

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 27, 2025

Media Contacts

Darius Sabbaghzadeh | darius@hellothirdeye.com
Kyle Hinton | kyle@hellothirdeye.com

MEDIA ADVISORY:

Last Chance to Catch Current Exhibitions at MoAD Before Temporary Building Closure

MoAD Reopens with Exhibition Programming in October 2025 with its 20th Anniversary Celebration Including the Second Nexus Black Art Week and Landmark Group Exhibition UNBOUND, Curated by Key Jo Lee



(Left to Right): Installation views of *Liberatory Living: Protective Interiors and Radical Black Joy*, *Love + Basketball: My Freedom Gotta Rim on It* by Ann Johnson, and *Helina Metaferia: What We Carry to Set Ourselves Free* at MoAD, San Francisco. Photographer: Josef Jacques, courtesy of MoAD.

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – Three exhibitions currently on view at the Museum of the African Diaspora (MoAD) will shortly come to a close on Sunday, March 2 before the museum temporarily closes its in-person exhibition program until October 2025. Last year, MoAD received a generous grant to upgrade and improve its interior spaces for enhanced visitor experience, requiring the museum to pause in-person programming at its Mission St. location until this fall.

The three exhibitions closing this Sunday include:

- ***Liberatory Living: Protective Interiors and Radical Black Joy***: An exhibition featuring designs, artworks, and environments dedicated to the global necessity for Black people to cultivate domestic interiors not only as spaces of revolutionary action, but also of radical joy and revolutionary rest.
- ***Ann Johnson, Love + Basketball: My Freedom Gotta Rim on It***: This is Houston-based artist Ann Johnson's first-ever solo museum show on the West Coast with works that closely examine basketball through the lens of consumerism, materialism, success, and aspiration.

MoAD

- **Helina Metaferia, *What We Carry to Set Ourselves Free*:** This solo project by interdisciplinary artist Helina Metaferia engages both the interior and exterior of the museum, foregrounding the often-overlooked labor of BIPOC women and gender-marginalized people within activist histories, and their continued contributions within today's social justice movements.

The museum will reopen in October for its highly-anticipated 20th anniversary celebration, including the 2025 Afropolitan Ball Gala, the return of the Nexus: SF/Bay Area Black Art Week, and the group exhibition *UNBOUND: Art, Blackness, & The Universe* curated by Key Jo Lee, MoAD's Chief of Curatorial Affairs and Public Programming.

During the period that MoAD's exhibition spaces are closed to the public, the museum will continue to host a wide variety of programming and events off-site in collaboration with an array of local partners. This includes a virtual conversation on March 19 about the Black cultural renaissance of the 1990s with MoAD's Cultural Critic-in-Residence Dr. Artel Great, as well as film screenings and panel discussions hosted at the Casa de Carnaval Indigenous Peoples Cultural Arts Healing Center in April.

Further events will be announced on the museum's website at moadsf.org

About MoAD

San Francisco's Museum of the African Diaspora (MoAD) is a contemporary art museum whose mission is to celebrate Black cultures, ignite challenging conversations, and inspire learning through the global lens of the African Diaspora. MoAD is one of only a few museums in the United States dedicated to the celebration and interpretation of art, artists, and cultures from the African Diaspora. The Museum presents exhibitions highlighting contemporary art and artists of African descent and engages its audience through education and public programs that interpret and enhance the understanding of Black art. Founded in 2005, the Museum continues to be a unique, cultural arts staple in the San Francisco Bay Area community. For more information about MoAD, visit The Museum's website at moadsf.org.