



ELI AND EDYTHE BROAD ART MUSEUM

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 24, 2024**



### **MSU BAM ANNOUNCES NEWEST EXHIBITIONS**

*Including the inaugural Signature Commission Series exhibition by artist Esmaa Mohamoud, COMPLEX DREAMS*

**East Lansing, MI** – The Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University (MSU BAM) is pleased to share three new exhibitions, including the inaugural Signature Commission Series exhibition by artist Esmaa Mohamoud. Mohamoud’s exhibition *COMPLEX DREAMS*, alongside the exhibitions *Samia Halaby: Eye Witness* and *Diasporic Collage: Puerto Rico and the Survival of a People*, will be celebrated at the museum’s 2024 Fall Opening Party on Friday, Sep. 13, from 6–10pm. During the event, visitors are invited to explore the exhibitions while engaging with artists and other special guests. Those attending will enjoy an evening of art, food, music, art-making activities, and more. Mohamoud will return to MSU BAM on Sunday, Sep. 15, from 2–3pm for an in-gallery conversation where she’ll discuss the inspiration and process behind her work. Visit [broadmuseum.msu.edu](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu) for more information and free registration.

#### **Samia Halaby: Eye Witness June 29–December 15, 2024**

“How am I going to catch this experience in a painting?” *Eye Witness* follows Samia Halaby’s creative journey to experiment with the ways painting conveys her experiences and reflects how she sees the world around her. The origins of Halaby’s painterly trajectory are rooted at Michigan State University, where she earned her MA in 1960, and where she began painting in earnest with oil on canvas. Halaby’s paintings, which range from miniature to monumental, 2D to 3D, and monochrome to multicolor, are notably shaped by her experiences, and shift throughout her itinerant career across the Midwest, the East coast, and the Arab world.

*Samia Halaby: Eye Witness* is organized by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University (MSU BAM) and curated by Rachel Winter, Assistant Curator, with support from Thaís Wenstrom, Curatorial Research and Administrative Assistant, and Laine Lord, Museum Practicum Student and Curatorial Intern. This exhibition is made possible through support from the Terra Foundation for American Art and the Eli and Edythe Broad Endowed Exhibitions Fund.



## **Diasporic Collage: Puerto Rico and the Survival of a People** **August 31, 2024–February 2, 2025**

The Puerto Rican diaspora is a collage of overlapping histories of colonialism, resistance, and survival. *Diasporic Collage* explores Puerto Rican identities in the archipelago and its diasporas. Puerto Rico's political status and geographical location situate it as a locus of global encounters and ongoing displacement. This exhibition features artists who apply politics of care to how they approach the documentation of diasporic experiences related to Puerto Rico.

*Diasporic Collage: Puerto Rico and the Survival of a People* is organized by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University (MSU BAM) and the Center for Puerto Rican Studies (CENTRO) at Hunter College, in collaboration with the Diaspora Solidarities Lab (DSL), and curated by Dr. Yomaira Figueroa-Vásquez, directora of the Center for Puerto Rican Studies (CENTRO), formerly associate professor at MSU; Dr. Windy M. Cosme Rosario, instructor, University of Puerto Rico - Río Piedras; and Dalina A. Perdomo Álvarez, assistant curator, MSU BAM; with support from DSL fellows Melanie Rodríguez Vázquez, Ariana Costales Del Toro, Yafrainy Familia, Nicole Hernández, Stephany Bravo, Imaida M. Durán Mariñez, Alana Cordero Montesinos, Meleny González, Olivia M. Ramírez, Jaden Morales, and Yuleysy Ortiz. Support for this series is provided by the MSU Federal Credit Union. The Diaspora Solidarities Lab is made possible with financial support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.



## **COMPLEX DREAMS** **September 14, 2024–February 16, 2025**

This groundbreaking commission by Esmaa Mohamoud—and the inaugural Signature Commission Series exhibition—explores the transformative power of art to express the enduring perseverance and strength of Black girlhood in the face of great adversity. Responding directly to the unique, Zaha Hadid-designed architecture of MSU BAM, Mohamoud's newly commissioned installation offers a range of experiences across the galleries' landscapes. Multisensorial and moving, the works on view speak to the artist's powerful vision for the liberation of Blackness from the shadows of art history and society at large.

*COMPLEX DREAMS* is organized by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University (MSU BAM) as part of the Signature Commission Series and curated by Steven L. Bridges, Interim Director & Senior Curator and Director of Curatorial Affairs. Major funding for this exhibition is provided by the MSU Federal Credit Union and the Eli and Edythe Broad Endowed Exhibitions Fund.



**The Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University (MSU BAM)** connects people with art through experiences that inspire curiosity and inquiry. Presenting exhibitions and programs that engage diverse communities around issues of local relevance and global significance, MSU BAM advances the university values of quality, inclusion, and connectivity. Opened on November 10, 2012, the museum was designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Zaha Hadid and named in honor of Eli and Edythe Broad, longtime supporters of the university who provided the lead gift for its creation.

**Michigan State University** has been working to advance the common good in uncommon ways for more than 150 years. One of the top research universities in the world, MSU focuses its vast resources on creating solutions to some of the world's most pressing challenges, while providing life-changing opportunities to a diverse and inclusive academic community through more than 200 programs of study in 17 degree-granting colleges.

**The Terra Foundation for American Art**, established in 1978 and having offices in Chicago and Paris, supports organizations and individuals locally and globally with the aim of fostering intercultural dialogues and encouraging transformative practices that expand narratives of American art, through the foundation's grant program, collection, and initiatives.

Image: 1 Samia Halaby, *Green Mirror Sphere*, 1968. Courtesy of the artist, New York. Photo and copyright: Samia Halaby, New York. 2 Luis Rivera Jiménez, *Red Histórica 1*, 2022. Courtesy the artist. 3 Esmāa Mohamoud, *How Sweet It Would Be If I Found I Could Fly*, 2024. Photo courtesy of the artist

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MSU BAM representatives are available for interview.

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