

WHITNEY

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Press Release

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KARA WALKER SURVEY TO CLOSE AT THE WHITNEY ON FEBRUARY 3



Kara Walker, *You Do*, 1993/1994
Collections of Peter Norton and Eileen Harris Norton, Santa Monica, California
Photo courtesy the artist and Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York

The first full-scale American museum survey of the work of contemporary artist Kara Walker ends on February 3, 2008, at the Whitney Museum of American Art, where the extremely popular exhibition has been on view since October. Organized by the Walker Art Center, *Kara Walker: My Complement, My Enemy, My Oppressor, My Love* features fierce works ranging from the artist's signature black-paper silhouettes to film animations.

Known for her scathing multimedia portrayals of racism, romance, and sexual oppression, Walker's work was hailed by Holland Cotter in *The New York Times* as "one of the most trenchant and historically erudite bodies of art produced by any American in the last 15 years." Cotter called the show "an exquisite, implacable, loose-cannon retrospective." Writing in *New York*, Jerry Saltz said, "Kara Walker's silhouettes don't just broach America's touchiest subject – they detonate it," and referred to this exhibition as "a bitterly beautiful, psychically naked, carnal charnel house of a retrospective."

After its premiere at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, the exhibition traveled to the ARC/Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, before coming to the Whitney; it will be seen next at the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles (March 2-June 8, 2008).

Kara Walker: My Complement, My Enemy, My Oppressor, My Love is organized by Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, and is made possible by generous support from the Henry Luce Foundation, the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Inc., the Lannan Foundation, the Peter Norton Family Foundation, Linda and Lawrence Perlman, and Marge and Irv Weiser. Additional support is provided by Jean-Pierre and Rachel Lehmann.

Major support for the New York presentation is provided by the National Committee of the Whitney Museum of American Art and the Peter Norton Family Foundation.

Additional support is provided by The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, the Lily Auchincloss Foundation, Inc., and The Cowles Charitable Trust.

This exhibition is made possible, in part, by Altria Group, Inc.



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Current and Upcoming Exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art:

The Whitney's Collection	Opens January 30, 2008
Kara Walker	Through February 3, 2008
Lawrence Weiner	Through February 10, 2008
Television Delivers People	Through February 17, 2008
Two Years: Additions to the Collection, 2006-07	Through February 17, 2008
Beth Campbell: Following Room	Through February 24, 2008
Demuth's Late Paintings of Lancaster	February 23-April 27, 2008
2008 Whitney Biennial	March 6-June 1, 2008
Polaroids: Mapplethorpe	May 3-September 7, 2008
Buckminster Fuller: Starting with the Universe	June 26-September 21, 2008
Alexander Calder: The Paris Years	October 16, 2008-February 15, 2009

The Whitney Museum is located at 945 Madison Avenue, New York City. Museum hours are: Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m., closed Monday and Tuesday. Admission is \$15 for adults; Members, children (ages 11 and under), and New York City public high school students free. Senior citizens (62 and over) and students with valid ID: \$10. There is a \$6 admission fee for a pass to the Kaufman Astoria Studios Film & Video Gallery only. Admission is pay-what-you-wish on Fridays, 6-9 pm. For information, please call 1-800 WHITNEY or visit www.whitney.org