Call for artists to participate in
*Responses to Gee’s Bend*

an exhibition to be presented in
McCabe Library, Swarthmore College

Curators:
Alicia Ruley-Nock & Andrea Packard

Exhibition dates:
September 6—October 28, 2018

Submission deadline:
October 15, 2017

The exhibition will run concurrently with
*Piece Together: The Quilts of Mary Lee Bendolph*, an exhibition organized by Mount Holyoke College Museum of Art reconfigured for the List Gallery, Swarthmore College by Andrea Packard, List Gallery Director.

Swarthmore College is seeking experienced quilt makers to create original artworks for an exhibition to be displayed in McCabe Library, Swarthmore College. The exhibition will take place September 6 through October 28, 2018 in conjunction with the List Gallery exhibition: *Piece Together: The Quilts of Mary Lee Bendolph* and a display in McCabe Library of four quilts made by three generations of Gee’s Bend quilt makers: Aolar Mosely (1912-1999), Mary Lee Bendolph (b. 1935) and Essie B. Pettway (b. 1956). The purpose of the exhibition is to invite contemporary quilt makers to create new works in response to the history and creative legacy of Gee’s Bend, Alabama. Gee’s Bend is a peninsula surrounded on three sides by the Alabama River. Its remote location and complex history have profoundly shaped the quilts made by Mary Lee Bendolph and others in the close-knit, African American community. For these women, the tradition of quilting goes back to the mid-nineteenth century. Gee’s Bend quilts have been compared to the greatest works of jazz and modern art and celebrated through numerous traveling museum exhibitions and publications.
RESPONSES TO GEE’S BEND  Project Summary
Approximately 12 artists will be invited to create an original quilt in response to
the Gee’s Bend aesthetic and themes associated with Gee’s Bend and its history.
Selected artists will be provided with display space for a work measuring up to
36" in width. If the final quilt is larger, it will be need to be folded and hung so
that only 36" width is visible.

Application Guidelines:
• Short bio of yourself
• Brief statement about why you are interested in participating in this project
• 1 photo of yourself for website (4MB jpg or larger)
• 3 to 5 JPG images of previous work samples (At least 1MB in size and no
  more than 5MB)

Submission Deadline: October 15, 2017
Email application materials to:
Alicia@mysewdivine.com, sdreher1@swarthmore.edu

Artist Selection and Notification: October 31, 2017
Exhibit Location: Swarthmore College: McCabe Library lower atrium
McCabe Library exhibition opens to the public: September 6, 2018

Public Reception for Responses to Gee’s Bend:
McCabe Library Atrium, Swarthmore College: October 23, 2018, 4:30 PM

Exhibition Terms:
• Quilts must be delivered by August 1, 2018 to McCabe Library.
• A short description of your creative concept must be delivered with your quilt
• Quilts are submitted on a voluntary basis
• Quilts must remain hanging for the duration of the exhibit
• Quilts may be offered for sale. Swarthmore College will not take a sales
  commission or complete sales transactions. All sales inquiries will be directed to
  participating artists.

Quilt Delivery:  On or before August 20, 2018
Pick up at McCabe Library: October 29, 2018

Any questions? Please contact:
Alicia Ruley-Nock at 610-613-3887 or alicia@mysewdivine.com