Mojo:
An Exploration of Traditional and Experimental Printmaking

October 17-December 20, 2012
Fourth Floor Art Gallery, John B. Coleman Library
Prairie View A&M University

The Fourth Floor Art Gallery in the John B. Coleman Library and Prairie View A&M University is excited to host its latest exhibition Mojo: An Exploration of Traditional and Experimental Printmaking. Mojo features the work of four dynamic artists: Rabéa Ballin, Ann ‘Sole Sister’ Johnson, Delita Martin and Lovie Olivia. This show has been organized around the vocabulary of printmaking to evoke a conversation about the tried and true privilege of the hand in contemporary art. Mojo is also the third in a series of exhibitions exploring how notions of domesticity are paired with women of color. Working closely with the Prairie View A&M University Art Gallery, this project has been entirely conceived by the exhibition’s artists. These four women have been operating as an unofficial collective since 2010 and exhibited their work together in such venues as the Houston Museum of African American Culture, Houston’s M Squared Gallery, The University of Arkansas-Little Rock, and Brooklyn’s Corridor Gallery.

Their previous show titles Roux, and Stir attest to the group’s improvisational style when cooking up ideas. In Mojo, Ann Johnson renders ghostly portraits of her ancestors on kitchenware through a series of experimental printing processes. Lovie Olivia exploits transfers prints and plaster to conjure an ethereal collection of fresco narratives. Rabéa Ballin plays with cultural landscapes and pictorial space through abstract snapshots and mixed media renderings of scalps. And Delita Martin delivers a folksy assortment of fictional Linocut advertisements to illustrate vintage ideas associated with the term ‘mojo’.

Mojo: An Exploration of Traditional and Experimental Printmaking will be on view through December 20, 2012. Artists Ann Johnson, Lovie Olivia, and Rabéa Ballin will visit the campus to speak with students about their work and the exhibition on the day of the exhibition’s opening, October 17th from 12-2 pm. The gallery is free and open to the public. For more information about this exhibition or the Fourth Floor Art Gallery at Prairie View A&M University please call the 936-261-1523 or visit http://www.pvamu.edu/pages/3665.asp

Images above by (left to right): Delita Martin, 2012; Ann ‘Sole Sister’ Johnson, 2012; Rabéa Ballin, 2009; and Lovie Olivia, 2010 (images courtesy of the artists)