



THE MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN ART | MACY'S 3RD FLOOR | 4005 CRENSHAW BOULEVARD | LOS ANGELES, CA 90008

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### **Internationally renowned artist Bernard Stanley Hoyes to exhibit at The Museum of African American Art, July 2 through September 24**

Los Angeles, CA — The exhibit “Evolving Art Practice, Rags to the Revival Series” by Bernard Stanley Hoyes will open at The Museum of African American Art (MAAA) on Sunday, July 2, and run through Sunday, September 24, 2017. Born in Kingston, Jamaica, Bernard Stanley Hoyes demonstrated artistic abilities at an early age. When he was trotted off to live with a great aunt in rural Jamaica, his exposure to the revival cults, ceremonies, and rituals planted seeds deep within that would manifest in his art years later.

Hoyes's formal art studies began at the Junior Art Centre at the Institute of Jamaica. At age 15, he left Jamaica for New York City. His lessons continued at the Art Students League and Vermont Academy. A heady combination of his drive to excel and the influence of the Civil Rights Movement placed Hoyes at the helm of propelling the Academy to institute social and cultural programs. Upon graduation, he was the first recipient of the Frederick Stanley Art Award and saw the launching of the school's first formal art department. When Hoyes attended an alumni reception some years later to receive the Florence Sabin Distinguished Alumni Award, he felt pride in seeing the new edifice housing a formal art department. He earned a Bachelor in Fine Arts in painting and graphic design from the California School of Arts and Crafts in Oakland. The artist states, *“I have been a creator of art, symbols of ancestral echoes, since a child in Jamaica... The images I convey symbolize a culmination of these ancestral echoes brought to classical form. They are contemporary, eternal in spirit, and stand as praise to our existence—past, present, and future.”*

During the 1970's Hoyes worked intensively on his “Rag Series” which symbolized, documented, and prophesied his journey from a struggling artist to one of prominence. In the early 1980's, he began works that recalled his Afro-Caribbean roots, specifically the rituals of African Spirituality and Christianity since the Middle Passage. Now internationally acclaimed, Bernard Stanley Hoyes is an artist with a self-validated mission, a spiritual vision, and a challenge to master unique compositions of spiritual significance. Hoyes says, *“I desire to visually engross the viewer through powerful expressive works. I paint from an intuitive point of view. During this process, the spirits take possession and a ritual theme becomes dominant.”*

Hoyes has participated in numerous solo exhibitions here and abroad. He has created murals in the inner city of Los Angeles. He has curated exhibitions and served as a board member at The Museum of African American Art in Los Angeles. Hoyes has won awards of excellence, nationally and internationally, for his famous “Revival Series.” His works have been featured in numerous television and film productions, and are collected internationally.

Recognition and affirmation of traditional African religion and spirituality in the artwork of Bernard Stanley Hoyes continue to find universal appeal, stunning audiences worldwide. One of his commissioned murals graces the exterior wall of the First A.M.E. Church in Los Angeles (along LaSalle Avenue and 21st Street). Titled “In The Spirit of Contribution,” the mural is dedicated to both African American and Hispanic people who have made noteworthy contributions to the building of America. His artworks are in museums, galleries, and private collections worldwide. Oprah Winfrey, Natalie Cole, Steve Harvey, Keenan Ivory Wayans, and the National Urban League are among his collectors. President Barack Obama has even been photographed in front of his work. His craft has been featured internationally in museums and galleries around the world. For more information, visit [www.bernardhoyes.com](http://www.bernardhoyes.com).

Bernard Stanley Hoyes now resides in Desert Hot Springs, CA, where he creates from his studio. His exhibit “Evolving Art Practice, Rags to the Revival Series” will open Sunday, July 2, and run through Sunday, September 24, 2017. The Museum of African American Art offers free admission and is open Thursday through Sunday, 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm. MAAA is located on the third floor of Macy's at Baldwin Hills Crenshaw, 4005 Crenshaw Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90008. For more information, visit [www.maaala.org](http://www.maaala.org).

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