



Souls Grown Deep Foundation Publications

Souls Grown Deep: African American Vernacular Art, Vol. I (2000)

Souls Grown Deep, Vol. I is the first publication to explore the work of African American artists from the Deep South, celebrating their contributions to visual art and American culture with unprecedented thoroughness and scope. The book includes lavishly illustrated, full-color chapters on 40 artists. Writing from diverse perspectives, 37 contributing writers—including civil rights leaders, art historians, curators, and folklorists—present thematic and historical overviews crucial to an understanding of the art's origins.

Souls Grown Deep: African American Vernacular Art, Vol. II (2001)

Completing the two-volume set, *Souls Grown Deep, Vol. II* takes the visual and historical presentation of the first volume a step further, offering a broader array of artistic styles and media. While the first volume explored the diverse historical roots of the genre and introduced artists whose work recalled the South of the pre-civil rights era, the second volume brings the movement into the present, delving into the work of the current generation of artists who are creating a rich and complex form of contemporary art.

The Quilts of Gee's Bend (2002)

This catalogue was created in conjunction with *The Quilts of Gee's Bend*, a travelling exhibition presented at museums across the country, including the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the High Museum of Art, Atlanta; and the de Young Museum, San Francisco; among others. The publication includes a historical overview of the two hundred years of extraordinary quilt-making in this African-American community, its people, and their art-making tradition.

Gee's Bend: The Women and Their Quilts (2002)

This catalogue was also created in conjunction with the travelling exhibition, *The Quilts of Gee's Bend*. The book examines three key themes in American quilts: quilts as sophisticated design, quilts as vessels of cultural survival and continuity, and quilts as portraits of women's identities. The women of Gee's Bend brought a uniquely local flavor to a visual tradition widely practiced by Americans of every social class, ethnicity, religion, and region—this publication explores the narratives and histories of the women quiltmakers of Gee's Bend.

Thornton Dial in the 21st Century (2005)

This lavishly illustrated monograph was published on the occasion of a groundbreaking exhibition organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston and the Souls Grown Deep Foundation. *Thornton Dial in the 21st Century* follows the artist's explorations of interlinked topics, including a haunting suite of work about September 11, 2001; homages to his friends, the women quiltmakers of Gee's Bend, Alabama; a new type of "art about art" in which Dial responds to works from disparate cultural dialogues (including

art by academically trained and self-taught artists); Dial's childhood in the South; and evocations of human struggles for freedom. Reproduced in this publication are 118 recent paintings and sculptures—virtually all of the artist's output from this five year period between 2000 and 2005—as well as nearly 30 works on paper and a rich overview of Dial's work from before 2000.

Gee's Bend: The Architecture of the Quilt (2006)

This book accompanies *The Quilts of Gee's Bend* exhibition, emphasizing a growing interest in research about the African American community of Gee's Bend, Alabama, and its quilts. Expanding upon that initial exhibition and its accompanying publications, *Gee's Bend: The Architecture of the Quilt* offers a deeper look into the women and their art, and a more focused investigation into the nature and inspirations—and future—of the Gee's Bend quilt tradition. Featuring essays by scholars and by the artists themselves, this volume considers the ways that materials influence the creative process and have played a central role in the evolution of Gee's Bend quilt making, and tells the story of a quilt making heritage of five generations of women descended from a single matriarch.

Mary Lee Bendolph, Gee's Bend Quilts, and Beyond (2006)

Mary Lee Bendolph's extraordinary patchworks garnered national attention when they were featured among the works of other quiltmakers from her tiny, predominately African American community in the exhibition and book, *The Quilts of Gee's Bend*. This book examines Bendolph's inspiration, creative process, and individual genius, as well as her profound connection to the cultural practices and expressive traditions out of which her work arises.