

UAA Social Event: Rubell Museum

The UAA Social Committee was at it again. This time, on Wednesday, November 15th, eight UAA members converged on the new Rubell Museum in Southwest DC between the SW Wharf and Nationals Park. The Rubell is a private museum, the companion to Miami's first and much larger Rubell museum. The museum reinvigorated the 1906 building of the former Randall Junior High School, an historically Black public school that ceased operations in 1978.



Our intrepid team included (l to r) Bruce Abrams, Sharon Pauling, Ashlie Hollis, Frank Almaguer, Denise Rollins, Karen Freeman, Antoinette Almaguer and Woody Nevin. Following the visit, we had a wonderful lunch at Circa at Navy Yard restaurant.

We received a thorough introduction to the Rubell family and their collection from Ashlie Hollis, the Rubell Tour Coordinator. The collection is eclectic, engaging, and a real gem. The museum reinvigorates the 1906 building of the former Randall Junior High School, a historically Black public school in Southwest DC that ceased operations in 1978. The museum, free for Washington DC residents, serves as a place for the public to engage with our time's most compelling national and international artists.



The Museum opened two new exhilarating exhibits on November 1st. *Singular Views: 25 Artists* highlights the work of 25 contemporary artists from across the U.S. and worldwide through solo presentation and is drawn entirely from the Rubell family's unparalleled and ever-growing collection of contemporary art of more than 8,000 works.

Also opening *Alexandre Diop: Jooba Jubba, l'Art du Defi, the Art of Challenge*. Based in Vienna, Franco-Senegalese artist Alexandre Diop (b. 1995, Paris) uses discarded objects to create work that raises questions about sociopolitical, cultural, and gender issues. Drawing inspiration from his European and African roots, he explores the legacies of colonialism and diaspora while tackling universal themes of ancestry, suffering, and historical violence.

These first three examples of the works on display are done by an American artist Murjoni Merriweather and Ghanaian artists Amoako Boafo and Otis Kwame Kye Quaiicoe.

Murjoni Merriweather, Artist – sculptures are named *JAZELLE* and *ADHARA*



Amoako Boafo: 2019 Artist-in-Residence



Otis Kwame Kye Quaiicoe: 2021 Artist in Residence



