

AFRICAN WAX PRINTS October 22, 2019 - November 30, 2019

Batik is a Javanese word that refers to a tradional technique of wax-resist dyeing, in which a pattern is made on both sides of cotton fabric with warm liquid wax applied by a *tjanting*, a small brass cup with a spout. After the wax solidifes, the cloth is dyed with a primary color and the wax is removed, revealing the pattern where the wax had once been.

Wandering Spirit traces the developmental pathway of the African wax print and tell how these fabrics reflect the stories, dreams, and personalities of the people who wear them.



Michelle's Shoes, introduced 2011, manufactured by Vlisco, Netherlands; Dutch Super Wax on cotton, 48" x 12" Courtesy of Beatrice Benson Collection.

The exhibition is A Program of *ExhibitsUSA*, a national division of Mid-America Arts Alliance with The Kansas Creative Arts Industries Comission and The National Endowment for the Arts.



Wandering Spirit (also known as Okla Ete Ablotsir), n.d., manufactured by Vlisco, Netherlands; Dutch Wax Block on cotton, 48" x 12" Courtesy of Beatrice Benson Collection.

This exhibition is a tribute to the century old handmade designs and patterns on textiles that originated in Indonesia and were copied and industrialized by Europeans and exported to Africa. The exhibition **Wandering Spirit: African Wax Prints** is curated by Dr. Gifty Benson and organized by ExhibitsUSA/Mid-America Arts Alliance, Kansas City, MO.









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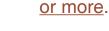


We will enhance this traveling exhibit by displaying **quilts** and **textiles** created by western Kansas men and women. Traditional and nontraditional quilts as well as all types of textiles such as needlepoint, knit, crochet, batik, needlepoint, etc. will be displayed.



Exhibit hours: Tue - Sat 9-12 1-4:30 Admission is free, but donations are gratefully accepted!

We are expecting many groups for this exhibit, so <u>please call in advance to</u> <u>schedule groups of 5</u>



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION of Southwest Kansas This exhibit funded at the Stauth Memorial Museum in part by a grant from the Arther & Cornelia Scroggins Foundation Fund at the Community Foundation of Southwest Kansas.