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Lorna Simpson: Works on Paper

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Lorna Simpson: Works on Paper will be on view at the Aspen Art Museum (AAM) from July 26 through September 22, 2013.

One of the leading artists of her generation, Lorna Simpson came to prominence in the mid-1980s through photographic and textual works that confronted and challenged conventional attitudes toward race, gender, and cultural memory with a potent mixture of formal elegance and conceptual rigor.

Since the late 1990s, Simpson has extended these concerns into a series of film and video installations and large-scale photographic works printed on felt.

Featuring over 100 works, the exhibition highlights a more recent body of works on paper that explore the complex relationship between the photographic archive and processes of self-fashioning; many incorporating images of women's faces (and the occasional male face as well) cut from issues of Jet and Ebony magazines, their hair and suggestion of a torso rendered vibrantly in ink and watercolor and centered on the page.

As in Simpson's earlier works, these new drawings and collages continue to take the African American woman as a point of departure and continue her longstanding examination of the ways that gender and culture shape the experience of life in our contemporary multiracial society.