



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Hubert Jackson, *Charlie Wright: The Runaway Slave Who Saved The Union*, 2013, Mixed Media, 48"h x 40"w

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Charlie Wright: The Runaway Slave Who Saved The Union

Washington, D.C.—Pepco Edison Place Gallery's Black History Month opening reception, *From the Ashes: Rebirth of the Human Spirit* on Saturday, February 15, 2014, from 5:00 to 8:00pm, 702 Eighth Street, NW, Washington, DC. Meet the artists. The art exhibit will remain on view through March 4.

The Bureau of Military Information (BMI) was created in 1863 and was the precursor to the CIA, created in 1947. Charlie Wright, a young black man, arrived at Union Lines from Culpeper, Virginia in June 1863. He had extensive knowledge of the units in Lee's army and asserted that Lee's army was moving into Maryland. Gen. Joseph Hooker, who took command of the Army of the Potomac, ordered his army to shadow the Confederate forces' movements while traveling on the eastern side of the Blue Ridge Mountains out of view of Lee's troops. This movement by the Union Army forced the battle at Gettysburg. Wright's intelligence was the key factor in convincing Hooker to move his forces, and eventually enabled Union forces to get to Gettysburg first and seize the best ground. – CIA.gov

Hubert Jackson's recent paintings deal with the period of the American Civil War. Although some unaccounted for soldiers came from the earth and returned to the earth, Jackson believes that their spirits remain with us as their fallen bodies have become one with nature, embodied within the various life forms that have since emerged from the soil. He uses vegetation and artifacts peculiar to the location of each subject in his mixed media artwork. Jackson obtains these on site or purchases them from collectors and relic hunters and incorporates the items into the design. For the Charlie Wright painting Jackson uses pine and cedar bark from Culpeper County.

Born in 1943 in Culpeper, Virginia, Jackson received his Master of Fine Arts from Howard University. Jackson has exhibited extensively. His work is in a number of private collections, national and international. These include ambassadors of foreign countries such as Lesotho, Ghana, Guinea and New Guinea, through the Artist in Embassies program.

The exhibiting artists in *From The Ashes, Rebirth of the Human Spirit* also include Akili Ron Anderson, Anne Bouie, Daniel T. Brooking, Adjoa Burrowes, Elsa Gebreyesus, Carolyn Goodridge, Claudia Aziza Gibson-Hunter, Wayson Jones, Michael Platt, Russell Simmons and Alec Simpson.

Art Impact USA curates and promotes independent exhibitions. It is an artist organization dedicated to creating synergistic relationships between artists, non-profits and corporations in order to establish opportunities for artists to exhibit. This exhibit is co-produced with Black Artists of DC (BADDC) a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation. For more information visit <http://www.artimpactusa.com/events>.

GALLERY HOURS: Tuesday–Friday, Noon–4:00pm, 702 Eighth Street, NW, Washington, DC. ###