ONE-WAY TICKET: JACOB LAWRENCE'S MIGRATION SERIES AND OTHER VISIONS OF THE GREAT MOVEMENT NORTH BRINGS TOGETHER ARTISTIC REPRESENTATIONS OF THE GREAT MIGRATION IN ART, MUSIC, FILM, LITERATURE, AND POETRY

Exhibition Offers Rare Opportunity to See All 60 Panels of Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series at MoMA

New Commissions, Special Programs, Film Exhibitions, Digital Resources, and Publications Explore the Legacy of the Great Migration on American Culture and Society

One-Way Ticket: Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series and other Visions of the Great Movement North

April 3—September 7, 2015 Special Exhibitions Gallery, third floor

**NEW YORK, March 31, 2015**—Marking the centennial of the beginning of the Great Migration, the multi-decade mass movement of African Americans from the rural South to the urban North, The Museum of Modern Art presents *One-Way Ticket: Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series and Other Visions of the Great Movement North*. The exhibition highlights the ways in which Lawrence and others in his circles developed innovative artistic strategies to offer perspectives on this crucial episode in American history. On view April 3 through September 7, 2015, the exhibition reunites all 60 panels of Lawrence's Migration Series: it is the first time they have been seen together at MoMA in 20 years. The exhibition includes other accounts of the movement in a broad variety of mediums, including literature, music, photography, sociopolitical writings, and paintings. As an extension of the exhibition, a rich menu of new commissions, public events, performances, film screenings, digital resources, and publications places contemporary artists in conversation with Lawrence's masterwork and explores the legacy of the Migration on American culture and society. *One-Way Ticket* is organized by The Museum of Modern Art and The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C., in collaboration with the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, a division of the New York Public Library.

The exhibition at The Museum of Modern Art is organized by Leah Dickerman, The Marlene Hess Curator of Painting and Sculpture, with Jodi Roberts, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Painting and Sculpture.

### **The Migration Series**

Jacob Lawrence (1917–2000) completed his landmark series of 60 small tempera paintings with text captions in 1941, when he was just 23 years old. A child of migrants himself and a resident of Harlem since the age of 13, Lawrence's views as an artist were shaped by his immersion in heady contemporary debates about an artist's social responsibilities and about writing—and giving visual

form to—African-American history. Lawrence spent months at the 135th Street branch of the New York Public Library (now the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture) studying historical documents, books, photographs and journals, and other printed matter related to the Great Migration. He worked on the captions first, combing through the notes he had taken from the sources at the Schomburg Center. Once he had decided on the panels' subjects, he began sketching. The resulting work depicts the mass movement of African Americans from the rural South to the urban North in an epic way: moving between scenes of great intimacy and tenderness and scenes of terror and violence, it gave the visual arts a radically new model for representing black experience in America. The series was shown at Manhattan's Downtown Gallery in November and December 1941, where Lawrence was the first black artist to be represented by a New York gallery. Within months of its completion, the series entered the collections of MoMA and the Phillips Memorial Gallery (today The Phillips Collection), with each institution acquiring half of the panels.

One-Way Ticket's central gallery offers visitors a rare chance to see Lawrence's celebrated series in its entirety—in numbered order and at eye level—and includes other accounts of the movement by Lawrence's contemporaries in a broad variety of mediums. A gallery devoted to literary representations of the Migration includes novels and poems by writers such as Langston Hughes, Claude McKay, and Richard Wright. Other sections of the exhibition dedicated to music explore the integration of Southern sounds into music performed for Northern audiences and feature video and audio recordings of performances by Marian Anderson, Josh White, Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday, and others. The final section presents a selection of the many visual and textual sources that informed Lawrence's paintings—works that reported and gave image to the Migration, including photographs by Dorothea Lange, Ben Shahn, Gordon Parks, and Robert McNeill; sociological studies by Carter G. Woodson, Charles Johnson, Emmett J. Scott, and Walter White; and political cartoons by Romare Bearden and Charles Alston. Paintings, drawings, and prints by Alston, Bearden, Hale Woodruff, and Charles White further emphasize the interest in the Migration among those in Lawrence's circles as a subject for artistic reflection. They also make clear the Migration's role as an extraordinary cultural catalyst—producing new forms and genres that would become the music, images, and language of urban America.

The exhibition utilizes digital platforms that allow visitors to page through historical books immediately related to Lawrence's work. Audio and video recordings of 10 poets reading their contributions to the Migration Series Poetry Suite—newly commissioned works inspired by the Migration Series, selected by acclaimed author Elizabeth Alexander—are presented in the galleries. The poets are Rita Dove, Nikky Finney, Terrance Hayes, Tyehimba Jess, Yusef Komunyakaa, Patricia Spears Jones, Natasha Trethewey, Lyrae Van Clief-Stefanon, Crystal Williams, and Kevin Young.

#### New Commissions, Programs, and Film Exhibition

MoMA has launched a series of new commissions that puts contemporary artists working in a variety of disciplines in conversation with Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series. The 10 poems featured in the exhibition's Migration Poetry Suite also appear in the exhibition's catalogue and will debut at a live reading on May 1. In a commission by MoMA's Department of Media and Performance Art, Brooklyn-based artist Steffani Jemison considers what it means to encounter Lawrence's work in a contemporary context with a two-part project that includes an off-site reading group and performances at MoMA on June 25 and 27. WQXR radio host, musicologist, and musician Terrance McKnight presents an evening of improvised music and spoken-word performance on April 23 with a cast of more than twenty celebrated artists. The acclaimed writer Sharifa Rhodes-Pitts and the illustrator Christopher Myers have collaborated to produce a new MoMA-published children's book inspired by Lawrence's discovery of art as a child growing up in Harlem in the 1930s. Thom Andersen's Juke: Passages from the Films of Spencer Williams (2015), a newly commissioned moving-image work by MoMA's Department of Film, considers the 1930s and 40s films of pioneering African American writer-director Spencer Williams. World premiering on June 1, it opens the exhibition A Road Three Hundred Years Long: Cinema and the Great Migration, which presents fiction films by a number of important independent African American writer-directors, as well as nonfiction films that capture African American life during the Great Migration of the 1920s-40s, ranging from newsreels and home movies to New Deal social documentaries.

In addition, a robust schedule of public programs accompanies *One-Way Ticket*, with events held both at MoMA and at partnering institutions elsewhere in New York City. Together, these programs explore the legacy of Lawrence's work and the Great Migration's enduring influence on American culture and politics.

### Walking Tour of Harlem

In mid-April MoMA will launch a self-guided walking tour, available from the exhibition's website, which explores key Harlem monuments and institutions of the 1930s and 1940s, the era during which Jacob Lawrence began his career as an artist. The tour includes stops with artworks related to the exhibition that can only be seen at their locations in Harlem, such as Aaron Douglas's mural cycle at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and his mural at the YMCA on 135th Street, and Charles Alston's recently restored murals at the Harlem Hospital. The tour is narrated by Terrance McKnight and features commentary by Curator Leah Dickerman with Thelma Golden, Director and Chief Curator, The Studio Museum in Harlem; Sharifa Rhodes-Pitts, author of *Harlem Is Nowhere*; Arva Rice, President and CEO, New York Urban League; Elinor Tatum, Publisher and Editor-in-Chief, *New York Amsterdam News*; and others. The tour introduces audiences to Harlem sights, sounds, and experiences that helped shape Lawrence's views as an artist, including the groundbreaking 135th Street library, the headquarters for a major black newspaper, and other

places where Southern and Northern traditions came together. More information can be found at: MoMA.org/harlemwalkingtour

#### **Events at MoMA (in chronological order):**

## Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series and the Legacy of Jim Crow: The Long History of the Artist's Concerns

Wednesday, April 15, 2015, 6:30 p.m.

#### The Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 1

Khalil Gibran Muhammad, Director of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, hosts a panel discussion on the continuing legacy of Jim Crow, and how that legacy shapes current issues of race, justice, and public policy in America. With Sherrilyn Ifill, President, NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, and Cornell Brooks, President, NAACP.

Presented by The Friends of Education, The Museum of Modern Art.

Tickets will be available for purchase April 3 on MoMA.org/OneWayTicket. Tickets (\$15; \$10 members and corporate members; \$5 students, seniors, and staff of other museums) can be purchased online or at the information desk, the Film desk after 4:00 p.m., or at the Education and Research Building reception desk on the day of the program.

# Migration Rhapsody: An Aleatoric Exploration of the Journey North through Music, Poetry, and Personal Narrative

Thursday, April 23, 2015, 7:00 p.m.

## The Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 1

Terrance McKnight, a host on New York City classical music station WQXR, curates an evening of music and performance at MoMA, with artists including Jim Davis, Karen Chilton, Bill T. Jones, Alicia Hall Moran, Jason Moran, Damien Sneed, and Bob Stewart.

Presented in collaboration with WOXR.

Tickets will be available for purchase April 3 on MoMA.org/OneWayTicket. Tickets (\$15; \$10 members and corporate members; \$5 students, seniors, and staff of other museums) can be purchased online or at the information desk, the Film desk after 4:00 p.m., or at the Education and Research Building reception desk on the day of the program.

# Sunday Sessions: Sharifa Rhodes-Pitts: YOU BETTA WERK Sunday, April 26, 2015, 3:30-6:30 p.m. MoMA PS1

With Niv Acosta, Davarian Baldwin, Alicia Garza and Uri McMillan.

YOU BETTA WERK celebrates the convergence of two seminal liberation movements that emerged out of Harlem; **The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters** and the **House and Ballroom Scene**.

In August 1925, 500 Pullman porters gathered in secret at the Imperial Elks Lodge, Harlem, to protest deplorable working conditions. Led by activist A. Philip Randolph, they formed the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, united under the motto "fight or be slaves." It was the first African American-led labor organization and a forerunner of the struggle for black dignity and civil rights.

Sixty years later, the same Elks Lodge was one of the principal locations for House Balls, immortalized in the 1991 film, *Paris is Burning*. Ball culture—with its strivings, stylings, acts of self-expression and self-determination—was its own strike towards freedom, proclaiming the validity, beauty and power of queer lives.

These distinct liberation movements can be understood as aftershocks of the Great Migration, where massive population shifts of black Americans from the rural south to urban centers transformed political and creative cultures and provoked new ways of organizing.

Guests include Davarian Baldwin, a scholar of black urbanism and the Great Migration; Alicia Garza, special projects director of the National Domestic Workers Alliance and co-founder of #BlackLivesMatter; and Uri McMillan, a scholar of performance and queer studies.

YOU BETTA WERK is organised by historian **Sharifa Rhodes-Pitts**, author of the critically acclaimed *Harlem Is Nowhere: A Journey to the Mecca of Black America* and the illustrated children's story *Jake Makes a World: Jacob Lawrence, A Young Artist in Harlem* in conjunction with The Museum of Modern Art's exhibition *One-Way Ticket: Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series and Other Visions of the Great Movement North*.

Sunday Sessions is organized by Jenny Schlenzka, Associate Curator with Alex Sloane, Curatorial Assistant and Rosey Selig-Addiss, Associate Producer. Sunday Sessions 2014-15 is dedicated to Mike Skinner, 1974-2014 Sunday Sessions and the VW Dome at MoMA PS1 are made possible by a partnership with Volkswagen of America. Major support is provided by MoMA's Wallis Annenberg Fund for Innovation in Contemporary Art through the Annenberg Foundation.

Tickets are available for purchase on MoMAPS1.org. Tickets (\$15; \$10 members and corporate members; \$5 students, seniors, and staff of other museums) can be purchased online.

For more information, please visit: <a href="http://momaps1.org/calendar/view/561/">http://momaps1.org/calendar/view/561/</a>

# The Migration Series Poetry Suite Friday, May 1, 2015, 6:30 p.m. The Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 1

In conjunction with *One-Way Ticket: Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series and Other Visions of the Great Movement North*, MoMA has commissioned ten celebrated poets, selected by Elizabeth Alexander, to write poems inspired by Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series, which are included in the exhibition catalogue and website. This event, moderated by Alexander, presents debut readings of these poems by Rita Dove, Nikky Finney, Terrance Hayes, Tyehimba Jess, Yusef Komunyakaa, Patricia Spears Jones, Natasha Trethewey, Lyrae Van Clief-Stefanon, Crystal Williams, and Kevin Young.

Organized by MoMA's Department of Education.

Tickets will be available for purchase April 3 on MoMA.org/OneWayTicket. Tickets (\$15; \$10 members and corporate members; \$5 students, seniors, and staff of other museums) can be purchased online or at the information desk, the Film desk after 4:00 p.m., or at the Education and Research Building reception desk on the day of the program.

# A Road Three Hundred Years Long: Cinema and the Great Migration June 1—12, 2015

#### The Roy and Niuta Titus Theaters

The Department of Film's companion series to *One-Way Ticket* features the world premiere of a new MoMA commission: Thom Andersen's *Juke: Passages from the Films of Spencer Williams* (2015). In *Juke*, Andersen reconsiders the work of Williams, the pioneering African American writer-director whose central dramatic theme in such films as *The Blood of Jesus* (1941) and *Go Down, Death!* (1944) was the battle between the sacred and the profane, the church and the juke joint.

Accompanying the premiere of *Juke* is a film exhibition that pairs discussions by guest presenters, including Hilton Als, Thom Andersen, Lynne Sachs, and Jacqueline Najuma Stewart, with screenings of both historical and contemporary works. The selection includes fiction films by independent African American writer-directors such as Eloyce and James Gist, Oscar Micheaux, and Spencer Williams; and nonfiction films evoking African American life during the 1920s–1940s, including newsreels, amateur films, ethnographic studies, home movies, and New Deal social documentaries by William D. Alexander, Zora Neale Hurston, Pare Lorentz, Edgar Ulmer, and others.

The legacy of the Migration is reflected in more contemporary films like Charles Burnett's *To Sleep with Anger* (1990), Julie Dash's *Daughters of the Dust* (1992), and Kevin Jerome Everson's *Company Line* (2009).

Organized by Joshua Siegel, Curator, Department of Film, The Museum of Modern Art; and Thomas Beard, independent curator; with Candace Ming, research assistant.

For more information, please visit: <a href="http://press.moma.org/2015/03/a-road-three-hundred-years-long-cinema-and-the-great-migration/">http://press.moma.org/2015/03/a-road-three-hundred-years-long-cinema-and-the-great-migration/</a>

Steffani Jemison: Promise Machine
Thursday, June 25, 2015, 1:00 & 4:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 27, 2015, 1:00 & 4:00 p.m.
Museum galleries on the third, fourth, and fifth floors

Brooklyn-based artist Steffani Jemison presents her new multipart commission *Promise Machine*. Inspired by the Utopia Neighborhood Club, a Harlem-based women's social service organization that directly supported Jacob Lawrence, *Promise Machine* comprises a reading group and performance inspired by the notion of utopia. In advance of her June performances, Jemison will bring together members of Harlem-based community organizations as well as artists, writers, activists, and others for a Utopia Club reading group at MoMA, where they will discuss black American experimental communities in the 19th and 20th centuries. The new musical performances in the Museum galleries will be inspired by conversations with Harlem-based community organizations, and will address specific works on view in MoMA's collection, including selections from Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series. The performances feature an original libretto by the artist and a score composed collaboratively by the artist and a composer. Beginning in the 5th Floor Painting and Sculpture Permanent Collection galleries, the performers will move in a processional down through the 4th floor galleries and into the Jacob Lawrence exhibition itself.

Organized by Stuart Comer, Chief Curator, and Thomas J. Lax, Associate Curator, with Martha Joseph, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Media and Performance Art, The Museum of Modern Art.

For more information, please visit: <a href="http://press.moma.org/2014/12/steffani-jemison-promise-machine/">http://press.moma.org/2014/12/steffani-jemison-promise-machine/</a>

MoMA Nights
July 2015
The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden
Thursdays, July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2015
Sets begin at 6:30 p.m.

In July 2015, live musical performances will be presented in collaboration with Jazz at Lincoln Center (JALC) and Harlem Stage as part of the Museum's annual Thursday-night summer series, MoMA Nights. Each musician featured in the series represents a generation of rising stars destined to affect the jazz landscape for years to come, and each has his or her own personal tale of migration. Drawing from genres including hip-hop, R&B, Latin, soul, jazz, gospel, and New Orleans second line, these artists are expanding musical boundaries with a contemporary soul and swing.

July 2: Elena Ayodele Pinderhughes (JALC selection)

July 9: Samora Abayomi Pinderhughes (Harlem Stage selection)

July 16: Tamar-kali (Harlem Stage selection)

July 23: Jon Batiste & Stay Human (JALC and Harlem co-selection)

July 30: Shenel Johns Quintet (JALC selection)

MoMA Nights 2015 is programmed by Jazz at Lincoln Center and Simone Eccleston, Assistant Director of Programming, Harlem Stage. Regular Museum admission applies. In the event of rain, the Sculpture Garden will close, and music will take place in Theater 1. Please note: Sculpture Garden and indoor seating are limited and on a first-come, first-served basis.

#### **CULINARY PROGRAM:**

The Great Migration Menu April-September, 2015

## Cafe 2, Terrace 5, and The Modern

Marcus Samuelsson, chef and owner of Red Rooster in Harlem; Abram Bissell, executive chef of The Modern and ArtFood; and Dan Jackson, executive chef of the MoMA cafés, will collaborate to create menus highlighting the culinary impact of the Great Migration, when varied Southern regional cuisines blended with a New York kitchen culture. Offerings will range from special features in Cafe 2 to cocktails and small bites at the bar of The Modern.

#### **EDUCATION PROGRAMS:**

#### **Teacher Programs and Resources**

MoMA will host an open program on April 27 for New York City Department of Education (DOE) staff development. Designed for K–12 teachers of any subject, the program will use the Migration Series as a resource.

MoMA will host another open program that will coincide with the NYC DOE Chancellor's Conference Day for staff development on June 4. Staff from The Phillips Collection will present in this MoMA-organized program. For K-12 teachers of any subject.

#### School Visits and Partnership Programs

MoMA educators will concentrate on themes like Narrative in Art, Society and Politics, Identity, or Characters for guided School Visit Programs that visit the Migration Series.

One of MoMA's school partners, Thurgood Marshall Academy (Harlem), has already organized free unguided visits for second- through fifth-grade students to visit *One-Way Ticket*. Twenty parents of Thurgood Marshall students will come to MoMA and have a discussion in the exhibition on April 30.

#### **Access Programs**

A special session related to the Prime Time initiative for Senior Citizens will take place on March 30

Monthly programs will also take place in the exhibition:

- April 7: Art inSight for blind and partially sighted individuals.
- May 28: Interpreting MoMA for deaf and hard of hearing individuals.
- Meet Me at MoMA for individuals with dementia and their caregivers.

#### Family Programs

Storytelling through Art

April 25-26, May 2-3, May 9-10, May 16-17

A weekend Family Art Workshop for 8- to 10-year-olds, titled Storytelling through Art, will focus on the exhibition.

#### Here and There: Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series April 11, 18, 19

Additionally, a weekend family gallery talk for 10- to 14-year-olds, titled Here and There: Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series, will focus on the exhibition.

BENEFIT GALA: Jazz Interlude

#### Wednesday, April 8, 2015, 7:00 p.m.

The Museum of Modern Art's 2015 Jazz Interlude, a benefit gala dinner and live music performance, honors Sherry B. Bronfman, Vernon Jordan, Julie Mehretu, and the Ford Foundation on April 8.

The 2015 Jazz Interlude event chairs are Eric J. Barkley, Eboni S. Gates, and Marquita Pool-Eckert. Honorary co-chairs are Agnes Gund and David Rockefeller, Jr. The event is organized by The Friends of Education, a MoMA affiliate group dedicated to raising public awareness of African American artists, supporting the Museum's education initiatives, and encouraging the participation of African Americans at MoMA. Proceeds from Jazz Interlude will benefit the exhibition *One-Way Ticket: Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series and Other Visions of the Great Movement North* and The Friends of Education Fund, which enables the Museum to acquire important works by African American artists, to increase its outreach to the African American community, and to support the Museum's extensive educational programming.

#### **PUBLICATIONS:**

#### Jacob Lawrence: The Migration Series

The Museum of Modern Art and The Phillips Collection will jointly publish a volume featuring high-quality reproductions of each of the 60 panels of the Migration Series. *Jacob Lawrence: The Migration Series* grounds Lawrence's work in the cultural and political debates that shaped his art. Leah Dickerman situates the series within contemporary ideas about the role of the artist, particularly the black artist, as an agent for social change. Elsa Smithgall discusses the work's early exhibition history and describes how it came to be acquired by two museums. The series is reproduced in full, with short texts accompanying each panel. The volume will feature 11 newly commissioned poems from 10 poets written in response to the Migration Series; the distinguished poet Elizabeth Alexander introduces the section. 9.5 x 12"; 192 pages; 102 color illustrations. Hardcover, \$50. ISBN 978-0-87070-964-7. Published by The Museum of Modern Art and available at MoMA stores and online at MoMAstore.org. Distributed to the trade through ARTBOOK|D.A.P. in the United States and Canada, and through Thames & Hudson outside the United States and Canada.

#### Jake Makes a World: Jacob Lawrence, a Young Artist in Harlem

Acclaimed writer Sharifa Rhodes-Pitts and award-winning illustrator Christopher Myers have joined forces to create a new MoMA book for children (ages three to eight) titled *Jake Makes a World: Jacob Lawrence, a Young Artist in Harlem,* inspired by the artist's arrival in New York at the age of 13 and his discovery of the pleasures of making art. 9 x 11.75"; 32 pages; illustrated throughout. Hardcover, \$18.95. ISBN 978-0-87070-965-4. Published by The Museum of Modern Art and available at MoMA stores and online at MoMAstore.org. Distributed to the trade through ABRAMS in the United States and Canada, and through Thames & Hudson outside the United States and Canada.

#### Website

MoMA will launch an in-depth multimedia website focused on Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series. It will offer an interactive exploration of all 60 individual panels with zoomable high-resolution images, providing an experience of the series in its entirety that, at present, is not available anywhere online. The website explores Lawrence's biography and career; the artists and intellectuals who inhabited Lawrence's world and contemporaneous historical, literary, musical, and artistic interpretations of the Migration; historical and visual sources for Lawrence's work, especially the popular and print culture of the 1930s and 1940s; and the social history of the Migration. The site will include a range of contextual materials, including film, music, poetry, oral history recordings, and photographs. The website showcases recordings of the new poems commissioned for the Migration Series Poetry Suite and filmed interviews with historians, writers, and contemporary artists who offer new perspectives on Lawrence's work. The site will launch in two phases; the second phase will include additional interviews, the Harlem Walking Tour, and an interactive infographic allowing users to explore the demographics of The Great Migration. The website has been designed by Brooklyn design firm CHIPS. The website can be found at: MoMA.org/migrationseries

#### **RELATED OFFSITE EVENTS:**

Centennial Celebration of Billie Holiday's Birth April 28; April 30-May 1; May 7-8, 2015, 7:30 p.m. Harlem Stage

Harlem Stage marks the centennial of Billie Holiday's birth with a collection of events celebrating the singer's career and legacy. Footage of the singer performing "Strange Fruit" will be among the featured works in *One-Way Ticket*.

On Tuesday, April 28, Harlem Stage will host a conversation, "When the Moon Turns Green: Examining the Myth and Music of Billie Holiday," with Columbia University scholars Robert O'Meally, Farah Jasmin Griffin, and John Szwed.

April 30–May 1 at 7:30 p.m., they will present "Parallel Lives: Billie Holiday and Edith Piaf." The concert represents a global celebration of "Lady Day" and the "Little Sparrow," two women born in the same year on different shores, speaking different languages and leading parallel lives. Curated by Nona Hendryx, former vocalist of Labelle, the performance features an international roster of contemporary vocalists and performers, including Joey Arias, Nona Hendryx, Liza Jesse Peterson, Etienne Stadwjck, and Women of the World.

The centennial celebration concludes with José James's "Yesterday I Had the Blues: The Music of Billie Holiday." Featuring a hand-picked collection of Holiday's favorite standards and originals, critically acclaimed vocalist José James pays homage to her celebrated 1950s small band recordings on May 7 and 8 at 7:30 p.m.

Events will take place at the Harlem Stage Gatehouse. Information and tickets at Harlemstage.org

# Harlem Eat Up! Festival May 14-17, 2015

The first annual Harlem Eat Up! Festival, featuring ticketed and free events celebrating Harlem, will be held May 14–17. An exploration of the history of food and culture in Harlem, the festival will explore the intersection of the neighborhood's culinary, music, and arts scenes. As part of its mission and dedication to Harlem, net proceeds from festival ticket sales will be donated to Harlem Park to Park and Citymeals-on-Wheels, which will provide a positive and direct impact on the Harlem community.

For more information, visit harlemeatup.com/

## Derek Bermel's *Migration Series* May 16, 2015, 7:30 p.m. Albany Symphony Orchestra

The Albany Symphony Orchestra and its conductor, David Alan Miller, will perform Derek Bermel's *Migration Series* at the American Music Festival in spring 2015.

Inspired by Lawrence's Migration Series at MoMA, Bermel created this concerto for jazz band and orchestra, building on the colors and moods of the images in Lawrence's work. "In this grand American story," he wrote," I gravitated toward the larger themes, those of determination, mystery, despair, and hope." The score was influenced by many of Bermel's musical heroes, from Charlie Parker, Sarah Vaughan, and Thelonious Monk to Stevie Wonder, John Zohn, Rakim, and Mos Def.

Commissioned by Wynton Marsalis for the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and American Composers Orchestra, the work premiered on November 16, 2006, in the Rose Theater, New York. This year, the American Music Festival will join forces with the Juilliard Jazz Orchestra for a new performance of Bermel's work on May 16 at 7:30 p.m. at The Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY.

Tickets from range from \$19 to \$59 and can be purchase online at albanysymphony.com.

Shaping Lawrence: Mixing Civic Influence and Cultural Access July 13, 2015, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

#### The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

Arva R. Rice, president and CEO of the New York Urban League, joins in conversation with Dr. Khalil Muhammad, chief of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, to discuss the intersection of Jacob Lawrence's work with civil rights organizations and cultural institutions, to portray and address social inequalities in the 20th and 21st centuries. Rice and Muhammad will explore how these vibrant influences are depicted in Lawrence's groundbreaking Migration Series and how culture and civil rights continue to intersect to create social change today. The event is free and open to the public.

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Media sponsorship is provided by EBONY.

Special thanks to The Jacob and Gwendolyn Knight Lawrence Foundation.

#### **HEARING LOOPS:**

In order to serve visitors with hearing loss, *One-Way Ticket: Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series and other Visions of the Great Movement North* includes induction hearing loops for sound amplification. Visitors to the installation can turn their hearing aid or cochlear implant to T-Coil mode to hear enhanced sound effortlessly.

#### No. 10

#### **Press Contacts:**

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For downloadable high-resolution images, register at MoMA.org/press.

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#### **Public Information:**

**The Museum of Modern Art,** 11 West 53 Street, New York, NY 10019, (212) 708-9400, MoMA.org. **Hours:** Saturday through Thursday, 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Friday, 10:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

**Museum Admission:** \$25 adults; \$18 seniors, 65 years and over with I.D.; \$14 full-time students with current I.D. Free, members and children 16 and under. (Includes admittance to Museum galleries and film programs). Free admission during Uniqlo Free Friday Nights: Fridays, 4:00–8:00 p.m.

**MoMA.org:** No service charge for tickets ordered on MoMA.org. Tickets purchased online may be printed out and presented at the Museum without waiting in line. (Includes admittance to Museum galleries and film programs).