

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**Who:** Charles Bibbs and Al Johnson

**What:** Re-Mastered: Includes New Works by Charles Bibbs and Al Johnson

**When:** July 10 – August 29, 2015

**Opening Reception:** Friday, July 10th 6-9pm

**Artist Talk:** Friday, July 10th 7pm (moderated by Duane Deterville)

Wine sponsored by Sip and Swirl events <http://www.sipandswirlevents.com/>

**Where:** Joyce Gordon Gallery

406 14<sup>th</sup> Street Oakland, Ca. 94612

12<sup>th</sup> St. Bart Exit

[www.joycegordongallery.com](http://www.joycegordongallery.com)

For more information please contact:

Gallery Curator, Eric Murphy

[eric@joycegordongallery.com](mailto:eric@joycegordongallery.com)

510.465.8928

**Joyce Gordon Gallery** presents “**Re-Mastered**”, an exhibition that examines the reinventing and “re-mixing” of the well established and rhythmic imagery of two renowned artists, Charles Bibbs and Al Johnson.

**Charles Bibbs** is an internationally acclaimed artist whose work is featured in museums, galleries, and the homes of many collectors. His work displays a strong, yet fluid, stylized quality of contemporary subjects that are beautifully synthesized into multifaceted, larger-than-life images. His technique can be distinguished from most artists by the way he combines layers of acrylic paints and inks to obtain rich undertones of line and texture. In the “**Re-Mastered**” exhibition, viewers can follow Mr. Bibbs on a journey from his recent works to a new series of collages with borrowed materials sourced from his own art. His work makes a deeply rooted statement that is ultimately spiritual.

Charles Bibbs was born and raised in San Pedro, California and developed his talent for art at an early age. He studied art at L.A. Harbor College, Harbor City, Ca, Long Beach State University, Long Beach, Ca, Dominquez State University, Carson, Ca, and the University of Redlands. In 1991 he left his management position of 25 years to form his own publishing and distribution company and today he is one of the top-selling artists in the country and his company has grown to be one of the leaders in the African American

art print market. Mr. Bibbs has been profiled in numerous publications including Ebony Jet, Upscale, and Ebony Male, and has interviewed on radio and television programs including the Tavis Smiley Show, Steve Harvey Radio Show, and TV One Studio. His work has been shown on the sets of many popular television shows and movies. In 2008, Bibbs created the “Black Madonna” image for the Fox Searchlight film, “The Secret Life of Bees,” and was the first visual artist to be hired to create for a Fox Searchlight film. Bibbs most recently was selected to sit on the Centennial National Honorary Committee for the ASALH (The Association for the Study of African American Life & History -by Carter T. Woodson -Founders of Black History Month based at Howard University, Washington, DC) with other notable visionaries such as Martin Luther King III, the Honorable John Lewis, Sonia Sanchez, Honorable Andrew Young and others.

Mr. Bibbs strongly believes that we are the "keepers of our culture"; and in this role, he has spent much of his time serving on boards of museums and art organizations to support the art community. He is passionate about supporting youth and has mentored, taught and conducted numerous workshops for young aspiring artists.

**Al Johnson** is an illustrator, fine artist, educator and mentor who has developed an inclusive vision that captures the classical and contemporary and releases them in his own unique cadence. While formally trained in the techniques of the Great Masters, Al Johnson's art, in fact, goes to the essence of jazz in that it brings together many influences while celebrating individuality.

This exhibition, “**Re-Mastered**”, is a compilation of Mr. Johnson’s artwork from many series. These paintings are considered to be some of the best representations of his prolific work. They are all mixed media paintings on canvas, Masonite and wood panels; expressionistic figurative and non-figurative works. Viewing his canvas as a portal, and engaging his wits and heart; Al Johnson makes a statement that integrates a landscape of structures and illuminating light.

Mr. Johnson honed his skills, while attending famed institutions such as Pratt Institute, the Albert Pale School of Commercial Arts and the Arts Student League. He has exhibited in many corners of the world including the Tokyo Metropolitan Museum in Japan, the Guangzhou International Art Fair in China and in a New York City juried exhibition, curated by Jordan Kantor during his tenure at the Museum of Modern Art. Mr. Johnson drafted the original renderings of the Georgia Aquarium, the largest aquarium in the world, and was chosen from a nationwide search to create the commissioned portrait of Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, permanently installed in Brooklyn Borough Hall, New York City. His passion is to inspire and he enjoys teaching future artists.

**Joyce Gordon Gallery** is a commercial fine art gallery located in the downtown district of Oakland California. It exhibits art that reflects the social and cultural diversity of the Bay Area and international artists. The aim of the gallery is to respect the creative pursuits of the individual and seeks to make such work accessible to a broad audience.