

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**January 4, 2017**



**Gallery221@HCC is pleased to present**  
***Delita Martin: Black Birds in the Night Sky***  
**January 17 – March 2, 2017**

TAMPA, FL – Gallery 221 @Hillsborough Community College, Dale Mabry Campus, is pleased to announce its upcoming exhibition, *Delita Martin: Black Birds in the Night Sky, January 17 – March 2, 2017*. An **exhibition reception and talk are planned for Thursday, January 19, 2017, 5-7PM.**

Now in its 17th year, the Tampa Bay Black Heritage Festival is an annual event which promotes African American arts and culture in the Tampa Bay area, and Hillsborough Community College is proud to be a collaborator in this endeavor. Each year Gallery 221@HCC offers an art exhibition to coincide with events planned by the Tampa Bay Black Heritage Festival. This year we are proud to share the artwork of Delita Martin.

Working from oral traditions, as well as vintage and family photographs as a source of inspiration, Martin's work explores the power of the narrative impulse. Her process of layering various printmaking, drawing, sewing, collaging, and painting techniques allow her to create portraits that fuse the real and the fantastic. She combines signs and symbols to create a visual

language which when combined with oral storytelling offers other identities and other narratives for women of color.

Martin is an artist currently based in Huffman, Texas. She received a BFA in drawing from Texas Southern University and a MFA in printmaking from Purdue University. Formerly a member of the fine arts faculty at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Martin currently works as a full-time artist in her studio, Black Box Press. Her artwork has been exhibited both nationally and internationally and is represented in numerous private and corporate collections through the United States. Most recently her work was included in the State of the Arts: Discovering American Art Now; an exhibition that included 101 artists from around the United States. She was also included in the 2015 International Review of African American Art as one of 16 African American artists to watch who are gaining national and international attention.

## **PUBLIC PROGRAMS**

*All programs are free and open to the public.*

**Gallery Reception:** Thursday, January 19, 2017, 5 -7 p.m.

**Image Above:** *Night Angel*, 2016, Gelatin Printing, Conte, Acrylic, Hand-Stitching, Decorative Papers, 39w x 50h

**Exhibition Title:** Delita Martin: Black Birds in the Night Sky

**Exhibition Dates:** January 17 – March 2, 2017

**Location:** Gallery 221@HCC, 2nd floor library, Learning Resources Center, Dale Mabry Campus, 4001 W. Tampa Bay Blvd., Tampa 33614

**Gallery Hours:** Monday – Wednesday 9a.m. – 4p.m.; Thursday 9a.m. – 7p.m.; Friday 9a.m. – 2p.m.

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