

CURRICULUM VITAE
NAJJAR ABDUL-MUSAWWIR
School of Art and Design/2D Studio Art\
Southern Illinois University
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EDUCATION

- 1997 **Master of Fine Arts in Painting**
School of Art and Design, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL
- 1992 **Bachelor of Arts in General Studio/Painting/Drawing**
School of Art and Design, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL
African-American Art History

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2019 **Visiting Professor of Art History, Africana Studies, and Painting,**
American Studies Center, University of Warsaw, Poland
Visiting Exchange Program: Co-taught BA Thesis Course on African American art with Dr. Krystyna Mazur (American Literature) and Dr. Ewelina Jarosz (Art History).
- 2016-Present **Full Professor of Painting, Drawing, Core Curriculum (Art History and Africana Studies)**
School of Art and Design, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL
Glove Studio Head, Interim-Head of 2D Area, Intermediate Painting, Advanced Painting, Senior Thesis, Graduate Seminar/Professional Development, and African-American Art History, and Undergraduate Studies Committee Recruitment/Retention (Ad Hoc)
- 2008-2016 **Associate Professor of Painting, Drawing, Core Curriculum (Art History) and Head of Undergraduate Studies**
School of Art and Design, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL
Introduction to Drawing, Introduction to Painting, Intermediate Painting, Advanced Painting, Senior Thesis, Graduate Seminar/Professional Development, and African-American Art History, Facilitate Scholarships/Talent Awards/Windgate Funding, Recruitment/Retention, Executive Committee (Ad Hoc), BFA Senior Exhibition
- 2002-2008 **Assistant Professor of Painting, Drawing and Core Curriculum (Art History)**
School of Art and Design, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL
Introduction to Drawing, Introduction to Painting, Intermediate Painting,

Advanced Painting, Senior Thesis, Graduate Seminar/Professional Development,
and African-American Art History

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2019 American Studies Center, University of Warsaw, Poland (Visiting Professor)
- 2016 Warren M. Robbins Library, Smithsonian National Museum of African Art,
Washington, D.C. (Sabbatical: African string instruments and banjo)
- Artworks from Underrepresented Minorities
Center for Diversity and Inclusion
Washington University, St. Louis, MO
- 2015 Actors Theatre Gallery, THE 21ST ANNUAL AFRICAN AMERICAN ART
EXHIBITION, Louisville, KY
- 2014 Illinois Education Association Score Grant, Colin Powell Middle School, Matteson, IL
- 2013 The Joyce Foundation
- African Festival for the Arts, Feature Artist, Chicago, IL
- 2012 Charles H. Wright Museum, “Vision of Our 44th President,” Detroit, MI
- 2011 Tuanku Fauziah Museum and Gallery, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, Malaysia
(Artist Residency)
- 2009 Judge William Holmes Cook Professorship Endowment
- N’Namdi Center for Contemporary Art, Artist-in-Residence, Detroit, MI (Sabbatical:
Mixed-Media and Abstract Painting)
- 1992 Rickert-Ziebold Trust Award

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 “Deep Roots: From Africa to America,” ArtSpace 304, Carbondale, IL, June 10
thru July 22, 2022 (31 creative works: 7 mixed-media paintings, 23 abstract
Banjo sculptures, 1 free standing assemblage)
<https://artspace304.org/events/najjar-abdul-musawwir-deep-roots/>**
- 2021 “Banjo: A Historical Aesthetic Response to Africa,” Diversity
& Inclusion at John A. Logan College, Carterville, IL, Invitational: Virtual Exhibition
February thru March

- 2019 “Reconstructed/Reconceptualized,” SIU University Museum at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL
Invitational: Thirty-four mixed-media works from the Banjo Series.
January – February
- “STATE OF TRIPLE-CONSCIOUSNESS,” Clemens Fine Arts Center Gallery at West Kentucky Community & Technical College, Paducah, KY
Invitational: Twelve paintings and one small installation.
February
- 2017 “Najjar Abdul-Musawwir: Reconstructed/Reconceptualized,” Southeast Missouri State University Crisp II Museum, Cape Girardeau, MO
Invitational: Thirty-four mixed-media works from the Banjo Series, 52-page catalog.
September – October
- 2013 Feature Artist
IMAN Art and Culture, Chicago, IL
Invitational: 10 mixed-media paintings and 4 charcoal drawing, new/old.
September – April
- 2012 “What Lies Beneath: The Breast Cancer Series,” New/Old works
African American Museum of Southern Illinois, Carbondale, IL
25 new and old mixed-media paintings: scale range
16 in. x 20 in. to 6 ft. x 10 ft., three painted clay vases: 7 in. x 6 ½ in. 6 1/2 in.
- 2011 “Muhammad Speaks: Preserving an American Voice,” Tuanku Fauziah Museum and Gallery, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, Malaysia
Two gallery installations: 21 prints, 7 acrylic on burlap, and 2 active projections
Invitation from Professor Hasnul Jamal Saidon, Museum Director Sponsored by Southern Illinois University School of Art and Design, Judge William Holmes Cook Professorship Endowment, St. Louis Art Museum, and Tuanku Fauziah Museum
July – August
- “Voice From A Creative Soul,” Africa International House, Inc., Museum of Contemporary African Art & Culture, Chicago, IL
20 mixed-media paintings and 3 charcoal drawings
April - May
- “Harvesting an Artist’s Mind”
Surplus Gallery
Southern Illinois University
Carbondale, IL
28 mixed-media paintings and 9 charcoal drawings
Gallery talk (Najjar Abdul-Musawwir, Nancy Stemper (Director of Carbondale Community Arts), and DeSande R (artist/educator) and public tour (special guest: St. Louis Art Museum Friends of African American Art)
September – October

2010 “Artist Residency,” Grand Opening of the N’Namdi Center for Contemporary Art, Detroit, MI
10 mixed-media abstract paintings
Sponsored by Southern Illinois University School of Art and Design, Judge William Holmes Cook Professorship Endowment, and N’Namdi Center for Contemporary Art
October – January

2009 “Inter Journey: Experiencing Spiritual Aestheticism of Abstraction,” The N’Namdi Center for the Contemporary Art, Detroit, MI
Painting from N’Namdi Center for Contemporary Art’s Artist-n-Residency in Detroit during the Fall 2009 sabbatical

“Balcony” (Dick Gregory Induction to the Hall of Fame), Varsity Center for the Arts/Public Art, Carbondale, IL
In conjunction with Dick Gregory induction painting, 12 mixed-media paintings were exhibited in the VCA Gallery
October – November

2008 “What Lies Beneath: The Breast Cancer Series,” New/Old works, ArtSpace Gallery Black Hawk College, East Moline, Illinois
Professor David Murry, Director of Exhibitions
25 new and old mixed-media paintings: scale range, 16 in. x 20 in. to 6 ft. x 10 ft., three painted clay vases: 7 in. x 6 ½ in. 6 1/2 in. Published: Black Hawk College Employee Newsletter, and INTERCOM The Dispatch and The Rock Island Argus

“The Art of Najjar Abdul-Musawwir,” Fine Arts Gallery, Bilkent University
Ankara, Turkey
Dean, Prof. Dr. Bülent Özgüc, Acting Chair of Fine Arts
10 paintings on paper: 24 in. x 24 in.
Lecture: “Islamic Art and African-American Experience,” The Bilkent Department of History, American Studies Association of Turkey, and Western Kentucky University
“African-American/Africana Studies Symposium.” Funded by Bilkent University, SIUC, and Dr. Makhdoom
Published: Bilkent News, and conference materials (brochures, posters, and digital projections)

“Paintings, Drawings and Prints by Najjar,” African American Museum of Southern Illinois, Carbondale, IL
41 pieces of mix-media, acrylic, graphite, charcoal, silkscreen, and woodcuts.

SELELCTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2022 “44: Portraits of a President,” The Charles H. Wright Museum, Detroit, MI, May 27thru December 31 2022. <https://www.thewright.org/exhibitions/44-portraits-of-a-president>

“Contemporary Art From Black Art in America,” Or-O’Keefe Museum of Art, Biloxi, MS, September 2022. (Three creative works: 2 abstract Banjo sculptures and 1 mixed-media painting) <https://www.wlox.com/video/2022/11/01/inside-ohr-okeefe-museum-exhibit-black-art-america/>

“Black Art In America Gallery Grand Opening Exhibition, East Point. GA, June 17 2022. (Six creative works: 4 abstract Banjo sculptures and 2 mixed-media paintings) <https://artinamericaguide.com/listings/black-art-in-america/>

“Biennial Community Art Show,” National Blues Museum, and Portfolio Gallery, St. Louis, MO, October 23 thru December 31, 2022. (One creative work: 1 mixed-media drawing) <https://nationalbluesmuseum.org/national-blues-museum-and-portfolio-gallery-proudly-announce-our-new-partnership/#prettyPhoto>

“Regional Painter Exhibition,” Ella Elizabeth Hise Museum of Regional Art, Harrisburg, IL, August 30 thru October 14, 2022. (One creative work: 1 abstract Banjo sculptures) <https://www.facebook.com/artsalinecounty/photos/pcb.141814055233351/141813928566697/>

2021 “Through Different Eyes: Voices Amplified,”
St. Louis Artists’ Guild,
St. Louis, MO
January thru February
Two mixed-media painting

2019 “I, too, am Detroit”
N’Namdi Center for Contemporary Art
Detroit, MI
One mixed-media painting

“Ella Elizabeth Hise Museum of Regional Art Grand Opening”
Ella Elizabeth Hise Museum
Southeastern Illinois College
Harrisburg, IL
One mixed-media painting

“Abstract Connections: Near and Far”
10th Street Gallery
St. Louis, MO
Two mixed-media painting

“A Never Told Story”
The Hagerman Art Gallery at Hannibal-LaGrange University
Hannibal, MO
Three mixed-media painting

“Good Negroes: Never Been A Time”
KCKCC Art Gallery at Kansas Community College
Kansas, MO
January – February

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2018 “ALL COLORS”
St. Louis Artists’ Guild
St. Louis, MO

“Good Negroes: The Uncomfortable Truth”
Vine Street Studio Art Gallery
Kansas City, MO

2016 Joy & Celebration Through Artist’s Eyes
Vaughn Art Center
St. Louis, MO
Two mixed-media paintings
December – February

The Manchester Arts’ Global Cultures
Courtroom Gallery
Manchester Police Facility
Manchester, MO
One mixed-media painting
May - July

UNDER ONE SKY
Dianxi Science and Technology
Normal University
Nanchang, East China
November - December
One mixed-media painting

The Art of Humanity at The Pratt Institute
The Rubelle and Norman Schfler Gallery
Brooklyn NY, New York
One mixed-media painting
May

“Good Negroes” (Travelling exhibition)
Webster Groves Christians Church Art Gallery
St. Louis, MO
Four dry/wet charcoal drawing on paper
January – February

2015 “Good Negroes” (Travelling Exhibition)

St. Louis Forest Park College
Gallery of Contemporary Art
St. Louis, MO
Seven dry/wet charcoal drawing on paper
August - September
St. Louis Community College
Wildwood's Gallery of Contemporary Art
October – November

Shawnee Community College
Art Gallery
December

“Underrepresentative Minorities,”
Washington University Center for Diversity and Inclusion
St. Lois, MO
Five abstract wooden banjo forms
June 2015 – June 2016

“This is What Freedom Looks Like,”
Hannibal Art Council
Hannibal, MO
One mixed media painting on canvas, one on paper,
and one dry/wet charcoal drawing on paper
June – August

“ACTORS THEATRE GALLERY PRESENTS:
THE 21ST ANNUAL AFRICAN AMERICAN ART EXHIBITION
Louisville, KY
Hardcopy catalog
One dry/wet charcoal drawing on paper
January – February

2014 “Interfaith Biennial”
O’Connor Art Gallery
Dominican University
River Forest, IL
One mixed media painting on canvas
August – July

“2-5-0 Surprise, Sadness and Struggle in the Mound City”
Salon 53 Gallery
St. Louis, MO
Hardcopy catalog
One acrylic painting on canvas
February – December

“African American Abstract Masters,”

N’Namdi Contemporary Miami
Art Basel Miami
Miami, FL

My contribution was a 5’ x 10’ mixed media painting inspired
by Quran and the Slave Castle of Africa.

Rashid Johnson, Nanette Carter, Allie Mcghee, Chakaia Booker, and others,
December 3 – 8

“Traveling Sprit and Visual Melodies: Works by Najjar Abdul-Musawwir,”
featured in Black Art In America ‘ Get Juked!’

Brisky Gallery

Miami, FL

December 3 – 8

Art Basel Miami in the Wynwood Art District

“Art Africa Miami,”

Phantom Gallery Chicago Network

The Carver Building

Miami, FL

Historic Overtown Soul Basel

Exhibited six mixed-media paintings

December 3 - 8

“The Pulse of Africa:

Celebrating 25 Years of the African Festival of the Arts,”

Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts

University of Chicago

Chicago, IL

54” x 54” mixed-media painting, and collectors’s poster

August – October

“Drawings: More Than Black and White,”

Centralia Cultural Society

Centralia, IL

Exhibited 14 dry/wet charcoal drawings

June 17 - 30

The exhibit also traveled to:

“Carbondale Community Arts: Civil Rights Act 50th Anniversary,”

Civic Center Corridor Art Gallery

Carbondale, IL

November 3 - 21

2013 Imago Mundi Collection Exhibition

Fondazione Querini Stampalia

Venice, Italy

Abstract Sankofa, commissioned mixed-media painting

Online/hardcopy catalogue: Selected 245 American artists out of 5,000

August – October

“BLACK ART IN AMERICA at: the Faison Firehouse Theater in Harlem: Artist Among Us BAIA NYC Art Show,”

Harlem, NY

Fatiha and Door of Return, Three mixed-media paintings

25 Master Artists and Contemporaries

October 3 – 6

“AXIS 2013 International Art Festival”

Chicago, IL

Hersey, mixed-media paintings

Artist from Asia, Europe, South America, and North America

May 2 – 5

Art Basel Miami

N’Namdi Contemporary Miami

Miami, FL

Best Kept Secret, mixed-media painting

December 4 – 8

“ASALI” (Feature Artist)

24th Annual African Festival of the Arts

African International House

Chicago, IL

(“*ASALI*,” a Swahili-Hausa word meaning “origin.” Commissioned mixed-media painting, 54 in. x 54 in. Held at Washington Park in Chicago, the largest festival of its kind and over 200,000 plus attendees.)

August 30 – September 3

“MALENESS TO MANHOOD”

The South Side Community Art Center

Chicago, IL

Race Self, one wet/dry charcoal drawing

Invitational exhibit included Theaster Gates, Kerry James Marshall,

Dawoud Bey, Hebru Brantley, Raymond Thomas, Dayo Laoyo and more art luminaries from the national scene.

September 6 – October 4

DON’T PLAY ME LIKE THAT

Mitchell Museum

Mt. Vernon, IL

Five wood-sculpture forms inspired by African/African-American string instruments complimented the “Sound and Vision: Monumental Rock’n Roll Photography” organized by the Columbus Museum of Art in Columbus, Georgia

October 27 - December 31

2012 “Vision of Our 44th President”
Charles H. Wright Museum
Detroit, MI
Online catalog
One mixed-media painted sculpture bust
Invitation by Peter Kaplan, President of Our World, LLC and Patrina Chatman,
Curator of Exhibitions of Charles H. Wright Museum
Travelling exhibition
Panel discussion
October 9 – September 14

10 SQUARED - AN EXHIBITION CELEBRATING THE UNITY AND
UNIVERSALITY OF THE ARTISTIC WORLD

Arts Horizons LeRoy Neiman Art Center
New York, NY
Two mixed-media 10 in. x 10 in. paintings
An article appeared in the Harlem World News Magazine.
November - January

A Journey of Contemporary African American Artists
Shawnee Community College
Ullin, IL
Two acrylic paintings, 30 in. x 40 in., and two wet/dry charcoal drawings,
24 in. x 36 in.
January - February

Encyclopedia. California: Greenwood Press, Fall 2010 (invited by Julius E.
Thompson, James L. Conyers, Jr., and Nancy J. Dawson, Editors)

Abdul-Musawwir, Najjar. “**Kara Walker: Celebrating 21st Century
Primitivism.**” **Kara Walker Yes, Kara Walker No.** NY: **MidMarch Arts
Press**, Spring 2009 (Contributed ten page essay, and invited by
Howardena Pindell, and Cynthia Navaretta, publisher)

The exhibit also traveled to:
Centralia Cultural Society
Art Gallery
Centralia, IL
Panel discussion
February - March

Kaskaskia College
Dee and Sue Art Gallery
Kaskaskia, IL
March – April

2010 “Group Exhibition”
G. R. N’Namdi Gallery
Chicago, IL

One mixed-media abstract painting
Emanuel Araujo, Romare Bearden, Frank Bowling, R.A., Antonio Carreño, Nanette
Carter, Ed Clark, Herbert Gentry, Jacob Lawrence, Al Loving, Allie McGhee, and Ron
Prost.
March 20 – June 30

“King - Obama Art Exhibition”
Salon 53 Gallery
St. Louis, MO
Six mixed-media representational abstract paintings
January – March

“Curing the Global Society”
World Malaria Day
University of Chicago
Chicago, IL
One mixed-media representational abstract painting
Travel to several other campuses and cultural sites in the Chicago area
Sponsored: Faiths Act Fellow, and Tony Blair Faith Foundation
Interfaith Youth Core, London, WC2A 3LH
Invitational – Chicago art tour of six artist’s paintings
April 16 – 22

“We on Huron”
SIU Alumni Art Exhibit
Chicago, IL
One mixed-media abstract paintings
(During the CAA Conference)
February

2009 “COLLECTOR’S PRVIEW”
The New G. R. N’Namdi Center for Contemporary Art
Detroit, MI
 Invitation by Dr. George N’Namdi
 One mixed-media painting, 42 in. x 42 in.
(Works by Elizabeth Catlett, Sam Gilliam, Allie McGhee, Romare Bearden, Lois Mailou
Jones, Benard William, Edward Clark, Herbert Gentry, Robert Colescott, Antonio
Carreno, and other.
November - April

The Spiritual Art II
Murphy Hill Gallery
Chicago, IL
<http://www.murphyhillgallery.com/past/>
Two charcoal drawing, one collage, and three mixed-media paintings
April – June

“ART on the AVENUE”

Varsity Center for the Arts
Carbondale, IL
Invitation from Carbondale Community Arts Nancy Stemper
Two mixed-media paintings
Works also by Larry Bernstein, Aldon Addington, Kentaya Brown, Kevin Bishop, and
Kat Shaffner.
June - July

“CREATIVE PRACTICE”
SIUC Faculty Exhibition
Contemporary Art Gallery and Annex Gallery
Forest Park Community College
St. Louis, MO
February – March
Eight Person Exhibit
Organized and co-curated by FPCC Gallery Director
Terrell Carter, Alex Lopez, and Najjar Abdul-Musawwir

BLUE WINTER
Souland Art Market/Contemporary Art Gallery
St. Louis, MO
Juried, Two mixed-media paintings
January – February

The Sketchbook Project
Souland Art Market/Contemporary Art Gallery
2028 South 12th Street
St. Louis, MO
(Art House in Atlanta, GA, just launched their third installment of The Sketchbook
Project. However, this time they're bringing the show on the road and touring across the
United States to bring the exhibition of over 2,000 sketchbooks to six galleries across the
country)
January – May

PUBLICATIONS

Abdul-Musawwir, Najjar. “**RESISTANCE SERIES: A CHANGE IS GONNA COME.**” **Resistance Works by Najee Dorsey.** Georgia: Black Art In America, Fall 2015 (invited by Najee Dorsey)

Abdul-Musawwir, Najjar. “**Artistic Representation.**” **The Frederick Douglass**

Abdul-Musawwir, Najjar. “**Don’t Read Between the Lines, Read it All.**” **HERBERT GENTRY: The Man – The Mater – The Magic** (exhibition catalogue). New York: G.R. N’Namdi INC, 2008, 15-18. (Other contributors: George R. N’Namdi, Brenda K. Delany, Lewis Tanner Moore, Wim Roefs and Mary Anne Rose)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Gadzekpo, Leonard, “WORDS ARE NOT ENOUGH: AFRICANA/AFRICAN AMERICAN ART AS POLITICAL EXPRESSION,” National Association of African-American Studies & Affiliates Monograph Series 2022, pp. 298 – 300.

“ARNETTE’S BBARBERSHOP MURAL PROJECT: Safe Place by Najjar Abdul-Musawwir,” Artspace 304, Carbondale, IL December 2021
<https://vimeo.com/658760292>

“Najjar Abdul-Musawwir”
Wikipedia (Online Encyclopedia), edited November 2021
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Najjar_Abdul-Musawwir

Les O’Dell, “SIU Plein Air Painting Course goes beyond the studio,” The Southern Illinoisan, Carbondale, IL, July 12, 2021
https://thesouthern.com/news/local/siu/siu-plein-air-painting-course-goes-beyond-thestudio/article_04c71460-552c-5cc7-ac54-8be2ab23f4ab.html

“Professor went from prison to prestige through art,” The Daily Egyptian, Carbondale, IL February 2021
<https://dailyegyptian.com/106248/multimedia/i-feel-like-i-am-on-topprofessorwent-fromprison-to-prestige-through-art/>

Stanley, Janet, “Najjar Abdul-Musawwir: reconstructed/reconceptualize,” Smithsonian Libraries, Washington, DC. 2017
https://www.si.edu/object/siris_sil_1085990

Hampton, Hailey, “SIU professor visits, educates through art,” Arrow, Cape Girardeau, MO. September 2017:
<https://www.southeastarrow.com/story/2440728.html>

Lewis-Thompson, Marissanne, “Art Exhibition Examines Link Between the Banjo and African String Instruments,” NPR, KRCU Public Radio, Cape Girardeau, MO. September 2017:
<https://www.krcu.org/post/art-exhibition-examines-link-between-banjo-and-african-string-instruments#stream/0>

Arnold, Willis Ryder, “Fourth showing for 'Good Negroes' art exhibit,” The St. Louis American newspaper, St. Louis, MO. January 2016:
http://www.stlamerican.com/entertainment/living_it/fourth-showing-for-good-negroes-art-exhibit/article_6c99563e-c57c-11e5-8cb0-3f2d511836c8.html

Arnold, Willis Ryder, “Art exhibit questioning ‘Good Negroes’ concept gets forth showing,” St. Louis Public Radio 90.1 KWMU, St. Louis, MO. January 2016
<http://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/art-exhibit-questioning-good-negroes-concept-gets-fourth-showing#stream/0>

Eungie Joo, “MANUSCRIPT FOR A Proposition by Kara Walker: The object of Painting is the subjugated Body. The Painter is the colonizing entity. How do Paintings understand the concept of liberty? And who will teach them?” NY: New Museum, 2011, p. 47.

Imago Mundi, “Biennale Arte,” Venice, Italy:
<https://www.imagomundiart.com/artworks/view/2245/>

“Black Art In America at: the Faison Firehouse Theater in Harlem: Artist Among Us BAA NYC Art Show,” Black Art In America (online magazine):
<https://blackartinamerica.com/page/artist-among-us-baia-nyc-art-show>

“African Festival of the Arts 2013,” Sunnyside Magazine, Chicago, IL:
<https://sunnysidemagazine.org/2013/09/african-festival-of-the-arts-2013/>

Freida Wheaton, “SALON 53 ANNOUNCES THE 25 ARTISTS AND EXHIBIT COMMENORATING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. LOUIS’ FOUNDING,” St. Louis, Mo: <http://interact.stltoday.com/pr/arts-entertainment/PR111613100615081>

Janice Bond, “Najjar Abdul-Musawwir: IMAN’s Latest Featured Artist,” Inter-city Muslim Action Network, Art and Culture Blog, Chicago, IL:
<https://www.imacentral.org/author/janice-bond/>

“Cedarhurst brings rock and art together,” Edwardsville Intelligencer, Edwardsville, IL:
https://www.theintelligencer.com/arts_and_entertainment/article_1bc600a0-47d8-11e3-a538-0019bb2963f4.html?TNNoMobile

LeRoy Neiman Art Center, “10 Squared Exhibition.” New York, NY: Harlem World Magazine, <https://harlemworldmag.com/2012/11/26/10-squared-exhibition-at-the-leroy-neiman-art-center/>

National Art Gallery, “THE AFRICAN AMERICAN – MALAYSIAN CONNECTION.” Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: Malaysia Art Now, <https://issuu.com/senikini.bsln/docs/senikini13>

Charles H. Wright Museum, “VISIONS OF OUR 44TH PRESIDENT.” Detroit, MI: <https://visionsofour44thpresident.com/>
<https://thewright.org/visions-of-our-44th-president-artists-reception-10122012>

Abdul Ghafar, Faridzwan, "Gallery: Works easily overload the meaning of." Penang, Malaysia: Berita Harian, 5, Ogos 2011.
Review on three exhibition at the Tuanku Fauziah Museum and Gallery, Universiti Sains Malaysia: Najjar Abdul-Musawwir, Shamsul Bahari and Anderson EE

Bosh, Milo, "Najjar Abdul-Musawwir: The Black Artist News Interview." On the eve of his exhibit, "Voice From A Creative Soul" at the African International House USA/Center for Contemporary African Art & Culture, Chicago, Artist/Educator Najjar Abdul-Musawwir spoke candidly about art, life and good times. <https://blackartistnews.blogspot.com/2011/05/najjar-abdul-musawwir-blackartistnews.html>

Bosh, Milo, "Najjar Abdul-Musawwir - Voice From A Creative Soul." Najjar Abdul-Musawwir talks about his works during his reception at African International House, Chicago, IL
April 15, 2011
www.youtube.com/watch?v=gkjOROGRNcU

Saidon, Hasnul, "Re-Visiting Najjar." Penang, Malaysia: Jiwa Halus (Fine Heart), May 10, 2011
<http://hasnulsaidon.blogspot.com/2011/05/re-visiting-najjar.html?spref=fb>

Saidon, Hasnul, "PRELUDE TO ZIARAH NAJJAR ABDUL MUSAWWIR." Penang, Malaysia: Jiwa Halus (Fine Heart)
August 15, 2011
<https://hasnulsaidon.blogspot.com/2011/08/prelude-to-ziarah-najjar-abdul-musawwir.html>

"VIVA FIDEL," international revolutionary radio, interviewed: "Internationally recognized artist Najjar Abdul-Musawwir breaks it down on vivafidel radio." Najjar talked about his recent exhibition at the N'Namdi Center for Contemporary Art in Detroit, as well as his dedication to educating young people about art and giving back to the community.
<https://www.blogtalkradio.com/search/najjar-abdul-musawwir/>

N'Namdi Center for Contemporary Art,
"Artist in Residence Najjar Abdul-Musawwir"
<http://www.stephenflemister.com/nnamdi/programs.htm>

Blackwell, Thomas, "Dick Gregory Induction." Carbondale: Southern Illinoisan, October 9, 2009 (Video)
https://thesouthern.com/news/article_dd95faca-b487-11de-80d5-001cc4c03286.html?mode=story

VISITING ARTIST/PROFESSOR, LECTURE/PANELS/AND WORKSHOPS

- 2022** **“PNGZ: DIY Little Free Library”**
Carbondale Library
Carbondale, IL (Project Next Generation (PNG) is a free STEM/STEAM Program for grades 5 – 12), September 2022
https://carbondaubliclibrary.org/events/png/png-archive/?doing_wp_cron=1679274663.4561181068420410156250
- 2021 Visiting Artist/Professor Lectures:
 “Artist Program: Visual Art,
 America’s Islamic Heritage Museum
 Washington, DC (Online slideshow presentation, February 2021).
<https://aihmuseum.org/event/artist-program-visual-art-2/>
- “Banjo Series: Art giving understanding to the importance of knowing ones self is timeless,”
 John A. Logan College
 Carterville, IL (Online lecture, February 2021)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cHsLOozKsrE>
- “Juneteenth Virtual Art Show,”
 Artist Collective on Race, Equity, Unity and Healing Illinois
 Carbondale, Original works by DeSande R, Robert A. Ketchens, Mike Faris, and Najjar Abdul-Musawwir (Online Slideshow lecture, June 2021)
<http://www.annanews.com/news/virtual-art-show-set-saturday>
- “Experience Live Pleinair,”
 Muzium & Galeri Tuanku Fauziah
 Universiti Sains Malaysia
 Feature eight artists simultaneously online (Invitational, August 2021).
https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=560389715312579&id=100000446406273
- “Vision of Justice: Carbondale,”
 Illinois Humanities
 (Features interviews with organizers, scholar, artists, and other residents in different Illinois communities).
<https://www.ilhumanities.org/visions-of-justice-carbondale/>
- 2019 “From Africa to America: A Visual Artist Aesthetic Reaction to the Banjo”
 University of Warsaw American Studies Center, Warsaw, Poland
- “Banjo Series: Reconstructed/Reconceptualized”
 SIU University Museum at Southern Illinois University
 Carbondale, IL
- “STATE OF TRIPLE-CONSCIOUSNESS,” Clemens Fine Arts Center Gallery at
 West Kentucky Community & Technical College, Paducah, KY

- Invitation by The Student Art and Design Club
- 2018 “Najjar Abdul-Musawwir: Reconstructed/Reconceptualized”
Southeast Missouri State University Crisp II Museum
Cape Girardeau, MO
Invitation by Peter Nguyon, Museum Director
- 2016 Juried: Rend Lake College Annual Student Art Show
Reception and Awards Ceremony
RLC Theatre lobby and Learning Resource Center
Over 100 works
Invitation by Melissa McClement-Engler, Art Associate Professor
- 2015 “Classroom, Community, Art, Life”
Southern Illinois At Education Conference
Presentation titled: Black Art In America: One of the Best Educational Sources
Southern Illinois University
Edwardsville, IL
Demonstration of collaboration in mixed media techniques
- “Me We”
Colin Powell Middle School
Illinois Education Association
Presentation titled: Life of Artist Najjar Abdul-Musawwir
Three day painting workshop of a collaborative mixed media painting, 12 ft. x 5ft.
[https://cp.dist159.com/pages/Colin Powell MS/Photo Gallery/Professor Najjar Abdul Musawwi](https://cp.dist159.com/pages/Colin_Powell_MS/Photo_Gallery/Professor_Najjar_Abdul_Musawwi)
- 2014 “Intersectionality Critique Exchange: Spirituality”
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Presenters: Alpha Bruton, and Peter Nguyen
Chicago, IL
- “What is Creative Research?”
Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities
Southern Illinois University
Carbondale, IL
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YcwwLQup5NE>
- “Cuban Artist Manuel Mendive’s Exhibition”
N’Namdi Center for Contemporary Art
Detroit, MI
Invited to give commentary on Manuel Mendive’s works.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xel7Q0pBQ>
“Charcoal as Wet/Dry Medium”
St. Louis Art Guild
Presentation titled: Experimenting with Material as Visual dialogue
St. Louis, MO

Workshop on wet/dry technique

2013

“The Armory Invisibles: Women and Minority Artists of the Early 20th Century”

The Legacy of Modernism series hosted by Carbondale Community Arts/Illinois Humanities Council

Carbondale, IL

Speakers: SIU School of Art & Design’s Najjar Abdul-Musawwir, Assoc. Prof., and Angela Reinoehl, Lecturer

1st Annual Youth Success Rally

Theme: “Because Peace Begins in Our Own Backyard”

Lecture was on the life of a successful artist.

John A. Logan College, Carterville, IL

Keynote Speaker: Embracing the Creative Feeling of Youth Middle School and High School youth

African Festival Art Gala

Presentation: “Creating ASALI”

Washington Park

Private lecture for sponsors and dignitary

Chicago, IL

2012 “Ahead: Portraits from the Mott-Warsh Collection”

Panel discussion

Rosemary Berkel and Harry L. Crisp II Museum,

River Campus at Southeast Missouri State University

Cape Girardeau, MO

“A Journey of Contemporary African American Artists”

Shawnee Community College

Panel discussion: college students and students from 3 high schools were in attendance.

Ullin, IL

“Charcoal as Wet/Dry Medium”

Lecture/workshop

North-Grand High School

Chicago, IL

“Charcoal as Wet/Dry Medium”

Lecture/workshop

Momence High School,

Momence, IL

“Charcoal as Wet/Dry Medium”
Lecture/workshop
Elverado High School's Career Day,
Elverado, IL

“Charcoal as Wet/Dry Medium”
Lecture/workshop
Sandoval Jr./Sr. High School
Sandoval, IL.

“Charcoal as Wet/Dry Medium”
Lecture/workshop
Kaskaskia College
Kaskaskia, IL

2010 “Charcoal as Wet/Dry Medium”
Lecture/workshop
Chester High School, Art Department
Chester, IL

Grand Opening of the N’Namdi Center for Contemporary Art
Workshop: “Charcoal as Wet/Dry Medium”
Sponsored by Southern Illinois University School of Art and Design,
Judge William Holmes Cook Professorship Endowment, and N’Namdi Center for
Contemporary Art

2008 Topic: "Don't Label Me as a Black Artist/Gallery!"
NATIONAL BLACK FINE ART SHOW ANNOUNCES 2008 EDUCATIONAL
SERIES
The Puck Building, New York, NY
Organized by the Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts (MoCADA)
Moderator: Laurie A. Cumbo
Panelist: Najjar Abdul-Musawwir, George N’Namdi, Howardena Pindell, and
Malik Yusef
http://www.blackfineartshow.com/PR/NBFAS_2008_PRESS_RELEASE_3.pdf

“COMMUNITY CAFÉ ILLUMINATE”
Live Art Performance
Parkway Ball, Chicago, IL
Art Director of Inter-City Muslim Action Network
Painted a 3’ x 4’ mixed-media painting, responding to sound, verbal imagery of
musical instruments, vocals, spoken-word and rap to make choices of color tones,
marks, lines, shapes, and composition.

“Understanding Symbols: Contemporary and Traditional Islamic Art”
St. Louis Art Museum’s Islamic Cultural Day
St. Louis, MO
Invitation from Renee Franklin, Head of Community and School Programs
Saint Louis Art Museum

“Life of Najjar”
Slide presentation and evening display of two paintings and two drawings
ALM CAFÉ, Muslim Student Association
University of Illinois,
Champaign Urbana, IL

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

History of African-American Art (AD/AFR 227)
Interim 2D Studio Painting (AD 301B)
Interim 2D Studio Painting (AD 301C)
Independent Study (AD 309-724)
Advance 2D Studio Painting (AD 401A)
Advance 2D Studio Painting (AD 401B)
Advanced Painting Senior Thesis (AD 401C-724)
Advanced Drawing Senior Thesis (400C-724)
Advance 2D Studio Painting (AD 401D)
Individual Problems (AD 499-724)
First Year Graduate Seminar (AD 500)
Reading in Art History (AD 507-724)
Advanced Painting II (AD501)
Advanced Drawing 11 (AD 500)
Advanced Printmaking 11 (AD 502)
Graduate Painting Seminar (AD500 and AD 501)
Graduate Thesis (AD 599-724)

TEACHING INTERESTS AND SPECIALTIES

Teaching undergraduates and graduates mixed-media painting from an experimental process through an assessment of techniques and aesthetic qualities of art making. I’ve developed and teaching graduate students’ Professional Development in my seminar course.

I am investigating the development of a course in abstract painting that focuses on various technical methods and philosophical approaches to form and space. An intellectual evaluation through experimental studies of material and content is highly encouraged and cultivated in both the undergraduate and graduate level drawing and painting courses. Mentoring art students on how to become a liaison between an art departments and community youth programs can be very rewarding.

Master’s and Ph.D. Committees served:

2022 – MFA Committee Sarah McCourt, and Joshua Emery

2021 – MFA Committee Joshua Niles
2020 – MFA Committee: Jessica Mia Vito
2017 – MFA Committee: Andy Holliday
2015 – MFA Committee: Chintia Kirana, Joseph Tigert, and Zhe Ren
2014 – MFA Committee: Erica Reese
2013 – MFA Committee: Sang Lee, and April Dill
2012 – MFA Committee: Jacob Myers and Jamie Lejsek
2011 – MFA Committee: Nathan Marshall
2009 – MFA Committee: Ryan Thomas and Jake Wells
2008 – Ph.D Committee: Rachel Hasting

Chair of MFA Committee:

2022 – Chair of MFA Committee: Courtney Lester

2020 – Chair of MFA Committee: Mikayla Washington, and Briana Mason
2018 – Chair of MFA Committee: Sarah V. Ditmars, Bethany Birdwell,
2017 – Chair of MFA Committee: Kendra Stenger, Zoe Nicholson, and Esraa Odeh
2016 – Chair of MFA Committee: Lijun Chao
2014 – Chair of MFA Committee: Alexandra C Freda, and Elizabeth Klingler
2013 – Chair of MFA Committee: Carlee East
2011 – Chair of MFA Committee: Tanya Gadbaw, Kathyn Kuntz, and Erich Neitzke

Bachelor's Committees Served:

2021 – BFA Committee: Rachel Cadet
2019 – BFA Committee: Darnell Koonce
2018 – BFA Committee: Jadqueline Gatewood, and Michelle Csorba
2017 – BFA Committee: Amber Branson
2016 – BFA Committee: Alexis Kimbrell, and Ileana Quezada
2015 – BFA Committee: Taylor Mudge
2014 – BFA Committee: Kelly Ahren, Emily Doty, Craig Ross and Daniel Widolff
2012 – BFA Committee: Angela Bolling, Jason Wonnell, Ryan Rumsey, Lauren Bonifacius,
Jessica Krumb, and Emily Ryterski
2011 – BFA Committee: Morgan Heern, Oskar Puente, Jessica Krumb,
Diana Hargis and Lauren Randles
BA served: Dimitrius VanTrease
2010 – BFA Committee: Jenna McNair
2009 – BFA served: Lauren Hartman

Chair of B.F.A. Committee:

2022 – Chair of BFA: Samantha Ronketto

2021 – Chair of BFA: Ariyon Madry
2020 – Chair of BFA: Deborah Emerson
2019 – Chair of BFA: Jake Beltran, and Joanne Wong-Hammonds
2018 – Chair of BFA: Brandon Hill, Kasey Dann, and Anthony Jones
2017 – Chair of BFA: Anna Wonnell, Kelly Cater, Briana Mason, and Solomon Adufah
2016 – Chair of BFA: Derrick Obasa

2015 – Chair of BFA: Byron Taylor (B Rael Ali)
2014 – Chair of BFA: Adam Turl and Seongim Yu
2013 – Chair of BFA: Anna Tucker
2012 – Chair of BFA: Asten Mosley, Carol Logan, and Connie Farhang
2010 – Chair of BFA: Eunsoon Seo and Josh Nobiling
2009 – Chair of Committee: Grant Cox, Christine Holuj, Nelson VanMere, Raven King, Ken Burnside, Katherine Faulk, and Colette Johnson

PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEES

Southern Illinois Art Council, Jury Committee Southern Art Fund Application, 2022 - 2023

Illinois Association of Museums, Board of Directors, 2017 - 2020

Lambert-St. Louis International Airport Host Committee for Public Art and Culture Program, 2014

Illinois Higher Education Art Association/Illinois Articulation Initiative to which I was appointed to the Board of Officers in 2013.

Illinois Creative Economy Roundtable for the Office of the Governor (Center for Governmental Studies at Northern Illinois University, Arts Alliance Illinois is launching the Creative Economy Roundtable. The Roundtable's charge in 2014 is to make recommendations to the governor on changes in policies, programs, and practices to grow jobs and creative enterprises across the state.)

African American Museum of Southern Illinois Board of Directors Elected President 2016 - present; Appointed Director of Exhibitions 2010-present; Elected Offices held: Vice President, 2002 and 2014, and Secretary, 2004

Chicago Public Schools, Office of Arts Education All/City Art Exhibition Portfolio Review

Art Alliance Illinois Southern Illinois Arts Leadership Team

"Tribute to Dr. Margaret Burroughs" Leadership Advisory Committee at Art Institute of Chicago

Reviewed for "The All-City Teen Portfolio," Gallery 37 Center for the Arts Chicago.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Chancellor's Scholars Interviews Committee

Chancellor's Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion Committee

SIU Human Subjects Committee, Research Compliance

Search Committee for Director of Africana Studies
Search Committee for Associate Dean of College of Liberal Arts
CoLA Promotion & Tenure Committee
Judge William Holmes Cook Professorship Endowment Committee
Career Faculty Excellence Award Committee, Chair
Black History Month Committee
Graduate Council (Research)
SIU's McNair Scholars
Mentor Saudi Student Society's Advisor
Undergraduate Fine Arts Librarian Search Committee
Big Muddy Pre-Screening Committee
Black Male Round Table
Undergraduate Art Show Committee
Schnieder Hall Faculty Advisor for Housing
Judge for Annual Purchase Awards Show

SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN

Visiting Artist Program
Glove Studio Head, 2016 – present
Tenure & Promotion Committee
Glass NTT Search Committee
Chairperson of Graduate Application 2D Review Committee

2D Area Safety Officer/Lab Supervisor Executive Council
Head of Undergraduate Scholarships Committee
Head of 2D Area (summer section)
Fine Arts Activity Representative for School of Art and Design
Graduate Association of Painters and Printmakers' Advisor
League of Art and Design's Advisor
Bert Team, Graduate Application Process
Supervised Vergette Gallery Director
Panelist for Advising First Year Tenure-Track Faculty
Printmaking Search Committee Chair
Search Committee for Associate Dean of College of Liberal Arts
Art Education Search Committee
Foundation Search Committee
Drawing Search Committee
Search Committee for Director of Africana Studies
2D Black History Month Committee