

**For Immediate Release**

19<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL JAMES A. PORTER COLLOQUIUM ON AFRICAN AMERICAN ART  
TO HONOR INTERDISCIPLINARY SCHOLAR RICHARD LONG AND ART HISTORIAN  
LESLIE KING-HAMMOND

WASHINGTON, DC, January 22, 2008 – The Howard University Department of Art is pleased to announce the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual James A. Porter Colloquium on African American Art to be held on April 17 – 19, 2008 on the campus of Howard University. The James A. Porter Colloquium is the leading forum for scholars, artists, curators, and others in the field of African American Art and Visual Culture. The theme of this year's Colloquium is "From FESTAC to DOCUMENTA: Crossing Boundaries, Constructing Identities, Expanding Discourse in African American Art and Art of the African Diaspora." The annual benefit gala will honor and celebrate the pioneering achievements of interdisciplinary scholar Richard Long, Professor Emeritus, Emory University and scholar, educator and art historian Leslie King-Hammond, Graduate Dean, Maryland Institute College of Art.

The Porter Colloquium continues its tradition of boldly promoting innovative perspectives, ground breaking scholarship and open critical dialogue on African American Art. During this year's three-day program, scholars, artists, and cultural critics will examine the ideas that influence how works of African American artists are viewed, interpreted and valued. Established at Howard University in 1990, the annual Colloquium is named in honor of James A. Porter, the pioneering art historian and Professor. The Colloquium reveres the legacy of Professor James A. Porter and honors artists of color with clear and probing analyses of our visual traditions.

For registration and more information on the Porter Colloquium and Benefit Gala, please contact the Colloquium Committee – Howard University, Department of Art on 202.806.7072, 202.806.7046 or visit us at [www.portercolloquium.org](http://www.portercolloquium.org).

**About the Porter Colloquium**

The James A. Porter Colloquium is the leading forum for scholars, artists, curators and others in the field of African American Art and Visual Culture. Established at Howard University in 1990, the annual Colloquium is named in honor of James A. Porter, the pioneering Art Historian and Professor, whose 1943 publication *Modern Negro Art* laid the foundation for the field of study. The Colloquium continues his legacy through dynamic programming, scholarly research and artistic leadership. Past Colloquium presenters have included such leading scholars and artists as David Driskell, Edmund B. Gaither, Ann Gibson, Leslie King Hammond, Michael D. Harris, Samella Lewis, E.J. Montgomery, John Scott, Lowery Stokes Simms, Robert Farris Thompson, Deborah Willis and Judith Wilson. The Porter Colloquium is presented by the Department of Art, Howard University in Washington, DC. For information please visit us at [www.portercolloquium.org](http://www.portercolloquium.org) or contact the Colloquium Committee on +1.202.806.7072.