



Artist
Gwendolyn Black

Press Package

12

In the Community

FREE

Arts and Jazzfest NYC kicks off in Harlem and beyond



Gwen Black/Founder Arts and Jazzfest

Posted By Don Thomas

Every summer there are a number of wonderful festivals held all over New York City but few focus attention on the relationship of the visual arts and Jazz music. For the past 20 years Arts and Jazzfest NYC™ has been the premier festival dedicated to bringing visual artists and musicians from the Village of Harlem and surrounding areas into the spotlight showcasing their talent through concerts and dedicated arts activities.

This year marks the 20th anniversary celebrating the visual side of Jazz music. To kick off their anniversary, on Saturday, June 24, 2023 from

12 noon until 5 pm, Arts and Jazzfest NYC™ will presents its 7th Annual Visual Arts and Jazz Day™ an intergenerational arts and jazz celebration at the newly renovated Montefiore Square Park located on Broadway between 137th and 138th Street in West Harlem.

The day will include activities for all ages including storytelling, dancing, puppet making, painting, arts and crafts and live music performances by Harlem's own Francisco Mora-Catlett and his Afro Horns Band, featuring Vocalist/Actress Sophia Loren Coffee, Puppeteer Will Abbott and Ms. Biddy, with Arts and Jazzfest NYC™.

Jazzy Storytime™ by Artist/Festival Founder Gwen Black who shares books inspired by Jazz music, art making with Visual Artist Austin Henson and dance lessons by Dancer/Choreographer Kathy Sanson along with music by DJ Sam Wilson. "Visual Arts and Jazz Day was created to ensure that the community was able to participate in our festival so that they could meet and work alongside artists and performers who live right here our community" says Black, who herself is a teaching artist, educator and Jazz enthusiast.

"Over the years, through our festival, the community is now becoming more familiar with the correlation between the visual arts and Jazz music. Master visual artists such as



Francisco Mora-Catlett and Afro Horns Band

Romare Bearden and Elizabeth Catlett along with legendary Jazz Percussionist Joe Chambers and the late great Pianist/Cultural Icon Randy Weston has been featured in the festival. Understanding the history of art and Jazz music is very important for our youth and the entire community" Black adds.

The festival's popular Jazz By The Water™ concert series returns to Governor's Island for its third year (and 4th annual) and will take place over three months (July, August and Sept) inside Colonel Row. The

series features 75 Jazz musicians from all over the NYC region.

"This outdoor jazz concert is really an amazing getaway for the whole family to escape the city and enjoy some time together in a beautiful park setting and listen to some legendary Jazz musicians bring ing back Jazz Yesterday and Today™" adds said Black. A full performance lineup for Jazz By The Water™ and dates will be posted online at www.artsandjazzfestnyc.com. Each Jazz concert is FREE

and open to the public but reservations for the NYC Ferry are required. Funding for the 2023 festival was provided by the West Harlem Development Corporation (WHDC), Jazz Foundation of America, LMCC Community Engagement Grant, K&R Realty, with community support from Sugar Hill Communications Institute, Inc. (Fiscal Sponsor), CCCD (Centro Civico Cultural Dominicano), Graham Windham/Manhattanville Community Center, and Harlem Public Arts Project.



Another successful HIP HOP 50th Celebration featuring Ronnie "The Photographer to the Stars" exhibition recently took place at the Queens Public Library. The well attended event was hosted by Popular Ralph McDaniels, the creator and host of the seminal New York City public access show "Video Music Box," which debuted in 1983. McDaniels aka/a "Uncle Ralph" to his fans—had a decades-long run documenting the evolution of Hip Hop from the front row and the backstage.



Club Adam, Inc., a (501C-3) non-profit organization, was honored with a Certificate Of Recognition from the Mayor Eric Adams Office, on June 12, 2023 for its decades of humanitarian service to New York City. (L-R) Tony Felton, President, and Macques Thomas, VP. The gentlemen were recently in Norfolk, VA, granting scholarships to students from Booker T. Washington High School who will be attending Norfolk State University in the Fall.

BEACON, June 22 - June 28, 2023, newyorkbeacon.com

Jazz By The Water returns to Governors Island, beyond with free music

BY EMILY DAVENPORT

Summer is right around the corner, and Governors Island is taking advantage of the warm weather with Arts and JazzFest NYC.

Now in its 19th year, Arts and JazzFest NYC is back with 3rd Annual Jazz By The Water on Governor's Island. The festival aims to provide an escape for New Yorkers with live jazz performances in a beautiful setting.

Artist and curator Gwendolyn Black was inspired to create Arts and Jazzfest NYC & Visual Arts and Jazzfest NYC to bring the importance of the many visual artists who are dedicated to preserving jazz through their work to the public. The festival officially kicked off on June 4 on Governors Island with performances



PHOTO VIA GETTY IMAGES

from Justin Robinson Quartet; the Phil Young Jazz experience; Return of the Frozen Earth featuring Paul Brown (guest vocalist Rochelle Thompson); and Amanda Pucci Jhones Quartet;

C. Kelly Wright Band.

"Displaying the artwork in public venues along with the music such Governor's Island increases the economic base for the artists and musicians as well as

enables the public to see the art as well as hear the music," said Black. "Looking back, it is amazing how far we have come which started off with 30 participating visual artists in the legendary JVC Jazz Festival as a special event up until 2008. We are grateful to everyone for helping us to reach our 19th Anniversary."

The fun times will continue on June 10 at 145th St Riverbank State Park. From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., the 6th Annual Visual Arts and Jazz Day will feature art and music-making including storytelling, puppet making, music instruction, swing dancing, live music by Charles Butler and The Blues Bandits and other performers, adult coloring, and an outdoor picnic with food. Those who attend are encouraged to register ahead of time and bring their own

picnic basket and lawn chair.

The festival will also take place at Governors Island on July 23 and Aug. 13 (rain dates July 24 and Aug. 14). Additional events will continue until September 2022 with exhibitions dedicated to jazz at several galleries in Harlem including Centro Civico Cultural Dominicana on 145th Street and select galleries in Brooklyn. This year will also bring the return of a 20ft long mural dedicated to the hit tune "A Night in Tunisia" in conjunction with AHRC NYC.

Each event is free to the public, but for the Governors Island shows, reservations for the NYC Ferry \$3 are required and can be made at www.govisland.com under plan your trip.

For more information, visit www.artsandjazzfestny.com.

Schaeps Media
June 10, 2022

Entertainment



By Don Thomas

Friends of Randy Weston presents "The Man and His Music" exhibit

BEACON, December 12 - December 18, 2019 newyorkbeacon.com



Icon Randy Weston

Celebrating 16 years of presenting visual arts and jazz music, Visual Arts and Jazzfest NYC™ will conclude its 2019 festival with their annual Year End Holiday Celebration with the opening of the exhibition Randy Weston "The Man and His Music" in honor of the late, great Guggenheim Fellow, NEA Jazz Master, Pianist, Composer, and Cultural Icon Randy Weston.

Fondly known as "America's African Musical Ambassador," Weston's seven decade contribution of musical direction and genius makes him one of the world's foremost pianists and composers today. In partnership with the Friends of Randy Weston and the Fulton Art Fair, Inc., the celebration will include an art and photo display celebrating his life and music. The exhibition will be on display from Dec. 16th 2019 through January 16th 2020 at the historic Stuyvesant Mansion in Brooklyn, New York. The kick off reception will be held on Mon., Dec., 16th, 6pm to 8 pm.

Since the debut of the exhibition series formerly known as Visual Expressions on Jazz™ at the Walter Reade Theater at Lincoln Center in 1999, this marks the start of the 19 year relationship that Weston had with Arts and Jazzfest NYC™.

"Over the years Randy has been a strong supporter and mentor for us" states Artist/

through their work.

"To spend over 19 years with a genius such as Randy Weston who always stayed connected with the community and always made time to work with and inspire younger generations has greatly impacted everyone musically and visually.

"Randy was never too busy and never too far away to reach back and perform in our festival or participate in one of our many educational forums. Early on, Randy recognized the need for a festival such as Arts and Jazzfest NYC™ because of its mission to present the visual side of jazz through so many wonderful creative expressions and enable both visual artists and musicians to come together to showcase their work.

"We are forever grateful for his friendship, guidance, and his musical contributions and that is why it was very important for us to end the year with an exhibition celebrating his life and commitment to people everywhere," says Black.

On display will be the works of many emerging, established, and prominent visual artists such as Otto Neals, Sadikisha Collier, Larry Weekes, Nina Hellman, Elton Leonard, Sonia Barnett, Tamme Hunt, Nate Ladson, Katherine Harrison, Curator/



Artist/Curator Gwendolyn Black

Historian Gene Alexander Peters of Sankofa Exhibits, arts patron Kevin W. Thorbourne, and Artist/Curator Gwendolyn Black among others.

To continue the 16 year celebration, special activities will include a panel discussion, film presentation and children's activities at the Stuyvesant Mansion in January along with a display of a 20ft long mural dedicated to the

hit tune "A Night in Tunisia" in the Village of Harlem that was created by community residents and artists along with adults with disabilities from the AHRC day program from 2011 until 2012. For further information about the schedule of events, visit www.artsandjazzfestnyc.com and for sponsorship opportunities or email gwenblackarts@yahoo.com.



Historic Stuyvesant Mansion 375 Stuy-Ave. Brooklyn

In the community

The Art Students League of New York host weekly class for kids ages (8-12)

Posted By Don Thomas

The Art Students League of New York started by artists for artists in 1875, host a weekly class for children (ages 8-12) every Saturday from 1pm-4:30 pm in Manhattan. The "Young Artists" class provides adolescents the opportunity to develop their eyes, hands, and minds as artists.

"Young Artists" is taught by Marilyn J. Friedman who studied drawing, painting, and sculpture at the Art Students League of New York, attended Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture and the University of Siena, Italy and received a B.A. in Art History and Sculpture from Stony Brook University.

Friedman's work is exhibited at galleries and sculpture gardens throughout the Northeast and she has won numerous grants and awards for her portrait, figurative and abstract works.

Using drawing as the main foundation, young artists learn to observe, interpret, and design. Projects incorporate a broad range of approaches to traditional and non-traditional subjects, working with mediums such as: graphite, charcoal, colored pencil, marker, ink, watercolor, wax resist, assemblage, and collage. More information visit <https://www.theartstudentsleague.org/class/young-artists-class-2/>



Introducing

Gwen Black, renowned curator and visual artist



Popular community radio personality, curator and visual artist Gwen Black, states "my beginnings started at a very young age. I have always been in love with drawing and coloring. My favorite past time was to collect paper dolls and mix and match their clothes—ironically years later I began my career as a Fashion

Illustrator. "As a graduate of the Art Institute of Pittsburgh and the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT), I have merged both fine art, fashion and music in my work. My father was an aspiring musician, so I am deeply inspired by Jazz music and it has been a constant theme in my work. I believe art and mu-

sic can make a difference in our lives and has the power to heal. "Over the past 25 plus years, I have had the opportunity to present art in a variety of spaces. As a curator, I tell a story and share with audiences works of art that I hope will inspire and excite them. Through my work as a curator, I have had the opportunity to meet new people, make new friends and work with artists of diverse backgrounds. "As an educator, teaching artist and co-founder of IAM (Incorporation of Artists on the Move, Inc), I have been blessed to work throughout our community working with youths, seniors, and especially persons with disabilities.

"It brings me joy to see people get inspired to create and discover their own talents too! Art and music makes a difference in our lives, bridges our communities and allows us to see the world around us! #ArtisTimeWellSpent #SaveOurSons #SaveOurDaughters"

NEW YORK Amsterdam News

The new Black view

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'Portrait In Blue'

The 8th Annual Visual Expressions on Jazz Art Exhibition 2008

By GIDEON MANASSEH
Special to the AmNews

At the opening at Clinton Hill Art Gallery in Brooklyn for the "Portrait In Blue" 8th annual Visual Expressions on Jazz Art Exhibition, artists explore the relationship of visual arts, color and jazz. Created and produced by artist Gwendolyn Black, director of Incorporation of Artists on the Move (IAM), said, "The exhibition was developed to be a vehicle to showcase the many works of art from artists

all over the world and bring forth the current generation of artists who continue in the tradition of supporting jazz music in their work".

Over 80 contemporary painters and multimedia artists will be featured at several Manhattan locations, Countee Cullen Library, Canvas Paper and Stone Gallery, Citibank Financial Center and Brooklyn-based Clinton Hill Art Gallery. Each venue will exhibit various artists specially selected for their location.



L.O. Brown (Clinton Hill Gallery), Gwendolyn Black (IAM curator), Maxine Moutane (IAM member)

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NY 1 Article 2008

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manhattan.ny1.com/content/84955/brooklyn-gallery-celebrates-jazz-through-visual-arts

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Updated 08/21/2008 02:07 PM

Brooklyn Gallery Celebrates Jazz Through Visual Arts

By: Roger Clark



A Brooklyn gallery is celebrating jazz music through art as part of a summer festival.

The JVC Jazz Festival brings jazz to venues around the city. Eight years ago, a special events section was added, featuring visual expressions of the music.

This year, the Clinton Hill Art Gallery is hosting a special exhibit called "Jazz Portraits in Blue" – bringing the festival for Brooklyn for the first time.

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Jazz Reflections and BET Jazz on Harlem

Artists like jazz musicians create spontaneous works in the moment. The handstand represents their canvas on which they project colorful images that capture the attention and imagination of the audience.

As part of the JVC Jazz Festival Special Events, "Jazz Reflections," presented by Incorporation of Artists on the Move, Inc. (IAM), will feature the works of over 80 contemporary visual artists and emerging sculptors.

IAM, celebrating its 5th year

with the JVC Jazz Festival, will exhibit the works of Michael Cummings, Ann Tankosky, Danny Simmons, Chasid John, and Jamillah Jennings among others. The exhibition will be on display now through August 21st at a variety of locations including The Morris-Jumel Mansion, Simmons Gallery, Countess Cullen Library, Citibank Financial Center (at 146th Street), WBGO-FM (in Newark, New Jersey), and the Global Institute.

"This exhibition provides a magnificent view of how we are able to see jazz music as well as enjoy listening to it," states Gwendolyn Black, Event Creator/Producer and Curator. Anderson Pilgrim is the guest curator for this exhibit.

IAM will host a gala opening on June 22nd at 6pm, at The Morris-Jumel Mansion (160th Street & Edgecombe Avenue). The exhibition will also include "Swing, Bebop to Hip Hop," a film and panel discussion with guests Professor Robert O'Meally, Director of Jazz Studies at Columbia University, pianist Randy Weston, as well as noted poets, writers and authors. A tribute to cultural icon Oscar

Brown, Jr. will feature the works of photographer Kwame Brathwaite at Zazaj Gallery and Artist Talks at Simmons Gallery, WBGO Jazz Radio and Coss Fela Gallery.

"Our first exhibit started out with only 30 participating local artists and now has over 300 exhibiting artists from around the U.S., Canada, Mexico and Europe. As a curator and visual artist, it is very exciting to see the many styles of art dedicated to jazz," says Black. It sends a strong statement that many visual artists from around the world support jazz music in their work and there is a need to have their work recognized."

BET Jazz will broadcast "Sounds of Harlem," a salute to the phenomenal contribution of the Harlem community to American entertainment. The one-hour television (cable) special, chronicles Harlem's musical legacy with a tribute to the late Tito Puente, reuniting his former band members, along with Tito Puente, Jr., in a moving jam session, plus commentary by U.S. Congressman Charles Rangel, Maya Angelou, Bill Cosby, Wynton Marsalis, Ed Bradley, Paquito D'Rivera and Arturo O'Farrill among others.

The special will air on BET



Jazz on June 21st at 12 noon, 5pm and midnight; and on June 26th at 11 am, 7pm and 1am. The program is co-produced by the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce. To offer your comments on the program, e-mail TVviewerComments@BET.com.



Father's Day

JVC JAZZ FESTIVAL
NEW YORK
JUNE 12-21
2005

CARNEGIE HALL

Wayne & Dave
WAYNE SHORTER QUARTET
FEATURING BRIAN BLADE
JOHN PATITUCCI
DANILLO PEREZ

Health

15

NEW YORK BEACON, Feb. 5 - Feb. 12, 2003 newyorkbeacon.com

New breast MRI can detect breast cancer invisible to mammography



HONORING KING — Women In Jazz performing at the Windows Over Harlem Super Club in the Adam Clayton Powell State Office Building in Harlem, in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King. The event was sponsored and produced by Gwendolyn Black and Emme Kemp of Emmerlyne Productions in association with Incorporation of Artists on the Move Inc.

Harlem Hospital offers

Until now, the gold standard for breast cancer detection has been mammography.

While mammograms still remain a very effective diagnostic tool, they are not the final word in breast cancer diagnosis.

Manhattan East Breast Imaging is the first center in New York State — and one of only a handful in the whole country — to possess the Aurora, an MRI scanner specifically designed for and devoted to breast imaging.

"Our focus since the 70s, has been to detect breast cancer when it is approximately 1 centimeter," says Dr. Mark Novick, radiologist and medical director of the center, which opened in January. "With the MRI, we're going to be trying to get it down to 5 millimeters. While the MRI does not replace standard mammograms and ultrasounds, it will augment those other imaging techniques."

Most often it will be used once a woman has been diagnosed with breast cancer. "There will be cancers that are not seen on mammography or ultrasound that MRI can pick up," says Dr. Novick. "The MRI can better show the extent

Breast MRI, to be sure that they've done adequate mapping of the breast."

Dr. Novick will also use the MRI on women with especially dense breast tissue; those who have high risk factors, such as a family history or past occurrence of breast cancer; or those who have scarring from prior lumpectomies. "The MRI is very helpful to determine if there is a recurrence at the lumpectomy site because a scar and a recurrence can look the same on other imaging techniques." It is also the best tool to find gel bleed or silicone ruptures in women who have breast implants.

Another area of potential usage that is already undergoing extensive assessment in Europe is as a screening mechanism to assess the breasts of young women in their 20s and 30s. Screening mammography is not considered appropriate for most women under age 40; yet there are increasing numbers of cancers being diagnosed in this younger age group. Generally, these cancers tend to be discovered later, often due to the dense glandular nature of youthful breast tissue, and prove to be

have a higher blood supply than normal tissue and grow abnormally quickly, the contrast agent will usually make them easier to identify," says Dr. Novick.

The Aurora Breast MRI is high on patient comfort both from a physical and mental standpoint. One, the patient's head is outside of the machine and two, the Aurora Breast MRI scanner is the only one of its kind that places the technologist in the room with the patient. The patient lies on her stomach and goes in feet first which eliminates the tunnel effect.

Hundreds of images are taken during the MRI exam, analyzed by computer and Physician and compared with the patient's mammograms and ultrasounds. "Having the Aurora dedicated Breast MRI system within the breast center eliminates the need for a patient to go elsewhere for a Breast MRI," says Dr. Novick. "Manhattan East Breast Imaging aims to deliver results to patients within 24 hours, eliminating the dreaded time waiting for a diagnosis."

Believing that this is one of the most promising technological advances in early breast cancer detection, Dr. Novick is at the forefront in terms of pos-

Caribbean Life

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Arts and Entertainment



SEEING JAZZ THIS SUMMER

A "Ticket to Winter Art and Exhibition of Contemporary Art" is the highlight of the year's involvement of the esteemed JVC Jazz Festival, from June 18 to July 20. Exhibitions include: "The Art of the Piano" at 1100 St. Nicholas Ave and 100 St., as well as the "Jazz Art Gallery" at 100 St. 100 St. 100 St. and (Lange Ave.) will jointly house the event in Harlem. Other: Black Renaissance group, Robert Darden's "The Last of the Blue Devils" (Page 10).

Continued on page 10

Keeping in tune with the women of jazz

By VANESSA PHILLIPS

Dizzy Gillespie. Jelly Roll Morton. Louis Armstrong. Miles Davis. Wynton Marsalis. You've heard of all the great men of jazz.

Now make room for the women.

The Great Women of Jazz is the focus of this year's Black Musician's Conference at the University of Massachusetts. Featured events include an art exhibit, a panel discussion, video showings, mini-concerts, and talks about the vast, but often unheard of world of women in jazz.

Their roots lie in the sultry vocals of Billie Holiday, Bessie

Smith, and Ella Fitzgerald, all women well-known outside of jazz circles. But women also have established themselves as jazz instrumentalists since the 1930s, when large groups of all-women bands toured the country and took stereotypes by storm. Nowadays, women are pioneers on the jazz club scene, in the cassette and CD business, and even on "The Arsenio Hall Show."

Traditionally, successful efforts by women in the jazz world have been considered exceptions to the rule by the male-dominated music scene, relegating women to mere back-up singers. But, that's about to change.

"Beauty and the Beat," a dual art exhibit and concert, kicks off the UMass conference. One half

of the exhibit features watercolor paintings by fashion illustrator Gwendolyn Black, who paints female jazz artists, such as Ma Rainey, Dinah Washington, and Ella Fitzgerald in the clothes of their time period. For example, said Black, the women from the 1920s wore flapper dresses, while Bessie Smith, who crooned her way through the 1930s, wore white satin and fur. And Black's musical accompaniment for the exhibit, alto saxophonist Corinthia Cromwell, wears a miniskirt in her picture.

Jazz has a vast and varied history that spans a century of rhythms. Since New Orleans had established itself as the musical city of the country after the Civil War, it was only natural that jazz would grow there. The earliest forms of jazz emerged out of the black community in the late 19th century—out of spiritual songs from slavery days. Although the deepest roots of jazz rest in these spiritual hymns and the blues, jazz initially borrowed from vaudeville and 19th-century European marches and polkas.

In the early 1900s, street bands were hired to play this new form of music that was cultivating into jazz. Ragtime was established, and Scott Joplin and Jelly Roll Morton gave a life to the piano that it had never seen before. It was at this time, when New Orleans insiders spread to Mississippi, Chicago, and New York, that jazz spread across the country like a heated jam session.

After World War I, young



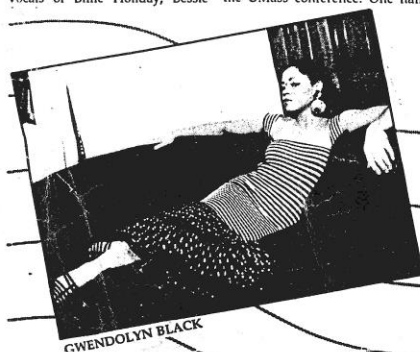
BETTY CARTER

people saw jazz as the choice music of rebellion. With the increased popularity of cabarets and dance halls, jazz found yet other venue in which to spread its lively beat.

In the 1920s and '30s, jazz musicians soared into the limelight. Big bands were created that gave structure to the once spontaneous feeling of jazz. Women jazz musicians flourished at this time. Singers Bessie

Smith, Ella Fitzgerald, and Billie Holiday worked the scene at festivals, carnivals, and music halls. These vocalists belted tales of woe that reflected their lives. As Sally Placksin writes in "Women in Jazz: 1900 to the present," "They sang of love, unrequited love, murderous revenge, anger, prostitution, jail, abandonment, loneliness, disease, alcohol, home, humor, sex, ships, hard luck, death, lesbianism, male homosexuality, violence, and even aching feet."

Continued on p.5



GWENDOLYN BLACK

Artists serenade audiences with images of women

By VANESSA PHILLIPS

Imagine being serenaded by a full jazz band while you walk through an open art gallery filled with larger-than-life sketches of the great women of jazz.

If that sounds like a scene out of America's golden age of jazz, then you've entered the world of Gwendolyn Black and Corinthia Cromwell, two artists who are bringing a unique edge to this year's Black Musician's Conference.

Their exhibit, the multimedia "Beauty and the Beat:

Women in Jazz," kicks off the conference on March 22 with an intriguing combination of water colors and jazz music.

Black, a fashion illustrator and jazz lover, and Cromwell, an alto saxophonist, developed a fast friendship in 1969, when a mutual friend introduced them.

The idea for the project came about one night when Black and Cromwell went to the Blue Note jazz club in New York City, and realized that all the players were male.

"We decided we needed to

do something together to give recognition to women of all backgrounds who have embraced jazz," Black said.

They finally settled on a visual and musical feast of images.

"Beauty and the Beat" has been shown in selected parts of the country since 1991. Black said that the show is "a lot of hard work but it's coming along."

Her paintings are watercolors that show women jazz musicians dressed in the unique garb that designated

their time period.

During the exhibit, Cromwell croons on her alto sax as her back-up band Chapter Five serenades an audience.

Black, a native of Pittsburgh, Penn., attended the Art Institute there, and moved to New York when she was a student at the Fashion Institute of Technology. She worked as a clothing manufacturer until 1990, when she left to pursue her artwork.

Cromwell, originally from Baltimore, Md., studied Music Therapy at Howard Universi-

ty in Washington, D.C. She's played with Jon Faddis, Dexter Gordon, and Wynton Marsalis.

Black said that she and Cromwell want their exhibit to open the eyes of audiences who have so far been blind to the talents of women in jazz.

"Our goal is to give the audience something to think about. It's important for young people to see the fashion sketches with the pretty clothes and colors, and maybe they'll inquire further and learn more about the lives of these women."

