

ANNOUNCEMENT/PRESS RELEASE

January 19, 2010

FIU's African & African Diaspora Studies Program organizes with The Gallery at The Green Library, from February 1 to March 15, 2010 an Exhibit of Works by D.D. Devylder entitled *Talking Chairs: A Mosaic of the Black Atlantic* in the Green Library of the FIU Modesto Maidique Campus (2nd floor):

- **Opening reception on February 3, from 6:30PM to 8:00PM in GL 220.**

Sensitive to the multiple forms of traditional art, but also to modern or contemporary creations, she has chosen to appropriate the chair as a medium and proposes another vision or perspective, thus giving life to her wooden chairs. She reinterprets chosen pieces of art and artists to offer another point of entry into their work. She is also inspired by specific historical events and by the political reality, national or global, that colors her daily life. This is the case, for example, with the representations of vodou by Basquiat, the glass paintings of Senegal, critical representations of the atrocities committed in the Congo in the late 19th century by agents of Leopold II, the Belgian king, etc. Her approach is always aesthetic, sometimes engaged against the colonial past or the existence of child soldiers, sometimes revealing of her sadness, joy and revolt, like the chairs with photographed street tags, the erotic positions of the Kama-Sutra, or the pain of a raped woman. She also delves into religion, philosophy, politics, and nature, which she expresses and sings with her talking chairs.

Her chairs are now known and recognized internationally. They are featured in numerous private collections in Belgium, France, Switzerland, and the USA.

For more information on the Chairs Exhibit, please visit Africana.fiu.edu