

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 27, 2025

# THE WELLIN MUSEUM OF ART AT HAMILTON COLLEGE PRESENTS THE EXHIBITION JAMEA RICHMOND EDWARDS: ANOTHER WORLD AND YET THE SAME, SEPTEMBER 13, 2025, THROUGH JUNE 14, 2026



Jamea Richmond-Edwards, *Terra Sancta, Terra Sancta,* from the series *Another World and Yet the Same*, 2025. Acrylic, glitter, graphite, ink, marker, oil pastel, and mixed media collage on canvas. 96 × 144 × 5 in. (243.8 × 365.7 × 12.7 cm). Courtesy of the artist. Photograph by John Bentham.

**Clinton, NY**—The Wellin Museum of Art at Hamilton College presents the exhibition <u>Jamea Richmond-Edwards: Another World and Yet the Same</u> from September 13, 2025, through June 14, 2026, featuring a large body of newly created work in various mediums alongside a selection of collage-based paintings from the last seven years examining issues of race, class, and identity.

Themes close to the artist's heart—notably her hometown of Detroit and the music associated with it, including jazz, soul, Motown, techno, and hip hop—are a strong undercurrent in her work, which is infused with a rhythm and energy evocative of the music that inspired it.

Richmond-Edwards outfits the subjects of her portraits, typically herself as well as family and friends, in elaborate, colorful attire, setting them against equally decorative backgrounds. Non-traditional materials such as neon shoelaces, sparkling pendants, and soft sculpture are often incorporated, adding dimensionality and a quality of limitlessness to her canvases. Additionally, the regalia, music, and

movement of school marching bands are referenced both overtly and subtly, reflecting Richmond-Edwards's personal history as a French horn player in ensembles throughout her formative and college years. These elements culminate in vibrant compositions that convey a sense of the personal style of the people the artist depicts, the communities she has been a part of, and the central role that fashion plays for many Detroiters.

With a new series of works debuting in this exhibition, Richmond-Edwards sets out to explore a world beyond the known universe. The exhibition title *Another World and Yet the Same* is borrowed from a seventeenth-century dystopian literary work of the same name, *Mundus alter et idem* (c. 1605). Written by Joseph Hall (1574–1656), the novel is an imaginary account of a voyage to the oceans south of Africa and stood as a satirical indictment of the power structures of England at that time.

Richmond-Edwards has adapted this narrative via a character of her own making, Iceberg, who appeals to family and friends to embark on an oceanic caravan to Antarctica, where they might establish a new, egalitarian society. This fictionalization presents the inherent challenges of creating a utopian state on a rapidly shrinking continent and mirrors the contemporary crises of nations that are under threat from rising sea levels or are experiencing the promises and pitfalls of self-determination and independence. With their grand scale and multilayered meanings, these works take the fantastical, otherworldly elements of Richmond-Edwards's previous series to new, epic heights.

Explains the Wellin Museum's Alexander Jarman, Assistant Curator of Exhibitions and Academic Outreach, "This exhibition will mark an important evolution in the artist's practice. While Richmond-Edwards has created large-scale paintings previously, this is the first time a new body of work will coalesce around a central narrative of the artist's own invention. Many of these works are directly informed by the research she has specifically undertaken drawing upon Hamilton College archives and collections, but some of the issues and themes she is addressing—climate change, democracy, mythology, and race—are relevant to communities throughout the US and around the world. We are proud to have helped fuel this next chapter of Richmond-Edwards's artistic evolution and look forward to the conversations it will engender with audiences."

Richmond-Edwards adds, "I am excited to present this new body of work and the story it tells, which I am thinking of as an epic. It's about a young guy named Iceberg who is leading his family to Antarctica. It's a whole narrative. At a time when it feels like our climate is disintegrating and our politics are creating deeper divisions, I can build a new vision for the world in this exhibition. I believe that humanity's future rests not only in the hands of politicians or scientists, but also in the ability of artists to imagine alternate futures. We are all an integral part of finding solutions for the uncertain times ahead and I hope these new works energize and inspire viewers."

### **Organization**

Jamea Richmond-Edwards: Another World and Yet the Same is curated by Alexander Jarman, Assistant Curator of Exhibitions and Academic Outreach.

### **Publication**

A fully illustrated exhibition catalogue will be published in 2026, edited by Tracy L. Adler, Johnson-Pote Director of the Wellin Museum of Art, with contributions by Alexander Jarman, Assistant Curator of Exhibitions and Academic Outreach at the Wellin Museum of Art; Melanee C. Harvey, Associate Professor and Coordinator of Art History at Howard University; and Juana Williams, independent art curator and writer based in Detroit, Michigan.

## **About the Artist**

Jamea Richmond-Edwards (b. 1982, Detroit) earned a BA from Jackson State University (2004) and an MFA from Howard University (2012). Her work has been included in exhibitions at the Brooklyn Museum, California African American Museum (Los Angeles), Charles Wright Museum (Detroit), Delaware Art Museum (Wilmington), Frist Art Museum (Nashville), Museum of Contemporary Art North Miami, Museum of Fine Arts Houston, and the Phillips Collection (Washington, DC). She is a 2018 recipient of the Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters & Sculptors Grant, and her works are included in the collections of the Rubell Family Collection, the Studio Museum in Harlem, the US Department of State's Art in Embassies program, and the Wellin Museum of Art at Hamilton College.

## **Programming**

Friday, September 12, 2025, at 1 p.m. via Facebook Live

Artist Jamea Richmond-Edwards and the Wellin Museum's Assistant Curator of Exhibitions and Academic Outreach, Alexander Jarman, will lead a virtual preview of the exhibition on Facebook Live. Visit the Wellin's Facebook page to join.

## Saturday, September 13

2:30 P.M. | Panel Discussion with Wellin Museum Fall 2025 Exhibiting Artists, Kennedy Center for Theatre and Studio Arts, Hamilton College

4:00–6:00 P.M. | Opening Reception for Fall 2025 exhibitions at the Wellin Museum

# Monday, October 6

4:30 P.M. | Artists in Conversation: Jamea Richmond-Edwards

For this lecture, artist Jamea Richmond-Edwards will present an overview of her practice and work created for the exhibition. Remote audiences can stream the conversation by registering online. Hybrid Event: Kirner-Johnson Building, Hamilton College, and online via Zoom

## EXODUS, A Group Exhibition Curated by Jamea Richmond-Edwards

EXODUS presents the work of seven artists—Akili Ron Anderson, Wesley Clark, Larry W. Cook, Shaunté Gates, Hubert Massey, Stan Squirewell, and Felandus Thames—whose mentorship, inspiration, and support profoundly shaped the creative journey of Jamea Richmond-Edwards. Displayed alongside her solo exhibition Another World and Yet the Same, this grouping honors the vital role of artistic kinship and collaboration in navigating both personal and structural challenges within the creative field.

The exhibition is titled *EXODUS* to acknowledge the uncertain path to becoming a professional artist and the community of peers and teachers who helped her navigate the road through shared wisdom and solidarity. The works in this exhibition span diverse mediums and explore different themes, yet together they map a collective voyage—rooted in resilience, transformation, and the enduring power of artistic exchange. This show features an intergenerational group of artists, including Richmond-Edwards's high-school mentor Hubert Massey; her MFA professor at Howard University, Akili Ron Anderson; and peers from her formative years as an emerging artist in Jackson, Mississippi; Washington, DC; and Detroit, Michigan.

*EXODUS* is curated by Jamea Richmond-Edwards. Research support was provided by Taylor Scatliffe '25 and Anna Totilca '27.

#### Support

The Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art's programs are made possible, in part, with funds from the Daniel W. Dietrich '64 Arts Museum Programming Fund; the Johnson-Pote Museum Director Fund; the John B. Root '44 Exhibition Fund; the Edward W. and Grace C. Root Endowment Fund; and the William G. Roehrick '34 Lecture Fund. Additional support has been provided by the Daniel W. Dietrich '64 Fund for Innovation in the Arts.

### About the Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art

A teaching museum on the campus of Hamilton College in Clinton, NY, the Wellin invites visitors to discover the arts and form unexpected connections through groundbreaking exhibitions, a globally representative collection, and engaging high-touch programming. Artists whose work has been featured in solo exhibitions include Jeffrey Gibson, Yun-Fei Ji, Sarah Oppenheimer, Michael Rakowitz, Elias Sime, and Renée Stout. Through its exhibitions, public programs, and educational outreach, the Wellin Museum sparks dialogues across disciplines, inspires experimentation, and fosters creative inquiry.

The Wellin Museum opened in 2012 with Tracy L. Adler as its founding director. The innovative facility was designed by Machado Silvetti Associates and features a 27-foot-high visible archive, a large exhibition gallery, and other amenities that foster common exchange and learning. Positioned as part of a newly developed arts quad that includes the sprawling Kennedy Center for Theatre and Studio Arts, which opened in 2014, and the Molly Root House, a restored McKim, Mead & White building housing the art history department, the Wellin provides a gateway to the arts and acts as an incubator for interdisciplinary learning for Hamilton students and faculty, and a resource for the community. These facilities marked a major leap forward for Hamilton and ushered in a new era with a dedication to the arts at its core. https://www.hamilton.edu/wellin

### **Social Media**

Join the conversation on social media. Tag @wellinmuseum and use #WellinMuseum and #AnotherWorldWellin and #RichmondEdwardsWellin when posting. For *EXODUS*, tag @wellinmuseum and use the hashtag #ExodusWellin when posting.

#### **Media Contact**

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