



Media Contact: Terri Dixon
LAGRANT COMMUNICATIONS
323.469.8680, ext. 232
terridixon@lagrant.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**THE CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM PRESENTS 'CURVATURE:
LINES AND SHAPES' ON VIEW JULY 24 THROUGH NOVEMBER 2, 2014**

LOS ANGELES (July 21, 2014) The California African American Museum (CAAM) presents *Curvature: Lines and Shapes* on view from July 24 through November 2, 2014. The exhibition explores the expressive figurative illustrations of two emerging artists, Michael Kilgore and Anthony "Eve" Kemp, whose artistic styles are influenced by Fauvism, Expressionism and Cubism.

The exhibition features approximately 48 artworks that includes Kemp's "The Muse – Line of Scandinavia" (2010), "Queen Bee, Edna Hightower," "Mi Familia" series (2010), and "Queen Elizabeth the Atom Bomb" (2007) and Kilgore's "Cleopatra in Corset" (2012), "Josephine's Diva Pose" (2011), and "Basquiat-Picasso Woman" (2012).

Many of the artworks depict the lifestyle, history, and culture of African Americans. Common threads between the two artists are the inspiration and influences derived from the women and family in their lives, and the prominent figures they have come to admire. Even more undeniable is their regard for the curves of women.

Michael Kilgore, born in New Jersey, is an artist and style guru. Although the two worlds never met in the same settings, they both insinuate, but are not limited to, the curves of a female.

"I consider the female curve the work of God," said Kilgore.

Kilgore's sensitivity to curves is the result of his wife's influence on him. His first exposure to art and fashion was watching the way his mother carried herself, in which he explains was a work of art. Kilgore describes his work as a "blending of Africa and Paris" reflecting Cubism and Abstract Expressionism. However, he doesn't remain entrenched in any particular mode.

Anthony "Eve" Kemp, a Michigan native, attended Central High School where the curriculum focused on the arts, yet had no formal training in visual arts. The self-taught artist who was raised by his mother, six aunts and seven uncles, received inspiration

--more--

from the women who had a constant presence in his life. Kemp's artworks are reflections of his inspiration by these women as such in his "Mi Familia" series. The series includes exaggerations of lines and shapes of women wearing hats and/or elaborate accessories. More provocative, Kemp's "The Muse Dr. Emma The Reclining Nude" insinuates the beauty of real curves and shapes of a woman, often not restricted solely to women of color.

Programs Surrounding Curvature: Shapes and Lines:

Saturday, August 9, 2014 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Artist Walk-Through and Conversation

Museum visitors will have the opportunity to participate in a walk-through with CAAM's Visual Arts Curator Vida L. Brown, and the artists, Michael Kilgore and Anthony "Eve" Kemp. Each artist will provide insight about their artwork, style and approach to their artistic concepts and compositions.

Sunday, October 19, 2014 2 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Drawing Workshop

Come study the lines and shapes presented in the artworks of Kilgore and Kemp. Then have fun participating in a life drawing class, with a live model. The class is recommended for individuals ages 15 years and older. There is a \$10 fee for supplies. RSVP required for the class starts September 26 and space is limited. For more details on how to RSVP visit www.caamuseum.org.

Sunday, October 26, 2014 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Art Discussion: Cubism in African American Art

Artist and Arts Educator June Edmonds and Visual Arts Curator Vida L. Brown will discuss the artworks of well-known African American artists whose works reflect and embrace the styles and elements defined in cubism.

CAAM is located at 600 State Drive in Exposition Park, Los Angeles, CA 90037. Admission to CAAM, its events and exhibitions are free. Accessible parking is located at 39th & Figueroa for \$10 per vehicle. For more information on CAAM call (213) 744-7432 or visit www.caamuseum.org. Find CAAM on Twitter and Facebook at www.twitter.com/CAAMinLA and www.facebook.com/CAAMinLA.

ABOUT THE CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM

The California African American Museum (CAAM) is a state agency charged with researching, collecting, preserving and interpreting for public enrichment the history, art and culture of African Americans. Collaboratively operating in partnership with its 501(c)(3) non-profit organization Friends, the Foundation of the California African American Museum, CAAM houses a permanent collection of over 4,000 objects of art, artifacts and historical documents, and a publicly accessible Research Library containing more than 20,000 volumes.