historic Lemon City community. The Cultural Complex will offer the community the opportunity to participate in numerous cultural activities such as performing arts performances, concert shows, art, ceramic, ballet classes and educational courses for our youngest residents and to our seniors.

To celebrate the opening, the City of Miami presents “Expressions of the Caribbean,” an art exhibit reflecting the diverse Caribbean culture in our community. The exhibit was curated by Edouard Duval Carrié and the Haitian Cultural Arts Alliance and will feature art from various artists in the community. This is just a sample of what is yet to come in the heart of Little Haiti.

Thank you for the opportunity to share this experience with you.

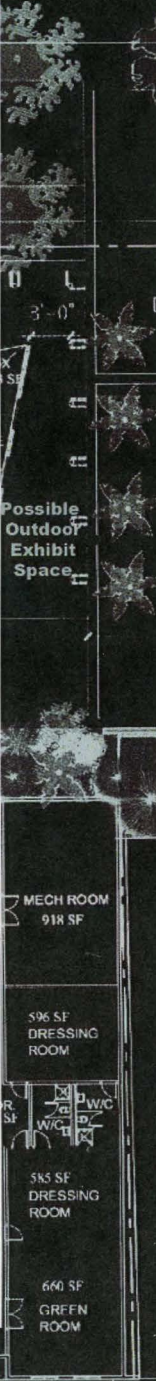
Michelle Spence-Jones
Commissioner, District 5

It is with great pride that we welcome here in the Little Haïti / Historical Lemon City the Little Haïti Cultural Complex. It is a wonderful addition to the ever-expanding roster of cultural venues dotting the Miami region. And what more befitting than to present a larger spectrum of artworks from the artists selected for the Art in Public Spaces. Their works already adorn the exterior and interior spaces of this center but with this exhibit we invite the public to better acquaint themselves with their production. Many techniques and styles are involved here, but we hope that the quality of their work will transcend the difficulty of unity of vision required in any presentation of this sort.

Edouard Duval-Carrié
Artist/Curator

The Little Haiti Cultural Complex will house an art gallery, several art studios, a dance studio, a music studio, and a black box theater.

The mission of the LHCC is to provide a space that brings people together as well as ideas to promote, showcase, and support Afro-Caribbean culture in South Florida. The vision of the LHCC is to expose and educate the larger Miami-Dade Community to the multi-disciplinary arts of the Afro-Caribbean region; to serve as a resource and a place for the exchange of ideas and information among artists of the Caribbean region; to encourage local Afro-Caribbean art institutions and artists to produce quality creative works and provide them with an adequate venue to display their work; and to showcase the works of Afro-Caribbean artists, past and present, local and regional.



ARTISTS

Ralph Allen - In my work, contrasts in forms and colors, materials such as wood, metal, fabrics and plastics, aggressiveness and intimacy are among things that live in harmony within that apparent "chaos" that is the Haitian market. In the background, "Tap-taps" pound popular music. Beyond the image, the soul of a multi-ethnic people, oscillating between spirituality and rationality, traditions and modernity. Look and listen to this extraordinary "metissage!" rich and unknown to many. Cultural strength allows you to adapt to external trends, without losing originality. The pluralist approach seemed to me the best way to express the fusion of the different influences that molded the Caribbean culture.

Wilfred Daleus- Joseph Wilfrid Daleus was born in Port-Au-Prince, Haiti, is a self taught artist and has no formal training. His works are bright and bold in style and often painted on canvas textured with sand. His paintings have been displayed in the Topen Museum in Amsterdam, the Brooklyn Museum in New York, the College St. Pierre, the Mupana Museum in Port-Au-Prince, and the Cornell Museum in Delray Beach.

Colleen Kelley- is an artist with work permanently installed in Miami, Florida. She has shown her work across the United States. Her work consists of large-scale public art sculpture and small-scale sculpture and painting. She works with metals, textiles, acrylic paints, LED lighting, and mixed media found objects. She has studied fine art and Design at the Center for Creative Studies in Detroit, Michigan and New World School of the Arts in Miami.

Sofia LaCroix- The every day lives of Haitian children, women young and old, merchants and peasants are realistically depicted through the oil paintings, charcoal and multimedia drawings, giclée and lithograph prints of self-taught artist, Sophia LaCroix. Her work is clearly inspired by the love and pride she had growing up in Haiti from which she emigrated at the age of fifteen. In her drawings and paintings, Sophia uses powerful imagery and strong colors to convincingly portray the strength and bravery of the Haitian people, as well as the innocence and playfulness of its children.

Francesca Lalanne- Francesca Lalanne was born in South Florida of Haitian parents and, after graduating from Miami's Design Architecture School, received a BA in Architecture in 2003 and BFA in Visual Arts in 2005--- both from Florida International University. She has held three solo exhibitions in South Florida, as well as participating in various local and international group exhibitions from 2000 to 2007, including such venues as Hunter College in New York, Miami's Frost Art Museum, Sao Paulo Brazil, and Art Miami. Francesca currently lives and works in Miami, Florida.

Robert McKnight- Robert McKnight was born in Kingstree, S. Carolina in 1951. His family came to Miami in 1953. During his high school years Robert studied painting at the Miami Art Center then located on Kendall Dr. just west of Dadeland. He received a Scholarship to Syracuse University where he studied Painting, this program allowed him to take electives in sculpture and other mediums along with courses in the humanities that helped mold his philosophy towards his craft. He is active exhibiting his fine art throughout the Southeast United States.

Nicholas Nehaniv- is an Miami Beach-born artist and an industrial designer. He has work permanently displayed in Miami, Florida and Detroit, Michigan. He has shown his work across the United States. His artwork consists of large-scale public art sculpture, painting, murals and small-scale sculpture. He works with metals, ceramics, oil and acrylic paints, LED lighting and mixed media found objects. He has a Bachelor's degree in Industrial Design from the Center for Creative Studies in Detroit, Michigan and an Associates in Arts from the New World School of the Arts in Miami.

Jude Papaloko Thegenus- Born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Jude Papaloko Thegenus, is an artist whose inspiration has always been the colors, rhythms and soul of his homeland. Jude has developed a unique style in working with acrylics, creating one-of-a-kind textural compositions. Solo and group exhibits have been held in his native Haiti as well as Trinidad, Canada, France, and the United States. Jude's works reflects the turmoil in his homeland and the ever-present Vodou priesthood. After moving to Miami, Jude opened Jakmel Art Gallery & Cultural Center, a one of a kind Art Gallery in Miami's Design District, and in 2005 founded Papaloko4Kids, a non-profit organization with the mission of empowering kids from underprivileged communities through the arts.

and a Special Student Exhibition
from Toussaint Louverture Elementary



Edouard Duval Carrie



Exhibit
Space

AWG
160 SF

TOTAL AREA
10,423 SF



*Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor*

*Joe M. Sanchez
Chairman, District 3*

*Michelle Spence-Jones
Vice-Chairman, District 5*

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a special thanks to:

