

California African American Museum

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California African American Museum Announces PST ART Presentation of *World Without End: The George Washington Carver Project*

Exhibition and Catalogue Share Carver's Lasting Impact on
Contemporary Art and Science



(Los Angeles, CA) — The California African American Museum (CAAM) announces *World Without End: The George Washington Carver Project* will open on September 18, 2024, as part of the Southern California-wide Getty initiative PST ART: *Art & Science Collide*. Featuring thirty artists and artist collectives and four archives, this mixed-media exhibition and accompanying catalogue examine the impact of George Washington Carver on contemporary art and science.

George Washington Carver was a pioneer of plant-based engineering and one of the nation's earliest proponents of sustainable agriculture. In the early 1900s, he built his Jesup Wagon, a moveable school to share soil and plant samples, equipment, and other agricultural knowledge with Black farmers. Carver's then-radical ideas—including organic fertilizers, crop rotation, and plant-based medicines, bioplastics, and construction materials—are now recognized as the forerunners of modern farming techniques and conservation. A trained and practicing artist, Carver used natural materials such as peanut- and clay-derived dyes and paints in his many weavings and still-life paintings. *World Without End* explores how contemporary artists and scientists working today engage with Carver's ideas and interests. Alongside contemporary artworks, including newly created works by five artists, the exhibition features rarely seen archival material, including Carver's paintings, drawings, laboratory equipment, and notebooks. Both the exhibition and its forthcoming catalogue, which includes previously unpublished material documenting Carver's life and work at Tuskegee University, reframe and center Carver's lasting impact on art and science.

CAAM Executive Director and co-curator Cameron Shaw said, "We are excited to present *World Without End: The George Washington Carver Project* in conjunction with PST ART. Focusing on Carver, we can tell the rich stories of his dynamic practices as an artist, scientist, educator, and activist living and working in the Jim Crow South. CAAM provides the perfect setting and context to share artworks, photographs, historical texts, and artifacts to illuminate Carver's radical vision. We also get to see Carver's influence in the works by artists in the exhibition, including Terry Adkins, John Cage, Robert Colescott, Abigail DeVille, Karon Davis, Charles Gaines, Judson Powell, Noah Purifoy, Tavares Strachan, Henry Taylor, Hana Ward, Jack Whitten, and many others. Visitors who may remember growing up learning about Carver can expand their understanding, deepen their connection to this history, and see how it informs the present."

Independent curator and *World Without End* co-curator Yael Lipschutz said, "This exhibition gives us the opportunity to tell the story of Carver as an artist. Most artists eventually become scientists and inventors in pursuit of their craft. Carver is a shining example of a multifaceted creator working in a studio, a laboratory, a greenhouse, and in the fields. His work with agriculture and climate are more relevant than ever, and his pursuit of sustainability still informs food systems we see today, as well as the people challenging and evolving them. The artists in the show bring these ideas to life."

Participating Artists:

Terry Adkins

Ash Arder

Kevin Beasley

Julie Beeler

Diedrick Brackens

Sheila Pree Bright
John Cage
Colectivo Cambalache (Carolina Caycedo, Alonso Gil, Federico Guzmán)
Robert Colescott
Karon Davis
Abigail DeVille
Charles Gaines
Michelle Glass and Terrick Gutierrez
Mohamed Sleiman Labat
James Brandon Lewis, Red Lily Quintet
Candace Lin
Nour Mobarak
Mimi Onuoha
William Padilla-Brown
Alicia Piller
Judson Powell
Noah Purifoy
Linda Dounia Rebeiz
Sam Shoemaker
Tavares Strachan
Henry Taylor
Hana Ward
Jack Whitten
Amanda Williams

World Without End: The George Washington Carver Project is co-curated by Cameron Shaw, Executive Director, CAAM, and Yael Lipschutz, independent curator. This exhibition is made possible with support from Getty through its [PST ART: Art & Science Collide](#) initiative and the Ford Foundation.

World Without End: The George Washington Carver Project is among more than 70 exhibitions and programs presented as part of PST ART. Returning in September 2024 with its latest edition, PST ART: *Art & Science Collide*, this landmark regional event explores the intersections of art and science, both past and present. PST ART is presented by Getty. For more information about PST ART: *Art & Science Collide*, please visit [pst.art](#)



Alongside this exhibition, CAAM offers a slate of ongoing exhibitions including *Simone Leigh*, co-presented with the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (through January 20, 2025), *We Are Not Strangers Here: African American Histories in Rural California*

(through February 2, 2025), and *Tatyana Fazlalizadeh: Speaking to Falling Seeds* (through August 3, 2025).

About the California African American Museum

CAAM explores the art, history, and culture of African Americans, with an emphasis on California and the West. Chartered by the State of California in 1977, the Museum began formal operations in 1981 and is a state-supported agency and a Smithsonian Affiliate. In addition to presenting exhibitions and public programs, CAAM houses a permanent collection of more than 5,000 works of art, artifacts, and historical documents, and a publicly accessible research library. Admission to CAAM is free.

Museum hours: Tuesday–Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Closed Mondays (except MLK Day), Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s Day. CAAM is located in Exposition Park at the corner of Figueroa Street and Exposition Boulevard, west of the 110 (Harbor) Freeway. Exposition Park parking is available for \$20 (daytime) at 39th and Figueroa Streets. The Metro Expo line Expo Park/USC station is a five-minute walk through the Exposition Park Rose Garden to the Museum.

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Images

George Washington Carver with painting, 1892. Photograph. Courtesy Tuskegee University

Hana Ward, *Pioneer of Possibility*, 2023. Oil on canvas, 72 x 58 in. Private Collection