

TONY GLEATON SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE MFA IN PHOTOGRAPHY

DEPT. OF ART AND ART HISTORY, COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS, UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

This scholarship is established in tribute to photographer Tony Gleaton. It will support MFA students in photography as they document and reimagine perceptions of racial and cultural identity.

TONY GLEATON is known for his visionary portraits and landscapes of the African legacy in the Americas. As Smithsonian exhibit curator Miriám Jimenez Román explains, Gleaton's work reminds us of the generations that preceded the people in his photographs but also that "we must not relegate them to history. As always, they remain active participants in their world." The same could be said of Tony Gleaton's photographs.



Tony Gleaton's early photographs for the project *Cowboys: Reconstructing an American Myth* revised the Hollywood image of a white West with documentation of working African American and Native American cowboys, ranch hands and rodeo performers.

Traveling over 50,000 miles on the ground to over sixteen countries to photograph people of African descent, he then completed *Tengo Casi 500 Años: Africa's Legacy In Mexico, Central & South America*.

He has devoted the past decade to a landscape series, *Manifesting Destiny*, marking sites where people of African descent traveled, settled or encountered conflict as they moved westward across North America from 1528 to 1918.

Tony Gleaton was born in Detroit in 1948 and served in the Vietnam War before becoming a photographer. He is currently organizing his legacy of work after a long terminal battle with cancer.

The level of contributions to the Tony Gleaton Scholarship will determine its nature:

A \$25,000+ fund will allow creation of an endowed Tony Gleaton Scholarship, awarded annually, and providing tuition coverage for a talented photographer pursuing the MFA, with preference given to photographers from under-represented groups.

A fund of less than \$25,000 will allow creation of a Tony Gleaton Award, given competitively and on an annual basis until the fund is exhausted, in support of photography projects by talented MFA photographers.

We invite you to join us in making a tribute to Tony Gleaton and his work documenting the African legacy in the Americas by contributing to the Tony Gleaton Scholarship fund.