

The Endangered Species: A Visual Response to the Vanishing Black Man New Works by Raub Welch

Artist Statement

I was born to create beautiful things. My work is a visual chariot for the ideas I cannot express in words.

Against the backdrop of exquisite beauty, this show interrogates masculinity, sexuality, slavery, vanity, mental poverty and the futility of aspiration.

Each piece is a riotous installation—a visual treasure hunt. Bespoke top hats, gilded icons, and ancient timepieces knit together with vibrant butterflies, luscious flowers, and florid peacock eyes to tell the story of black folk. These collages in three-dimensions represent my archeology of black America; my tribute to a dying race.

From within a field of color and metaphor, black men look out—beautiful but without hope—vanishing.

Opening Reception

Friday, February 22, 2013 6-9pm

> 4445 S. King Dr Chicago, IL

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