



DOROTHY F. SCHMIDT COLLEGE OF
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FAU's University Galleries to Present 'Decolonizing Refinement: Contemporary Pursuits in the Art of Edouard Duval-Carrié'

BOCA RATON, Fla. (October 3, 2018) - The University Galleries at Florida Atlantic University's Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters will present "Decolonizing Refinement: Contemporary Pursuits in the Art of Edouard Duval-Carrié." The exhibition will be on view from Friday, Nov. 9 through Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019 in the Schmidt Center Gallery, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton campus. There will be an opening reception on Thursday, Nov. 8 at 6:30 p.m. featuring a lecture by Edouard Duval Carrié. The lecture and exhibition are free and open to the public.

Duval-Carrié is an internationally significant Miami-based Haitian-born artist who creates colorful, socially and politically-oriented narrative art that channels his knowledge and fascination with Haitian history, spiritual beliefs and folklore. For "Decolonizing Refinement," originally presented at The Fine Art Museum at Florida State University, Carrié's art is combined with historical artifacts related to Florida's agricultural labor history. Artifacts are borrowed from south Florida regional historical collections to expand understanding of Caribbean visual culture and the arts of the African Diaspora by implicating the colonial heritage of Florida and the broader Southeastern United States in circum-Caribbean histories.

Duval-Carrié's work navigates the historically rich and culturally complex traditions that comprise a uniquely Caribbean perspective. Duval-Carrié fled his homeland as a teenager, during the dictatorship of Francois Duvalier. He studied at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Arts in Paris and the University of Loyola Montreal in Quebec. Once completing his education, he established his workshop in Miami. Duval-Carrié's recent works attend to themes of water,

travel and Francophone culture. For this artist, water becomes both a symbolic passage and a barrier – the means by which enslaved Africans were brought to the Caribbean and modern-day Haitians migrate to the United States. Both circumstances have been driven by capitalism, a force that occupies Duval-Carrié’s work materially and iconographically.

Khaulah Naima Nuruddin serves as curator for the FAU version of the exhibition. Nuruddin has selected artifacts in collaboration with Duval-Carrié that will be borrowed from Broward County’s African American Research Library and Cultural Center; the Florida Department of State, Bureau of Archaeological Research; the Delray Beach Historical Society; the S.D. Spady Cultural Heritage Museum, Delray Beach; and the Archaeology collection in FAU’s Department of Anthropology. Nuruddin also has organized a concurrent sister exhibition of Duval-Carrié’s work and historical artifacts to be presented at the S.D. Spady Cultural Heritage Museum in Delray Beach.

In January 2019, FAU’s new “Study of the America’s Initiative” will complement the exhibition with a series of multi-disciplinary public programs that employ the “Decolonizing Refinement” exhibition as a point of departure to explore a variety of related social, political and humanities themes. On Monday, Jan. 14, 2019 at 4 p.m., an FAU faculty panel will present “Women’s Writings, The Economy and Social Justice in the Caribbean.” On Saturday, Jan. 19, 2019, an all-day symposium, “Visualizing Decolonization,” will be presented in collaboration with the Boca Raton Museum of Art’s “Imagining Florida: History and Myth in the Sunshine State” (Nov. 13 – March 24, 2019). On Jan. 26 an all-day symposium at FAU will feature the Florida State University scholars who organized the FSU Museum of Fine Arts “Decolonizing Refinement” exhibition and catalogue in conversation with scholars from FAU and other Florida institutions."

The University Galleries have an active Museum Education Program offering interactive exhibition tours for schools and other groups by appointment. The program is a School District of Palm Beach County approved field experience provider. For more information contact Khaulah Naima Nuruddin, Museum Education Coordinator at knuruddin2015@fau.edu.

The University Galleries are open Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m. The Schmidt Center Gallery is located in the Performing Arts building (building

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51), near the Living Room Theaters. Daytime visitors can obtain a temporary one-day parking pass online for \$5 at <http://parking.fau.edu>, or in person at the Information Booth at FAU's main entrance. Visitors can also use the parking meters, which cost \$2 per hour. Meters can be paid by downloading the Parkmobile app, or with credit card, debit card or exact paper currency (no change is given). Parking for the opening event is free in designated parking lots.

- FAU -

About Florida Atlantic University:

Florida Atlantic University, established in 1961, officially opened its doors in 1964 as the fifth public university in Florida. Today, the University, with an annual economic impact of \$6.3 billion, serves more than 30,000 undergraduate and graduate students at sites throughout its six-county service region in southeast Florida. FAU's world-class teaching and research faculty serves students through 10 colleges: the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, the College of Business, the College for Design and Social Inquiry, the College of Education, the College of Engineering and Computer Science, the Graduate College, the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College, the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing and the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science. FAU is ranked as a High Research Activity institution by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The University is placing special focus on the rapid development of critical areas that form the basis of its strategic plan: Healthy aging, biotech, coastal and marine issues, neuroscience, regenerative medicine, informatics, lifespan and the environment. These areas provide opportunities for faculty and students to build upon FAU's existing strengths in research and scholarship. For more information, visit www.fau.edu.

Artist's Biography: Edouard Duval-Carrié (b. 1954, Port-au-Prince, Haiti)



Edouard Duval-Carrié, *Autoportrait*, 1994, 66 x 66 in.

Born and raised in Haiti, Edouard Duval-Carrié fled the regime of “Papa Doc” Duvalier as a teenager and subsequently resided in locales as diverse as Puerto Rico, Montreal, Paris, and Miami. Parallels thus emerge between the artist’s cosmopolitan lifestyle and his artistic sensitivity toward the multifaceted identities that form his native Haiti. Whether in sculpture, painting, or multimedia installation, Duval-Carrié’s work navigates the historically rich and culturally complex traditions that comprise a uniquely Caribbean perspective. At heart, Duval-Carrié is an educator: he challenges the viewer to make meaning of dense iconography derived from Caribbean history, politics, and religion. Duval-Carrié also re-appropriates history, inscribing photographs, documents, paintings, and ephemera onto his own work and thus problematizes official Francophonic narratives against lived realities. Although he claims his art to be a secular and intellectual pursuit, Duval-Carrié’s work often convenes with the spiritual via installations reminiscent of Vodou and Catholic altarpieces and reliquaries. In so doing, the artist explores the complex intermingling of ethnicities and socio-economic circumstances that staged Haiti’s contemporary, hybridic culture, and through which the Vodou pantheon continues to pulse. Recently, the conceptual layering of Duval-Carrié’s works has been further emphasized in his materials and through consistent attention to translucent and reflective mediums, such as glitter, glass, and resin. The introspective effects of these mediums transform his works into spatial interventions that implicate the viewer in their historicity. At their most fundamental, Duval-Carrié’s works ask the viewer to complicate the Western canon, to consider how Africa has shaped the Americas, and how the Caribbean has shaped the modern world.

Decolonizing Refinement

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Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters
Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton

Schmidt Center Gallery

November 9, 2018 - February 2, 2019

Edouard Duval-Carrié

Soucoyant #1

2017

mixed media

95 inches in diameter

Credit line: Courtesy of the Artist



Edouard Duval-Carrié

Soucoyant #3

2017

mixed media

95 inches in diameter

Credit line: Courtesy of the Artist



Edouard Duval-Carrié

Bossou Fleuri

2016

mixed media

45 x 41 x 29 inches

Credit line: Courtesy of the Artist



Edouard Duval-Carrié

Of Cotton Gunboats and Petticoats

2017

Mixed media on aluminum

72x60 inches

Credit line: Courtesy of the Artist



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Edouard Duval-Carrié *Sugarboat*

2017

mixed media

10 x 10 x 10 feet

Credit line: Courtesy of the Artist



Edouard Duval-Carrié *Le Rouyaume De Ce Monde*

2017

mixed media on aluminum in artist's frame

39 x 33 inches

Credit line: Courtesy of the Artist



Edouard Duval-Carrié *Ti Noel a Sans Souci*

2017

mixed media on aluminum in artist's frame

39 x 33 inches

Credit line: Courtesy of the Artist



Edouard Duval-Carrié *Memory Window #4*

2017

mixed media in artist's frame

58 x 58 inches

Credit line: Courtesy of the Artist



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Edouard Duval-Carrié *Memory Window #2*

2017

mixed media embedded in resin

58 x 58 inches

Credit line: Courtesy of the Artist



Wood Canoe from *Manatee Springs,*

Installation at Florida State University Museum of Fine Art

Credit line: Collection of *Florida Division of Historical Resources*



Lightening *Whelk Celt*

Installation at Florida State University Museum of Fine Art

Credit line: Collection of *Florida Division of Historical Resources*

