

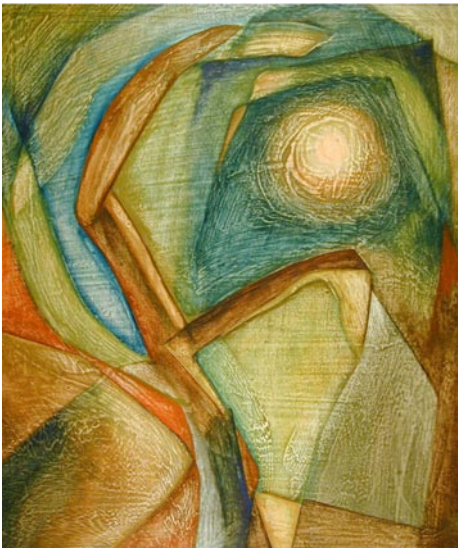
Gibbes Museum of Art in Charleston, SC, Offers Exhibition Focused on Harriet Tubman’s Combahee River Raid

The Gibbes Museum of Art in Charleston, SC, will present *Picturing Freedom: Harriet Tubman and the Combahee River Raid*, on view from May 23 through Oct. 5, 2025.

This exhibition is inspired by the untold story of the Combahee River Raid from the perspective of Harriet Tubman and the enslaved people she helped to free that is revealed for the first time through groundbreaking research by Carnegie Mellon University historian, Edda Fields-Black, Ph.D., in her recent book *COM-BEE: Harriet Tubman, the Combahee River Raid, and Black Freedom during the Civil War*. Working in collaboration with J Henry Fair, renowned environmental photographer, and guest curator, Vanessa Thaxton-Ward, Ph.D., Director of the Hampton University Museum, the exhibition carefully recreates the full journey of these brave soldiers and freedom seekers on that fateful moonlit night.

On June 2, 1863, Harriet Tubman led the largest and most successful slave rebellion in the United States when her group of spies, scouts, and pilots piloted Colonel James Montgomery, the Second South Carolina Volunteers (300 Black soldiers), and one battery of the Third Rhode Island Artillery up the lower Combahee. African Americans working in the rice fields on seven rice plantations along the Combahee heard the uninterrupted steam whistles of the two US Army gunboats and ran to freedom. 756 enslaved people liberated themselves in six hours, more than ten times the number of enslaved people Tubman rescued on the Underground Railroad.

The morning after the raid, 150 men who liberated themselves in the Raid



“Tree Fantasy”, 1951, by Merton D. Simpson (American, 1928-2013) Oil on Masonite. 21 3/4 x 17 7/8 inches. Museum purchase from State show. Images courtesy of Gibbes Museum of Art.

joined the Second South Carolina Volunteers and fought for the freedom of others through the end of the Civil War. Visitors to the exhibition will explore this dramatic event through Fair’s dynamic contemporary and environmentally sensitive photographs and video works, as well as contemporary and historic art objects, and material culture. The exhibition sheds new light on the history of Tubman, the environmental challenges faced by enslaved laborers as they sought a path to freedom, and the significance of the Lowcountry’s historic rice fields on modern-day coastal wetlands. For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 843/722-2706 or visit (www.gibbesmuseum.org).

2025 Piccolo Spoleto Festival Takes Place in Charleston, SC - May 23 - June 8, 2025

The 2025 Piccolo Spoleto Festival takes place throughout Charleston, SC, from May 23 through June 8, 2025. Beloved festival traditions at Piccolo Spoleto include Sunset Serenade, the Seed & Feed Marching Abominable, the Pajama March with Seed and Feed Marching Abominable, the Memorial Day Concert at Hampton Park, Gullah Geechee Connecting Wid Da Diaspora, Children’s Programs at the Library, the Sand Sculpting Competition, Pop-Ups and Neighborhood Events, and the Piccolo Spoleto Festival Finale.

Piccolo Spoleto music events celebrate diverse genres and traditions, including the Early Music Series with historic works by composers like Vivaldi and Bach, A World of Jewish Culture honoring rich heritage, the Young Artists Series at the College of Charleston highlighting collegiate talent, and Youth Music performances by young musicians at exceptional venues. Piccolo Spoleto offers a diverse lineup of theatre and dance, featuring captivating plays, dynamic dance productions, and more. The festival offers a range of literary and idea events, including the Sundown Poetry Series, Piccolo Fiction, and more. Visual art offerings include the annual Piccolo Spoleto Outdoor Art Show held in Marion Square; the annual Juried Art Exhibition at the City Gallery at Waterfront Park; and other exhibits held throughout



Piccolo Spoleto

Charleston. Focusing primarily on artists of the Southeast region, Piccolo Spoleto is the perfect complement to the international scope of Spoleto Festival USA, its parent festival, and its 700 events in 17 days transforms Charleston into an exhilarating celebration of performing, literary and visual arts. For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, contact the City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs by calling 843/724-7305 or visit (piccolospoleto.com).

So you're the Marketing Director of a visual arts organization, art muesum, arts center, arts council or artist guild and you're wondering why you never see the exhibits presented at your facility included here. Maybe you're the owner of a commercial art gallery and you've never seen your exhibits included with others presented in your area. You might even be an individual artist who is having an exhibit in a non-profit space or commercial space and you don't see your exhibits included. My question to you is - How long will you put up with that before you ask someone, "Why that is the case?" If you're not included - it's your fault. Send your info about exhibits to "Carolina Arts" by e-mail to (info@carolinaarts.com). Our deadline is the 24th of the month, at 5pm "prior" to the month your exhibit starts.

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From MSNBC Special: UkraineAnsweringTheCall.com

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