

Coming Attractions:



Charles H. Wright Museum will showcase exciting art exhibit by Inkster's own M. Scott Johnson, with help from MGM Grand Detroit



By Scott Talley
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M. Scott Johnson

It has been said that of all our studies, history is best qualified to reward our research. However, history should not be limited to books, or become the sole property of intellectuals.

To make the greatest impact, history needs to be shared and displayed in creative ways for all to consume, as will be the case

in 2015 when the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History presents "Shadow Matter: The Rhythm of Structure – Afro Futurism to Afro Surrealism."

"Shadow Matter" features the work of renowned sculptor M. Scott Johnson, a native of Inkster, who is literally carving out a legacy as one of the most stimulating and unique artists of his generation.

Johnson, 46, began his education as a sculptor in

Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, where he studied traditional and contemporary stone sculpting under the tutelage of local artists, and he later apprenticed with master sculptor and national hero Nicholas Mukomberanwa during the late 90s. Driven to comprehend new relationships between rhythm and line in the African Diaspora, Johnson also has been strongly influenced by African American techno music, Ndyuka and Saramaka graphic art forms, Isamu Noguchi and Makonde sculpture.

Galleries across the United States and internationally have exhibited Johnson's work, including the National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harvard University, and The New York Botanical Gardens. The 2015 showing of "Shadow Matter" at the Wright Museum will be made possible with sponsorship support from MGM Grand Detroit.

"The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History is grateful for the generous support of MGM Grand Detroit in helping to present the exciting works of this contemporary African American artist and Michigan native" says Juanita Moore, president & CEO of The Wright Museum.

"Blending inspiration from African traditions, cultural anthropology and the natural world, M. Scott John-

son's works deserve wider acclaim, and MGM's continued support of the museum and our programming is making this possible."

The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History and MGM Grand Detroit invite all segments of our community to view "Shadow Matter," which will be shown at the Wright Museum from Jan. 19 through Aug. 15, 2015. Viewing is free to the public with admission to the Museum.

"As an African American visual artist born and raised in the Detroit area, having the opportunity to have a major exhibition at the Charles Wright Museum is the greatest honor," said Johnson, who now lives in New York. "To have one's art upheld and appreciated from the culture which it draws its nourishment is the utmost validation."

Located at 315 E. Warren Avenue in Detroit's Cultural District, the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History is the largest museum of its kind dedicated to the African American experience. To learn more about scheduled programs and exhibits at the Wright Museum during 2015, please visit www.thewright.org.