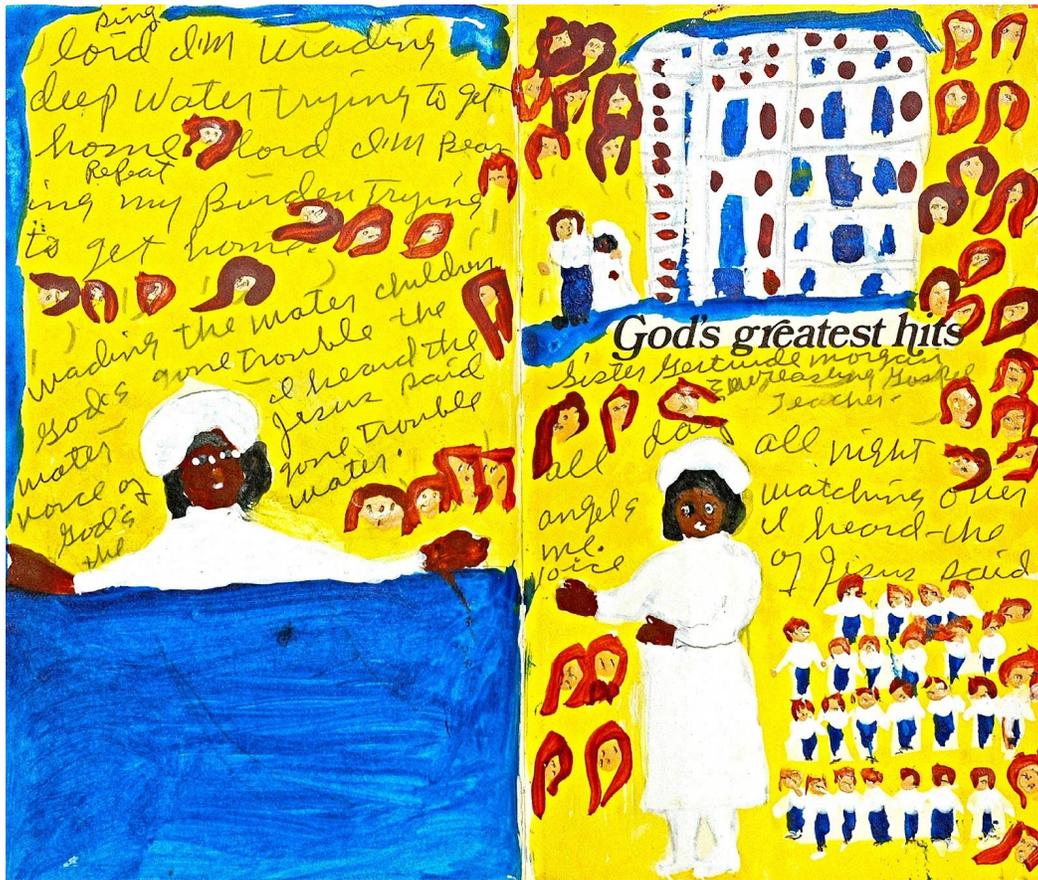


**Pérez Art Museum Miami Announces Major Gift from Los Angeles-Based Collector, Scholar, and Advocate Gordon W. Bailey**



Sister Gertrude Morgan. *God's Greatest Hits*, ca. 1970. Mixed media on paper. 9 x 13 inches. Collection Pérez Art Museum Miami, gift of Gordon W. Bailey. Image courtesy of Gordon W. Bailey.

**(MIAMI, FL — August 5, 2019) — Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM)** is pleased to announce a major gift of 46 artworks from Los Angeles-based collector, scholar, and advocate **Gordon W. Bailey**. The works encompass a variety of media including drawing, painting and sculpture, and join artworks Bailey gifted in 2016, increasing his total contribution to 60 objects. All but two of the 28 artists are new additions to PAMM's collection.

A number of notable artists from the southern United States such as **Sam Doyle, Purvis Young, Thornton Dial, Herbert Singleton, Clementine Hunter, Sister Gertrude Morgan, Minnie Evans, Roy Ferdinand, Lonnie Holley, and Leroy Almon** are represented. Two important works by Doyle join a third, *Cpt. F. Powill*, previously given by Bailey, which is currently displayed in PAMM's 35th anniversary exhibition *The Gift of Art*. Through his works, Doyle chronicled his unique Gullah culture and, more generally, African American achievement. Jean-Michel Basquiat collected Doyle's iconic, recycled, metal roofing portraits and Ed Ruscha—who painted a posthumous tribute to Doyle in 1985—credited Doyle as having “a strong impact on me.”

Other well-known artists represented are **David Choe**, whose monumental mural *Nothing Lasts Forever* can be seen at Wynwood Walls, **O. L. Samuels**, who is a Florida Folk Heritage Award recipient, and **Sulton Rogers, Daniel Pressley, Eddie Arning, Harry Lieberman, Welmon Sharlhorne, Jimmy Lee Sudduth, Mose Tolliver, Willie White, Georgia Speller, Rev. Albert Wagner, and William Dawson**.

Bailey became keenly interested in the museum after his friend, **Director Franklin Sirmans**, assumed his position at PAMM, continuing a dialogue begun in 2010 when Sirmans was Department Head and Curator of Contemporary Art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, where Sirmans curated the 2014 exhibition *Sam*

*Doyle: The Mind's Eye — Works from the Gordon W. Bailey Collection*, and, later, while serving as Artistic Director of New Orleans's *Prospect.3: Notes for Now, Herbert Singleton Inside Out/Outside In*, which included works loaned by Bailey.

"I am thankful for Gordon's friendship, scholarship and leadership in the discussion about these very important artists and grateful for his generous patronage that has brought the works of many of these artists to museum collections around the country, and especially for this significant gift to Miami," said **PAMM Director Franklin Sirmans**. "His gifts allow PAMM's permanent collection to present new expansive art historical narratives that are inclusive of artists who maintained a practice and produced work outside of the art-world ecosystem."

With its pivotal geographic location at the crossroads of the Americas, PAMM is dedicated to presenting artwork by historically underrepresented artists, including the U.S. Latinx experience, the African diaspora, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Drawing on this theme, Bailey chose artworks by two artists because of their ties to the region: **Mario Mesa**, who was a political prisoner in Cuba before fleeing in 1980 to Miami during the Mariel boatlift, and **Jane Winkelman**, who lived in the Miami area for several years before moving to San Francisco to work on behalf of the homeless. **Purvis Young** has been a significant part of PAMM's collection since 2005, and Bailey's gift of several superb paintings will provide a wider context for the presentation of his work outside the confines of traditions associated with the American South.

Highlights of Bailey's gift include: a near eight-foot, reclaimed oak door, carved and painted by **Herbert Singleton**; an original, mixed media work by **Sister Gertrude Morgan**, created in 1970 on the frontispiece of *God's Greatest Hits*, a book of Bible verses illustrated with Morgan works owned by the late poet Rod McKuen; and an exemplary work depicting two riders on a mule created by the renowned **Clementine Hunter** when she was in her nineties—a rare verso drawing adds a poignant touch.

Bailey hopes his substantial commitment to **PAMM** underscores that of donor, and trustee **Jorge M. Pérez**, and supports the museum's mission: "Because of the sustaining generosity of Mr. Pérez and Franklin's leadership, PAMM is establishing a reputation as one of America's most progressive museums," said Bailey. "The museum's expanding collection reflects its vibrant home city, host of the internationally-acclaimed Miami Art Week and Art Basel Miami, and adds to its presence as a dynamic cultural center."

***What Carried Us Over: Gifts from Gordon W. Bailey***, an exhibition organized by PAMM's curatorial staff in conversation with Bailey, featuring selections from his gift, is planned for September 2019.

### **About Pérez Art Museum Miami**

Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM) promotes artistic expression and the exchange of ideas, advancing public knowledge and appreciation of art, architecture, and design, and reflecting the diverse community of its pivotal geographic location at the crossroads of the Americas. The 35-year-old South Florida institution, formerly known as Miami Art Museum (MAM) and led by Director Franklin Sirmans, opened a new building, designed by world-renowned architects Herzog & de Meuron, on December 4, 2013 in Downtown Miami's Museum Park. The facility is a state-of-the-art model for sustainable museum design and progressive programming and features 200,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor program space with flexible galleries; shaded outdoor verandas; a waterfront restaurant and bar; a museum shop; and an education center with a library, media lab, and classroom spaces.

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Accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM) is sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. Support is provided by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners. Additional support is provided by the City of Miami and the Miami OMNI Community Redevelopment Agency (OMNI CRA). Pérez Art Museum Miami is an accessible facility. All contents ©Pérez Art Museum Miami. All rights reserved.

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