



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS
351 West University Boulevard | Cedar City, UT 84720

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 03/26/15

Michael French
Marketing & Public Relations Coordinator
College of Performing and Visual Arts
Southern Utah University
Office: 435-865-8667
michaelfrench@suu.edu

**SUU'S ART INSIGHTS SHOWCASES
VISUAL ARTIST AND PERFORMER
DR. GALE JACKSON
APRIL 2, 2015**

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: An artist that defies to be pigeon-holed, Dr. Gale Jackson is a renowned author, visual artist, performer and advocate. An Eccles Visiting Scholar supported by a generous grant from the George S. and Dolores Dore Eccles Foundation, Dr. Jackson appears at **SUU's Department of Art and Design's** weekly lecture series, *Art Insights*, on **Thursday, April 2, 2015**. The lecture begins at **7pm** at **SUU's Auditorium Theatre**. **Admission is free and the general public is encouraged to attend**. Her presentation focuses on the interdisciplinary nature of art and writing.

Dr. Gale Jackson is the author of *Put Your Hands on Your Hips and Act Like a Woman: Song, Dance, Black History and Poetics in Performance (Forthcoming)*, *MeDea / A Novella (Glad Day, 2006)*, *Suite for Mozambique (Ikon, 2005)*, *Bridge Suite: Narrative Poems Based on the Lives of African and African American Women in the Early History of These New Black Nations (Storm Imprints, 1998)*, and *A Khoisan Tale of Beginnings and Ends (Storm Imprints, 1998)*.

Her work has been performed, exhibited, presented and anthologized nationally and internationally, appearing in a number of collections and journal publications including *The African American Review*, *Freedomways*, *Callaloo*, *Artist and Influence*, *Ploughshares* and *Essence*. She has been a fellow at the University of the West Indies, was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship for her work in griot (storytelling) traditions, honored as a "runner up" for the poet laureate of Brooklyn, and is presently engaged in a wide range of art and education presentations, conversations, local tutorials, workshops and artist collaborations through her learning studio project *Ehecatl Olin*.

Her thirty plus years of work in humanities education includes a twelve year tenure on the faculty of Medgar Evers College, of the City University of New York, as assistant professor and director of library reference and reader services, a co-coordinating role in national anti-apartheid cultural education

initiatives, and work on the writing faculties of The New School, Sarah Lawrence College and the Worker Education project of Queens College. She currently serves as poet and storyteller in residence in a New York City public middle school and in the independent community school at Hayground, and is on the graduate faculty of interdisciplinary arts at Goddard College.

Dr. Jackson is a native New Yorker with Jamaican roots who is a long time resident of Brooklyn, New York.

As an Eccles Visiting Scholar, Dr. Jackson will also speak at Convocations on Tuesday, March 31 beginning at 11:30pm in the Gilbert Great Hall located in SUU's Hunter Conference Center. Her presentation is entitled *Bridge Suite: Bearing Witness* and the event is free and open to all. In addition, she will be visiting various classes in the Departments of Art and Design and Humanities and Social Sciences.

Art Insights is a weekly program hosted during the fall and spring semesters by SUU's Art and Design faculty. Students and community members meet weekly to experience presentations and discussions by visiting artists and art educators from around the nation who share their work and insights and attend gallery openings.

For more information on the SUU College of Performing and Visual Arts events, please visit www.suu.edu/pva/arts.

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

The **Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts** is comprised of nationally accredited departments of Art and Design, Music, Theatre Arts and Dance, as well as a graduate program in Arts Administration and the Center for Shakespeare Studies. The College offers 16 different degree areas, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees; professional Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre degrees; and a Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration degree. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring over 550 majors in the College. Over 1100 students enroll each year in over 195 arts classes on the SUU campus. The College presents nearly 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year. The College's affiliate organizations include the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, Utah Shakespeare Festival and the SUU Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, contact the Office of the Dean at (435) 865-8561, or by e-mail at cpvamktg@suu.edu.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS: ART INSIGHTS, DR. GALE JACKSON

WHAT: An artist that defies to be pigeon-holed, Dr. Gale Jackson is a renowned author, visual artist, performer and advocate. An Eccles Visiting Scholar supported by a grant from the George S. and Dolores Dore Eccles Foundation, Dr. Jackson will discuss the interdisciplinary nature of art and writing at SUU's Department of Art and Design's weekly lecture series, *Art Insights*.

WHO: Art Insights, SUU's Department of Art and Design

WHEN: Thursday, April 2, 2015

TIME: 7:00pm

WHERE: Auditorium Theatre, Southern Utah University, Cedar City, UT

INFO: Visit: www.suu.edu/pva/arts

TICKETS: Free and the General Public is encouraged to attend.