



MARY FRANCES WHITFIELD: **WHY?**

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MAY 31 // AUGUST 10, 2019

OPENING RECEPTION: Friday, MAY 31, 6 - 8 pm

Mary Frances Whitfield: Why? is a collaborative exhibition between the Abroms-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute.

Why? presents paintings by the artist that graphically depict horrific racial terror lynchings perpetrated against African Americans. This is the first time these works have been exhibited in Whitfield's hometown of Birmingham, Alabama.

This exhibition was developed in conjunction with the Jefferson County Memorial Project (JCMP), a grassroots coalition of community leaders working with the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) to retrieve Jefferson County's memorial from the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery Alabama. The mission of the JCMP is to bear witness to the county's painful past and change the historical memory of Jefferson County to better include its history of racial terror and the legacies of racial injustice. This exhibition will assist in creating the needed context to handle this difficult and painful topic.

Mary Frances Whitfield: Why? is co-curated by AEIVA Curator John Fields and Dr. Brandon Wolfe, Assistant VP of Campus and Community Engagement in the Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at UAB.

ABROMS-ENGEL INSTITUTE FOR THE VISUAL ARTS (AEIVA)

1221 10th Ave. South
Birmingham, AL 35205

GALLERY HOURS

MONDAY-FRIDAY: 10 - 6
SATURDAY: 12 - 6
Closed on Sunday and
Major Holidays

ADMISSION

FREE AND OPEN
TO THE PUBLIC

FRONT IMAGE

Why?, 2002

Watercolor and gouache on Arches paper
2.25 x 6.25 inches

photo: Ron Meisel

Collection of the artist, Courtesy Phyllis
Stigliano Art Projects

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FOR MORE INFO

<http://www.uab.edu/aeiva/>

<http://jeffersoncountymemorial.com/>

<https://www.bcri.org/>