

# 90/300

## Inaugural ArtCenter Black Alumni Exhibition

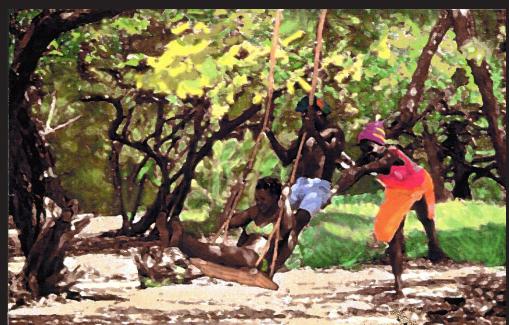
a measure of representation, in celebration of cultural influence

### ArtCenter DTLA

114 West 4th St, Los Angeles, CA

February 13 – March 13

Opening Reception: Thu, February 13 at 7PM



Jamaica Swing, Barbara DuMetz

- In commemoration of the 90th Anniversary of ArtCenter College of Design, the Center for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, in partnership with ArtCenter DTLA, has organized a series of exhibitions and programs to honor the impactful achievements and celebrate the College's Black alumni.

90/300 explores themes of representation and identity through the contextual lens of cultural impact and influence. In 90 years of existence, ArtCenter has helped shape the careers of no more than 300 designers and artists of African descent. While only making up about 1% of the total number of graduates, this underrepresented group of alumni continue to have a huge impact on the global creative economy. The 90/300 Exhibition serves to document the significant contributions ArtCenter's Black alumni have made in developing the narrative of Black identity in mainstream culture and their influence in cultural discourse.

90/300 consists of three exhibition projects: A video survey of alumni work and interviews titled Impact/300; a retrospective of pioneering photographer Barbara DuMetz titled Trailblazer: The Photographs of Barbara DuMetz (BFA 73); and Minority Report, a group exhibition of alumni works curated by acclaimed contemporary artist Devin Troy Strother (BFA 09 Illustration).

The Black experience can be expressed in an infinite number of ways. By acknowledging the multidimensionality of Blackness through the lens of creativity and cultural influence, the exhibitions of 90/300 aim to celebrate identity while congruently acting as a mechanism to broaden the landscape of representation for black artists and designers.

### Barbara DuMetz



Barbara DuMetz (BFA 73 Photography & Imaging) is a pioneer in the field of commercial photography. She began working in Los Angeles as a commercial photographer in the 1970s, when very few women had established and maintained successful careers in the field, especially African-American women. DuMetz is known for her work with African-American celebrities, corporations and images of everyday life in African-American communities. Over the course of her career, "she made a major contribution to diversifying the landscape of images that defined pop culture in the United States."

### Devin Troy Strother



Devin Troy Strother (BFA 09 Illustration) is known for his intricate alternative narratives in a variety of mediums (mixed-media, sculpture, neon, and installation). He finds inspiration in snippets of overheard conversations, movies, television, music, stand-up comedy podcasts. Strother likes to incorporate humor and language relevant to his peers and does not shy from the outrageous; his titles often serving as the punch line. completed a residency at Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Skowhegan, Maine in 2010. His works are in the permanent collections of: The Los Angeles County Museum of Art; The Santa Barbara Museum of Art; and the Studio Museum in Harlem. They are also in prominent private collections all over the world.