

Director and Chief Curator, Studio Museum in Harlem

Her first presentation, “The Black Male: Representations of Masculinity in Contemporary American Art,” displayed her talent for collecting pieces that showcase the African Diaspora.

## emerging leaders



### HEIDI W. DURROW

Author

Biracial smarty-pants Durrow hit it big this year with her incandescent debut and award-winning novel *The Girl Who Fell from the Sky*, a coming of age story about the daughter of a Danish mother and a Black G.I. who becomes the sole survivor of a family tragedy.

### HANK WILLIS THOMAS

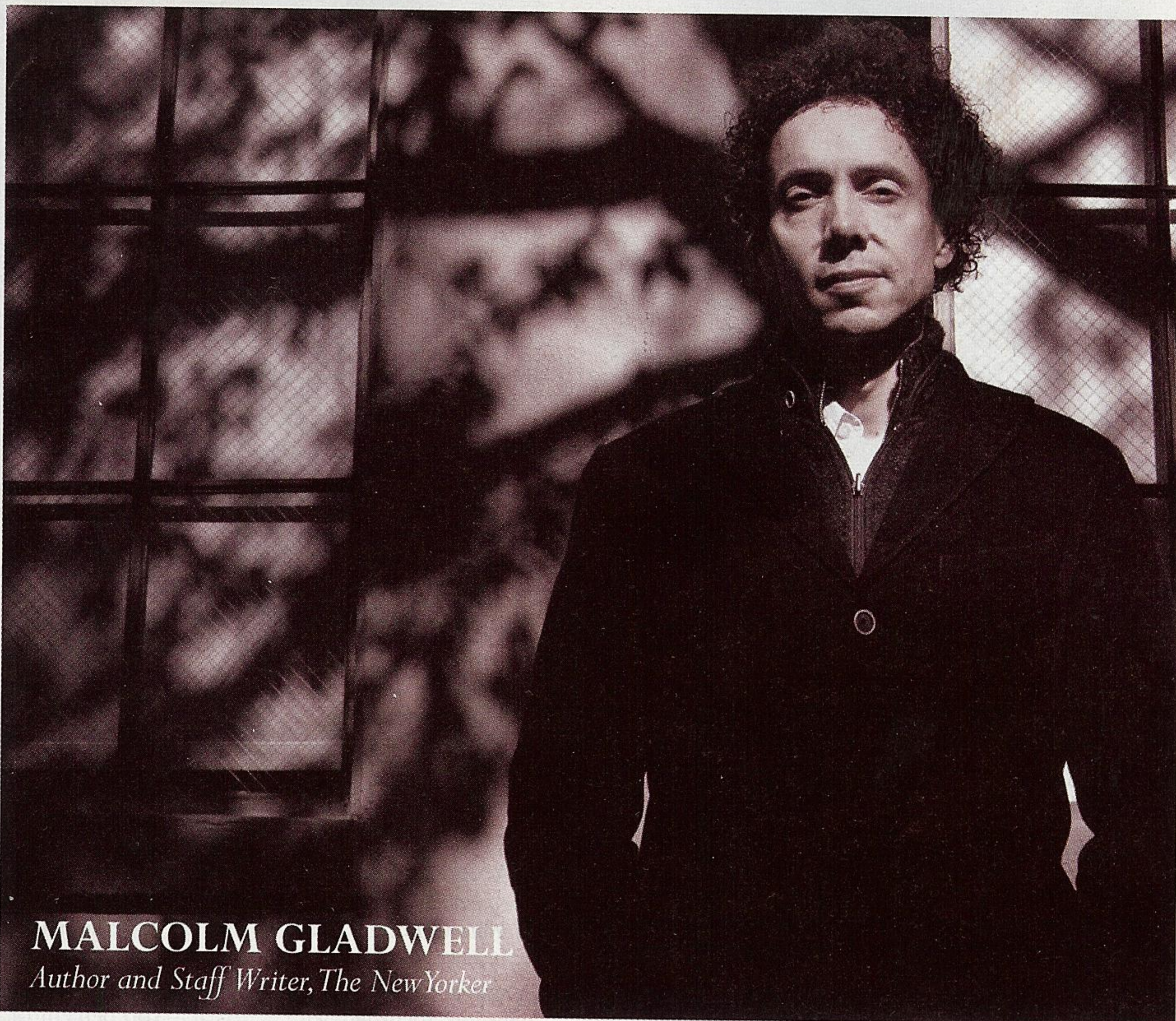
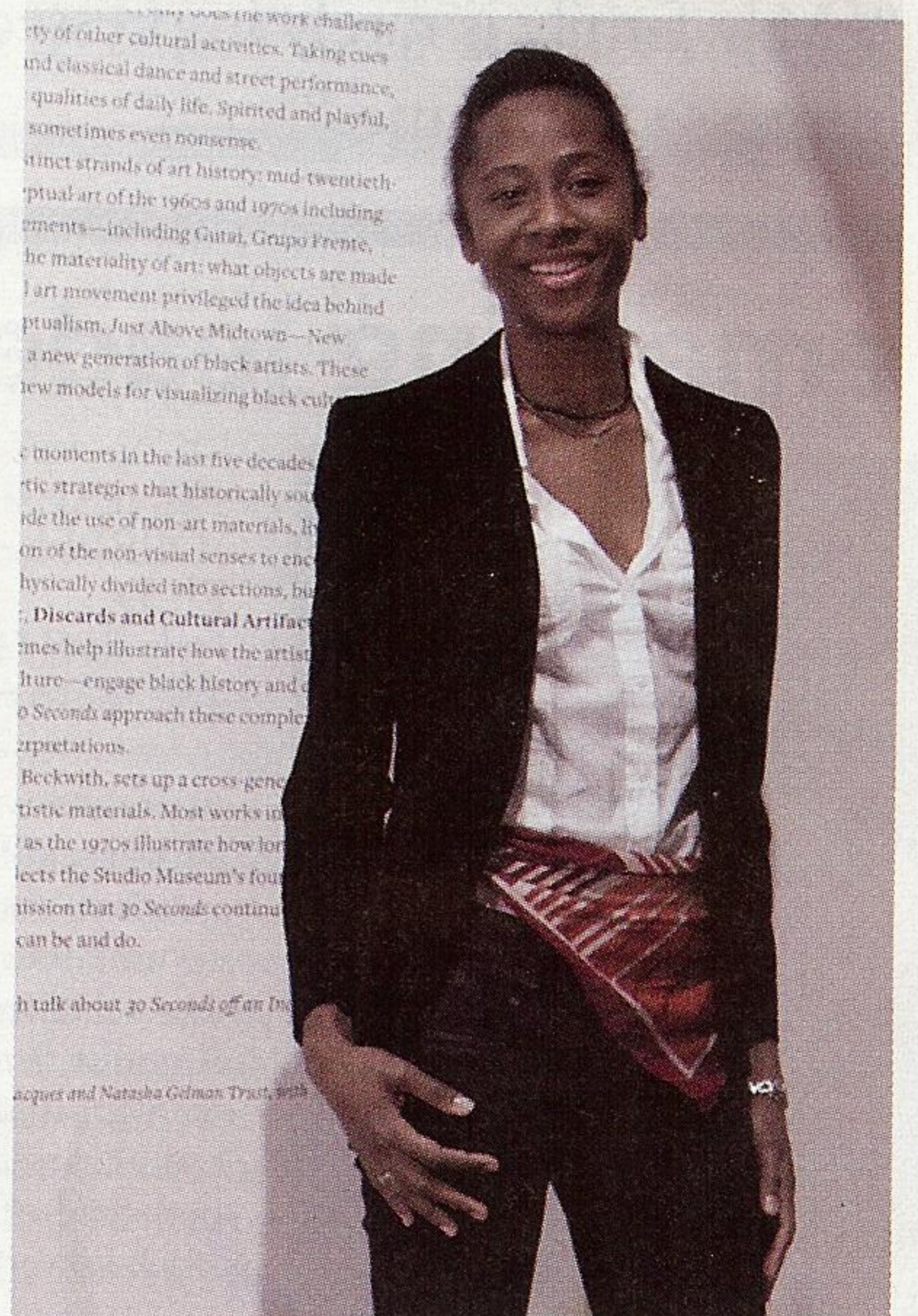
Visual Artist

Uniformly brilliant and uncommonly clever, Thomas knocks post-colonial Blackness and Black male branding on its ass through reappropriated images, advertisements and monographs.

### NAOMI BECKWITH

Associate Curator,  
Studio Museum in Harlem

Whip-smart and hella lovely, Beckwith works to bring intensely beautiful African-American art to the Studio Museum in Harlem under the tutelage of Sister titan Thelma Golden.



### MALCOLM GLADWELL

Author and Staff Writer, *The New Yorker*

Best-selling author whose “work uncovers truths hidden in strange data.” His third book, *Outliers*, explores the relation of success to nature versus nurture.

### KEHINDE WILEY

Artist

He’s changing the perceptions of Black men with every brushstroke and artwork that portrays them as kings, prophets and the embodiment of heroism.

### CARROL L. ADAMS, Ph.D.

CEO, *The DuSable Museum of African American History*

Adams revolutionized art and education in Chicago as founding Director of Museums and Public Schools. She has raised more than \$400 million for institutions of higher learning, governmental agencies and nonprofits.

### EDWIDGE DANTICAT

Author

The MacArthur Fellow is releasing her new book of essays, *Create Dangerously*, which covers the lives and deaths of artists who have found inspiration in their immigrant experiences.

### JASON MORAN

Jazz Pianist and Composer

The 2010 MacArthur Fellowship recipient released two albums with fellow artists last summer and gave an all-star performance at the Rosslyn Jazz Festival.

### MARK BRADFORD

Artist

His pieces investigate the underlying social networks beneath geographical grids of cities. The MacArthur Fellow recently teamed up with the Getty Museum in Los Angeles to launch online art classes.

### DAWN DAVIS

Publisher of *Amistad* and Executive Editor, *Ecco*

With her recent promotion from editorial director to publisher, Davis has been called “one of the most interesting and talented publishers in the business.” She’s already given us works such as Chris Gardner’s *The Pursuit of Happyness*.

### NTOZAKE SHANGE

Author

Her play, *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When the Rainbow Is Enuf*, is now a motion picture. She and sister, Ifa Bayeza, just released *Some Sing, Some Cry*, a nearly 600-page novel about family.

### ANNETTE GORDON-REED

Author and Historian

This Pulitzer Prize- and National Book Award-winning historian is now a 2010 MacArthur Fellowship recipient. In May, she joined Harvard with a triple appointment.

### KARA WALKER

Artist

Her life-sized black silhouettes depicting African-Americans’ rich and complex history earned her a MacArthur Fellowship in 1997 at the age of 27, which made her, at the time, the youngest recipient of the prestigious “genius” grant.