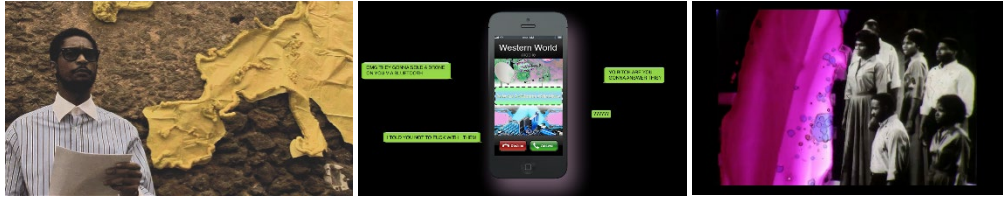


## PRESS RELEASE

# Mia to Present a Screening of Three Recent Video Works Titled “Mapping Black Identities: 3 Films”



Left: Nástio Mosquito (Angolan, b. 1981). *3 Continents*, 2010. Video. 7'45" Courtesy of the artist

Center: Tabita Rezaire, *Sorry for Real*, 2015. Courtesy of the artist and the Goodman Gallery.

Right: Ja'Tovia Gary (American, b. 1984). *An Ecstatic Experience*, 2015. Film. 6 minutes. Courtesy the artist and galerie frank elbaz

**Minneapolis Institute of Art**  
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[artsmia.org](http://artsmia.org)

**MINNEAPOLIS—April 22, 2019**—The Minneapolis Institute of Art (Mia) will present a screening of three recent video works titled “Mapping Black Identities: 3 Films” from May 4 through September 8, 2019, in Gallery 370. Featuring films by Ja'Tovia Gary (American, b. 1984), Nástio Mosquito (Angolan, b. 1981), and Tabita Rezaire (French-born Guyanese-Danish, b. 1989), the works in this series unapologetically confront the legacy of systemic white supremacy by presenting conflicting realities. As a whole, the three films give voice to the experiences of Black artists by providing differing worldviews that envision the transformative righting of past wrongs, and the pursuit of freedom in an unjust world.

The film series will be shown concurrently with “Mapping Black Identities,” an installation that features 18 artists from the United States, Africa, and the greater African Diaspora who champion the multiplicity of Black identity. On view through summer 2020, the exhibition includes work by Frank Bowling, Kerry James Marshall, Nick Cave, Julie Mehretu, Charles Gaines, Kevin Beasley, Sam Gilliam, Joe Overstreet, Lynette Yiadom-Boakye, Emma Amos, Delita Martin, Igshaan Adams, Elizabeth Catlett, Todd Gray, Cinga Samson, Deana Lawson, Kwame Brathwaite, and J.D. 'Okhai Ojeikere. Collectively, their work confronts the notion of Black identity as monolithic and seeks to amplify underrepresented voices and create connections around the concept of Blackness in contemporary art across time and place. The majority of artwork in the show comes from Mia's permanent collection, with many recent acquisitions presented publicly for the first time. Several artworks will be rotated midway through the show, allowing for additional artists to be featured throughout the exhibition run.

Both installations were inspired by Mia's recent acquisition of Frank Bowling's large-scale map painting *False Start* (1970), which challenges Eurocentric historical narratives. In *False Start*, Bowling maps an expansive yet intimate geography that charts his path from Bartica, Guyana, to London and New York. Rejecting the graphic formalism of pure abstraction, his “Map Paintings” (1967–71) refer to postcolonialism, his own Afro-Caribbean roots, and the broader African diaspora. The composition of *False Start* features prominent outlines of the continents of the Southern Hemisphere—Africa, Australia, and South America—rendered in tones of white and pink. Through its omission of Europe, the image challenges Eurocentric historical narratives while drawing attention to the expansive footprint of colonialism and imperialism.

# Mia



Frank Bowling, England, 1934. *False Start*, 1970, Acrylic and spray paint on canvas The John R. Van Derlip Fund. © 2019 Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York / DACS, London

“Mapping Black Identities: 3 Films” and “Mapping Black Identities” are co-curated by Mia’s Department of Contemporary Art, including Esther Callahan, Curatorial Affairs Fellow; Gabriel Ritter, Curator and Department Head; Nicole Soukup, Assistant Curator; and Keisha Williams, Curatorial Department Assistant and Artist Liaison, in collaboration with Mia’s Curatorial Advisory Committee. This committee is composed of Mia staff who champion the prerogatives of inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility by advising on Mia’s curation, labeling, and programming practices.

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## About The Minneapolis Institute Of Art

Home to more than 90,000 works of art representing 5,000 years of world history, the Minneapolis Institute of Art (Mia) inspires wonder, spurs creativity, and nourishes the imagination. With extraordinary exhibitions and one of the finest wide-ranging art collections in the country—Rembrandt to van Gogh, Monet to Matisse, Asian to African—Mia links the past to the present, enables global conversations, and offers an exceptional setting for inspiration.

General admission to Mia is always free. Some special exhibitions have a nominal admission fee.

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## Museum Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday	10am–5pm
Thursday, Friday	10am–9pm
Sunday	11am–5pm
Monday	Closed

For more information, call + 1 612 870 3000 or visit [artsmia.org](http://artsmia.org)