



50 YEARS | An Experience You Won't Forget  
A History You'll Always Remember

### ***A CALL FOR WORKS:***

#### ***Bent, but Unbroken: Artwork celebrating the resilience of women***

Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History (The Wright) and the Things Feel Heavy have joined together to present *Bent, but Unbroken*, an exhibition celebrating the resilience of women.

Things that can bend seldom break. Under the crushing weight of history, women have become particularly adept at weathering storms, unbroken by the harshest conditions that would see them snap, but instead, make them stronger. News footage covering tropical hurricanes become highlight reels of destruction. Gusts of wind tearing up rooftops, houses crumbling under torrents of rain; a scene set in which armies of palm trees double-over under the weight of the storm, valiantly weather the wrath. After the storm subsides, the coast lay in ruins, but the palm tree remains standing—worn and weathered, but unbroken. Unlike other trees, the Palm tree is uniquely built. Fortified from its core to its leaves, it can practically bend in half in the midst of a disaster. Some things in this world are literally built to better withstand the worst of what life has to throw at it. Engineered to bend when they should break, the resilience of women throughout time is proof of that.

This is a call for art depicting the way women have remained unbroken throughout the trials of history. From enslavement to segregation, witch hunts to honor killings, women have fought back, and have remained standing throughout the atrocities of time: arranged marriages, child brides, ritual servitude, acid attacks, forced prostitution, rape, stalking, domestic abuse, the continuous denial of their basic rights and autonomy, and still they stand. In the face of unrelenting violence, they are defiant, unyielding, undefeated; *bent, but unbroken*.

Work in this exhibition should in some way reflect, whether historically or personally, the power and resilience of women. It can deal directly or abstractly with issues affecting women, and women's unique ability to rise in the face of adversity, and overcome. This exhibition is open to any female or female identifying artist of any ethnicity.

# Submission Guidelines

## Primary Considerations for Selection

- Artistic merit
- Quality of presentation
- Compatibility with the museum's Mission Statement: *"To open minds and change lives through the exploration and celebration of African American history and culture"*
- Works are deemed appropriate for a general family audience
- Female or female identifying artist

## How to Enter

- Please submit through email or mail.

## Email

- If you are submitting through email, please provide the following for each piece, to [cap@thewright.org](mailto:cap@thewright.org).
  - Title
  - Date created
  - Medium
  - Dimensions
  - Brief description/meaning of each piece
  - A clear, high-resolution JPEG, minimum 300 dpi, of the artist
  - A brief typewritten artistic statement describing themselves and/or their artwork (not to exceed 200 words). The Museum reserves the right to edit the artistic statement for clarity and language deemed appropriate for a general family audience.
  - A high-resolution JPEG, minimum 300 dpi, of the artwork
    - **Note:** Only two-dimensional artwork that is wired and ready to be wall-mounted—such as paintings, textiles, fiber art, photography, or bas-relief sculpture—will be considered for display. Please do not send the original artwork for this submission. Works made of perishable or hazardous materials will not be accepted. *For safety and security reasons, no artwork may extend more than four inches from the wall surface.*

## Mail

- If you are submitting through mail, please provide the following for each piece, to:

Jennifer Evans  
Assistant Curator  
315 E. Warren Avenue

## Detroit, MI 48201-1447

- Title
  - Date created
  - Medium
  - Dimensions
  - Brief typewritten description/meaning of each piece
  - A clear, high-resolution portrait, minimum 300 dpi, of the artist
  - A brief artistic statement describing themselves and/or their artwork (not to exceed 200 words). This statement should be typewritten on one 8.5" x 11" sheet of paper. (The Museum reserves the right to edit the artistic statement for clarity and language deemed appropriate for a general family audience.)
  - A clear photographic image, minimum 300 dpi, of the artwork.
    - **Note:** Only two-dimensional artwork that is wired and ready to be wall-mounted—such as paintings, textiles, fiber art, photography, or bas-relief sculpture—will be considered for display. Please do not send the original artwork for this submission. Works made of perishable or hazardous materials will not be accepted. *For safety and security reasons, no artwork may extend more than four inches from the wall surface.*
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- Artists will not be charged a fee to participate.
  - Artists will receive no monetary remuneration for participating.

### Submission Deadline

- The submissions deadline is May 31, 2017.

### Jurying (Selection) Process

- Things Feel Heavy and the Wright Museum will jury this exhibition between June 1-10, 2017.

### Acceptance Notification

- If selected, the artist will be contacted by email no later than June 13, 2017.

### Delivery and Pickup

- The Assistant Curator will work with the artists to schedule a time to deliver and pick up their artwork.
- Delivery of all artwork must be on schedule.
- Upon arrival, all work should be **READY-TO-HANG with wire or D-hooks on the back** and preferably framed.
- Failure to deliver the artwork on schedule may cause the forfeiture of the artist's acceptance.
- Pick-up of all artwork must occur on the designated de-installation date.
- The artist may be charged storage fees of \$50 or more a day if the art is left more than three days.

## Installation and De-Installation

- The Assistant Curator will work with the artists to develop content for the exhibition script.
- The Museum's Exhibition Designer will professionally layout the exhibition in the 3,500 sq/ft space.
- The Museum's Preparator will professionally hang the exhibition.

## Publicity

- By submitting to the call, artists give the Wright Museum permission to use their artwork in its publications or promotions, including the museum's website, social media, and associated print material. **All artwork remains the intellectual property of the artist.**
- Artists are welcome to advertise the exhibition with the Wright Museum's prior approval. Costs associated with any and all advertisements initiated by the artists will be the sole responsibility of the artists.
- Artists must not act as or hold themselves out to be agents or employees of the Museum. Violation of this agreement will result in immediate termination of the artists' relationship with the Museum.

## Risk and Liability

- Artists understand and accept that their artwork will be exhibited in the Museum's Contemporary Artists Gallery/Multipurpose Room.
- Artists understand that food and drink may be served in the gallery space during normal Museum operations while their artwork is being displayed because the area also serves as a space for facility rentals.

## Selling Artwork

- Artists may not sell their artworks on the Museum's premises while being displayed at the Museum, although they are encouraged to distribute business cards or other information so visitors may contact them directly to inquire about purchases.
- Any business arrangement for selling artwork made with the Museum Store Manager will take place outside of the bounds of this program, and will have no impact upon this agreement.
- The Wright assumes no responsibility for any loss of sales during the display period at the Museum.
- Any art sales must be made by and between the artist and purchaser; both the artist and purchaser must agree to leave the work on exhibit until the close of the exhibition—no exceptions.

## Exhibition Related Programs

- The Wright Museum will provide an opening reception for the exhibition.
- Whenever possible, the Assistant Curator will help develop educational programs for students and the general public.