

**30 AMERICANS** offers a dynamic and thought-provoking presentation of more than 70 works of art created by leading African American artists over the last four decades. They range from well-known figures such as Jean-Michel Basquiat, Kerry James Marshall, and Carrie Mae Weems to rising stars like Mickalene Thomas, Kehinde Wiley, and Hank Willis Thomas. Seen together, the exhibition provides an opportunity for a cross generational exploration of the influence of race, sexuality, history, gender, and popular culture on individual identity.

*30 Americans* is drawn from the acclaimed holdings of the Rubell Family Collection in Miami, Florida. In explaining the premise of this exhibition, Don and Mera Rubell say, “we decided to call it *30 Americans*. Americans rather than African Americans or Black Americans because nationality is a statement of fact, while racial identity is a question each artist answers in his or her own way, or not at all.”



## 30 AMERICANS

was organized by the Rubell Family Collection, Miami.

Platinum Sponsor:



The Frist Center for the Visual Arts is supported in part by:



### ADMISSION PRICES:

Adults: \$10.00  
Youth 18 and younger: FREE  
Frist Center members: FREE  
Seniors (65+), Military (with ID), College Students (with ID): \$7.00  
Groups (10+ with advance reservations: call 615.744.3247): \$8.00

### VISITING HOURS:

**Monday–Wednesday:**  
10:00 a.m.–5:30 p.m.  
**Thursday and Friday:**  
10:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m.  
(Martin ArtQuest Gallery closes at 5:30 p.m.)  
**Saturday:**  
10:00 a.m.–5:30 p.m.  
**Sunday:**  
1:00–5:30 p.m.  
(Café opens at noon)



Downtown Nashville  
919 Broadway  
Nashville, TN 37203  
fristcenter.org



# 30 AMERICANS

OCTOBER 11, 2013–JANUARY 12, 2014





## RELATED PROGRAMS & EVENTS

### COMMUNITY PREVIEW

**Thursday, October 10, noon–9 p.m.**

We celebrate the opening of the exhibition with a FREE daylong community preview. Join us!

### COLLECTORS' PERSPECTIVE: 30 AMERICANS

**Thursday, October 10, 6:30 p.m.**

Don and Mera Rubell discuss, with Rubell Family Collection Director Juan Valadez, the formation and growth of their collection over the last forty years; FREE

### ARTIST'S PERSPECTIVE WITH HANK WILLIS THOMAS

**Thursday, October 24, 6:30 p.m.**

By employing the language of popular culture and advertising in his work, photo-conceptual artist Hank Willis Thomas explicitly addresses race, class, and history in a way that is accessible and easy to decode.

### CURATOR'S TOUR: 30 AMERICANS

**Thursday, October 31, 12:00 p.m.**

Join Frist Center Curator Katie Delmez on this tour that explores themes of race, identity, and contemporary culture found in the exhibition.



### ARTINI: 30 AMERICANS

**Friday, November 8, 7:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, November 12, 12:00 p.m.**

Frist Center Educator for Community Engagement Shaun Giles leads an informal yet insightful discussion about one or two works in the exhibition.

### FILM: BASQUIAT

**Friday, November 15, 7:00 p.m.**

This film explores the meteoric rise and fall of young artist Jean-Michel Basquiat. Directed by Julian Schnabel, 1996. 107 minutes. DVD. Rated R.

### ARTIST'S PERSPECTIVE WITH NINA CHANEL ABNEY

**Friday, November 22, 6:30 p.m.**

Nina Chanel Abney shares her inspirations, process, and the evolution of her work that refers to politics, celebrity scandals, social issues, and unfulfilled desires.

### LECTURE SERIES WITH VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY: "FOOD FOR THOUGHT"

**Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m.; November 5,  
December 3, and January 14**

See [www.fristcenter.org](http://www.fristcenter.org) for advance registration and lecture themes.

## FOR EDUCATORS & FAMILIES

### ARTFUL TALES: "EAGLE TURK"

**Sunday, October 20, 2:00–3:00 p.m.**

Participate in a story about winged creatures, sabotage, and self-discovery then create a painted collage; FREE

### EDUCATOR WORKSHOP: "'WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AN AMERICAN?' THE ART OF 30 AMERICANS AND NORMAN ROCKWELL"

**Thursday, November 14, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, November 16, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.**

\$20 for Frist Center members/\$25 for non-members. Advanced registration is required. Download the Teacher Workshop Registration Form at [www.fristcenter.org/learn](http://www.fristcenter.org/learn).

### FREE FAMILY FESTIVAL DAY: EXPRESS YOURSELF!

**Sunday, November 17, 1:00–5:00 p.m.**

Enjoy a day of discovery filled with art adventures, live music, and exciting programs. Visit [www.fristcenter.org](http://www.fristcenter.org) for a complete schedule of events.

### ACTIVATING ART: NICK CAVE AND HIS SOUNDSUITS

Ongoing art activity, Martin ArtQuest Gallery

## OTHER RESOURCES

### TOURS

Visitors may participate in a docent-led or self-guided tour of *30 Americans*. Learn more about tour options at [www.fristcenter.org/visit/tours](http://www.fristcenter.org/visit/tours).

### TEACHER GUIDE

Available at [www.fristcenter.org/learn](http://www.fristcenter.org/learn).

### CATALOGUE

*30 Americans* with essays by Robert Hobbs, Glenn Ligon, Franklin Sirmans, and Michele Wallace. Available at the Frist Center Gift Shop

### 30 AMERICANS: THE CONVERSATIONS

Listen to conversations between many of the exhibition's artists and the collectors. DVD, 119 minutes  
Available at the Frist Center Gift Shop

#### IMAGES:

Cover: Kehinde Wiley, *Triple Portrait of Charles I* (detail), 2007. Oil and enamel on canvas, triptych, 82 x 135 in. overall. Rubell Family Collection, Miami; Inside cover: Nick Cave. *Soundsuit*, 2008. Fabric, fiberglass, and metal, 102 x 36 x 28 in. Rubell Family Collection, Miami. Photography by James Prinz. Courtesy of the artist and Jack Shainman Gallery, New York; Interior (L to R): Jean-Michel Basquiat. *Bird On Money*, 1981. Acrylic and oil on canvas, 66 x 90 in. Rubell Family Collection, Miami; *30 Americans* artists with Glenn Ligon's *America*. Photography by Kwaku Alston; Wangechi Mutu. *Non je ne regrette rien*, 2007. Ink, acrylic, glitter, cloth, paper collage, plastic, plant material, and mixed media on Mylar, 54 1/2 x 92 1/2 in. Rubell Family Collection, Miami; Back: Mickalene Thomas. *Baby I Am Ready Now* (detail), 2007. Acrylic, rhinestone, and enamel on wooden panel, diptych, 72 x 132 in. overall. Rubell Family Collection, Miami. Courtesy of Lehmann Maupin, New York. © Mickalene Thomas

