

MEDIA RELEASE

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Angelbert Metoyer: Seasons of Heaven

November 22nd, 2014 – January 3rd, 2015

Opening Reception: Saturday, November 22, 2014, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Deborah Colton Gallery is pleased to present *Seasons of Heaven*, an exhibition of select mixed media artworks by Angelbert Metoyer. The exhibition opens Saturday, November 22th, 2014, with a reception with the artist from 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm.

Seasons of Heaven surveys Metoyer's artistic career to date and evaluates his artistic pursuit and his role within the greater timeline of contemporary art practice. The exhibition presents a non-chronological array of artworks that reference moments, epochs, and seasons of the artist's personal experience as Metoyer shares the vestige – the ephemeral visual remains – of his singular pursuit of understanding through active creation. It is through this personal engagement with the creative process, combined with his assimilation of far-reaching philosophical and scientific notions, that Metoyer's work speaks to universalities across boundaries of many kinds to compellingly address a diverse audience.

London-based critic John-Paul Pryor elucidates the artists' intention: "Metoyer's fascination with time, memory, arcane symbolism, quantum physics, and cosmology take him far beyond such stifling parameters and reveal a staggering breadth of scope. What truly drives Metoyer is a deeply personal vision quest, and a determination to map the psychological landscape of what each and every human being on this planet refers to as heaven."

Launching his artistic career in 1994, at a very young age Metoyer was given two rooms in the Project Row Houses: a community arts center based in Houston. In 1995, he was included in exhibitions concurrently at Project Row Houses and Contemporary Arts Museum Houston and then moved to Atlanta to study at what is now the Savannah College of Art and Design. Through this time, Metoyer began thinking about objects as the representation of moments and drawn images as the formalization of memories. This influenced Metoyer's later artwork that explored his own family history within the context of the narrative of this country and considered the cultural complexity of America's past. Metoyer's more recent work investigates the physics and mathematics of the universe, turning his attention beyond ideas of self-identity and personal experience to those of universal truths, metaphysics and questions about the human soul.

Metoyer's artworks have garnered a devoted following of collectors in Texas, nationally, and internationally. His artwork is included in many museum collections including the African American Museum in Dallas, the Museum of Fine Arts: Houston, the Museum of Fine Arts, Leipzig (Germany) and the Williamsburg Museum of 21st Century Art in Brooklyn, among others. Metoyer was first shown at Deborah Colton Gallery in *Qatar Narratives: A Country Expressed By Its Own Voices* (2008). In this exhibition, Metoyer was selected as the only American artist, where his work reflected on the art of the nine prominent Qatari artists who were featured, and revealed Metoyer's mystical connections to the Middle East. Since then his work has been presented in standout solo exhibitions at Deborah Colton Gallery, including in the 2011 *Levels, Forms and Dimensions*, which debuted works never before shown in a gallery, and in the 2012, *Babies: Walk on Water, Present, Future and Time Travel*, which "sold out" by opening night. Additionally, Metoyer has consistently shown his breathtaking work worldwide, exhibiting in various cities in the United States, as well as internationally in Italy, Germany, Peru, the United Kingdom, France, China, Cuba and the United Arab Emirates.

Deborah Colton Gallery is founded on being an innovative showcase for ongoing presentation and promotion of strong historical and visionary contemporary artists worldwide, whose diverse practices include painting, works on paper, sculpture, video, photography, performance, conceptual future media and public space installations. The gallery aspires to provide a forum through connecting Texas, national and international artists to make positive change.