

FORT GANSEVOORT

AMINAH BRENDA LYNN ROBINSON

1940 Born in Columbus, Ohio, USA

2015 Died in Columbus, Ohio, USA

EDUCATION

1981 The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH (studied bookmaking and papermaking)

1960 The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH (studied art history and philosophy)

1957-1960 Columbus Art School, Columbus, OH

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024-2025 *Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson: Character Studies*, Fort Gansevoort, New York, NY

2023 *Composing Communities: The Work of Aminah Robinson*, Denison Museum, Denison University, Granville, OH

2022 *Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson: Sankofa*, ACA Galleries, New York, NY

2021 *Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson: Masterworks*, Hammond Harkins Galleries, Columbus, OH

2020-2021 *Raggin' On: The Art of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson's House and Journals*, Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH

2019 *We're All Here! The Art of Aminah Robinson*, Houston Museum of African American Culture, Houston, TX

Love, Aminah: Celebrating a Friendship, Southern Ohio Museum, Portsmouth, OH

Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson, The Ohio State University Faculty Club, Columbus, OH

Columbus in Cuba/Cuba in Columbus, Columbus, OH

Ríos Intermitentes (Intermittent Rivers), 13th Havana Biennial, Havana, Cuba

2016 *The Presidential Suite*, Hammond Harkins Galleries, Columbus, OH

2015 *Aminah Robinson Memorial Exhibition*, ACA Galleries, New York, NY

Aminah at 75: The Continuing Story, Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH

2013-2014 *Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson: Songs from the New Millennium and Other Works*, ACA Galleries, New York, NY

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- 2013 *Aminah Robinson: Journey from Blackberry Patch to Poindexter Village*, Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH
- 2012 *Songs for a New Millennium, 1812 – 2012: Works by Aminah Robinson Celebrating the Columbus Bicentennial*, Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH
Chronicles of the Village: Songs for the New Millennium, 1200 AD – 1812, Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH
- 2011 *Street Talk and Spiritual Matters: Aminah's Mount Vernon Avenue*, Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH
- 2010 *Aminah Robinson: Voices that Taught Me How to Sing*, Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, OH
- 2009 *The Stories of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson: From Poindexter Village to Today*, Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH
- 2008 *Aminah as Printmaker: The Graphic Works of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson*, Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH
- 2007 *Along Water Street: New Work by Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson*, Akron Art Museum, Akron, OH; Southern Ohio Museum, Portsmouth, OH; Decorative Arts Center of Ohio, Lancaster, OH; George Walter Vincent Smith Art Museum, Springfield Museums, Springfield, OH (traveling exhibition)
The Stories of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson, Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH
- 2006 *Lyrical Transformations of the Soul: The Life and Work of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson*, ACA Galleries, New York, NY
- 2005 *Sacred Pages: Aminah Robinson in the Holy Land*, Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH
- 2004 *The Art of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson*, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Santiago, Chile
- 2002-2007 *Symphonic Poem: The Art of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson*, Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus OH; Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY; Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma, WA, Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, OH (traveling exhibition)
- 2000 *Aminah at Sixty: A Celebratory Exhibition*, Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH
- 1997 *A Street Called Home and Other Book Works*, The Thurber Center Gallery, Columbus, OH
Yet Still We Rise: African American Art in Cleveland and Columbus, 1920-1970, Riffe Gallery, Columbus, OH
Precious Memories, Hammond Harkins Galleries, Bexley, OH
- 1992 *Walking with Aminah (The Perspectives Series 1)*, John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, WI

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- 1990 *Pages in History: The Art of Aminah Robinson*, Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH
- 1989 *The Life and History of Hog Hammock: Contemporary Sculpture and Drawing by Aminah Robinson*, Museum of Craft and Folk Art, San Francisco, CA
Unwritten Love Letters, Otterbein College, Westerville, OH
- 1988 *Aminah Robinson: The Sapelo Series 1983-87* Women's Building Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1985 *Aminah Robinson: Recent Work (Sapelo Series: Part 1)*, Kathryn Markel Gallery, New York, NY
A Walk Through the Past, A Way of Life, Slowly Passing Away: Hog Hammock Community, Sapelo Island, Georgia (Sapelo Series: Part 2), Carl Solway Gallery, Cincinnati, OH
- 1984 *Aminah Robinson: Painting and Sculpture*, Akron Museum of Art, Akron, OH
Poindexter Village Series: Part 1, Carl Solway Gallery, Cincinnati, OH
Aminah in Poindexter Village: Part 2, Esther Saks Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1982 *Pages in History, Part 1*, Otterbein College, Westerville, OH
Pages in History, Part II, Franklin University, Columbus, OH
- 1980 *Afrikan Pilgrimage: The Extended Family*, Kojo Photo Art Studio, Columbus, OH

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 *We The People: Kandy G Lopez, Aminah Robinson*, ACA Galleries, New York, NY
- 2023 *Artists: Nora Musu, Aminah Robinson, Chantal Stone and Shelbi Toone*, Elijah Pierce Gallery, King Arts Complex, Columbus, OH
- 2021 *Storytellers: Faith Ringgold + Aminah Robinson*, Ringling College Galleries, Sarasota, FL
Storytellers: Faith Ringgold + Aminah Robinson – Deland, ACA Galleries, New York, NY
A Black Perspective, ACA Galleries, New York, NY
- 2020 *Tell Me Your Story*, Kunsthal KAdE, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- 2019 *art*, Matanzas, Cuba
- 2018 *Kindred Spirits: The Art of Elijah Pierce and Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson*, Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH
Storybooks & Other Narratives: Aminah Robinson and Faith Ringgold, Hammond Harkins Galleries, Columbus, OH
- 2017 *3 Artists*, Hammond Harkins Galleries, Columbus, OH
Women, Art and Fibers: Contemporary Responses to Abolition and the Journey North,

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University Art Gallery, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, Dartmouth, MA

- 2016-2017 *On Such a Night as This: A Celebration of African American Art*, ACA Galleries, New York, NY
- 2016 *Us Is Them*, The Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, OH
- 2014 *Social Art in America: Then and Now*, ACA Galleries, New York, NY
Stories and Journeys: The Art of Faith Ringgold and Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson,
Mattituck Museum, Waterbury, CT
- 2013-2014 *Classless Society* Tang Museum, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY
- 2013 *TEXTURES: The Written Word in Contemporary Art*, ACA Galleries, New York, NY
Stories and Journeys: The Art of Faith Ringgold and Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson, Opalka Gallery,
Russell Sage College, Albany, NY
Generations, Museum of Fine Arts, The College of Visual Arts, Theatre, and Dance, Florida State
University, FL
- 2010 *Shared Stories: Works by Aminah Robinson and Faith Ringgold*, Hammond Harkins Galleries,
Bexley, OH
Women Call for Peace: Global Vistas, Art League, Bonita Springs, FL; Sheldon Memorial Art
Gallery, Lincoln, NE; JWayne Stark University Center Galleries, Texas A&M University, College
Station, TX; John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, NY (traveling exhibition)
Two Black Women: Faith Ringgold and Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson, ACA Galleries, New York, NY
- 2009 *VanGo! All Around the World: People & Places in Art: The Susquehanna Art Museum*, Harrisburg,
PA
- 2007 *Art in Embassies*, Belgrade, Serbia
Art in Embassies, Port-Au-Prince, Haiti
- 2002 *Connections: Ohio Artist Abroad*, Riffe Gallery, Columbus, OH
- 1999 *Art for Community Expression: Twentieth-Century Anniversary Celebration*, Columbus College of
Art and Design, Columbus, OH
Selected Works by Lorna Simpson and Aminah Robinson, Susan B. Stein Shiva Gallery, The Joseph
Papp Public Theatre, New York, NY
- 1998 *Masterworks by 20th Century African American Artists*, Springfield Museum of Art, OH and Riffe
Gallery, Columbus, OH
- 1996 *Master Printers and Master Pieces*, Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

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- 1995 *New York Stories: An Exhibition of Paintings, Drawings and Sculpture*, Carl Solway Gallery, Cincinnati, OH
- 1994 *The Music Box Project*, On the Table, Inc., New York, NY; Equitable Gallery, New York, NY; Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA; Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH; Center for Fine Arts, Miami, FL (traveling exhibition)
- 1992 *Will/Power: New Works by Papo Colo, Jimmie Durham, David Hammonds, Hachivi Edgar Heap of Birds, Adrian Piper, Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson*, Wexner Center for the Arts, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
- 1990 *Separate But Equal: Ohio Women Artists*, Riffe Gallery, Ohio Arts Council, Columbus, OH; National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.; Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, OH (traveling exhibition)
Contemporary American Folk, Naïve, and Outsider Art: Into the Mainstream? Miami University Art Museum, Oxford, OH
- 1989 *Stitching Memories: African-American Story Quilts*, Williams College Museum, Williamstown, MA; Studio Museum of Harlem, New York, NY; Oakland Museum, Oakland, CA; Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD (traveling exhibition)
- 1988 *Influences from the Untaught: Contemporary Drawings*, The Drawing Center, New York, NY
- 1987 *Three Voices from the Black Experience: Works in Three Dimensions*, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
American Policy: Edgar Heap of Birds, Alfredo Jaar, Aminah Robinson, Nancy Spero, Cleveland State University Art Gallery, Cleveland, OH
- 1986 *The Arts and African Life: A Past in the Present*, Trenton State University, Trenton, NJ
The Book Made Art: A Selection of Contemporary Artists' Books, Joseph Regenstein Library, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 1985 *Books as Sculpture*, Robeson Center Gallery State University of New Jersey, Rutgers, NJ
- 1983 Carl Solway Gallery, Cincinnati, OH
- 1982 *Selections: Six in Ohio*, Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2011 Legends and Legacies Award Recipient, King Arts Complex, Columbus, OH
- 2004 MacArthur Fellowship "Genius Award", Chicago, IL

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- 2002 Honorary Doctorate from Ohio Dominican University, Columbus, OH
- 1998 Ohio Arts Council Visual Arts Travel Fellowship, Israel
- 1997 Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant, New York, NY
- 1991 Ohio Arts Council Individual Artist Fellowship
Honorary Master's Degree, Columbus College of Arts and Design, Columbus, OH
- 1989 National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship
Ohio Arts Council Individual Artist Grant Fellowship
- 1987 Ohio Arts Council Individual Artist Fellowship
- 1984 Ohio Governor's Award for the Visual Arts
- 1980 Ohio Arts Council Individual Artist Fellowship
- 1978 KUUMBA Black Liberation Award in the Visual Arts, Malcolm X College, Chicago, IL

RESIDENCIES

- 1989 Artists in Residence, PS1 summer residency, New York, NY

COMMISSIONS

- 2003 National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, Cincinnati, OH (mixed media textile)
- 1993 The Columbus Foundation Celebrates 50 years commission, Columbus, OH
History of Early Springfield, Clark State Community College Performing Art Center, Springfield, OH
- 1990 Columbus Metropolitan Library, Columbus, OH (mural painting)

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Public Akron Art Museum, Akron, OH
Art in Embassies Collection, U.S. Department of State
Brooklyn Museum, New York, NY
Clark State Community College Performing Arts Center, Springfield, OH
Columbus Foundation, Columbus, OH
Columbus Metropolitan Library, Columbus, OH
Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH
Grant Medical Center, Columbus, OH

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Greater Columbus Arts Council, Columbus, OH
Huntington National Bank, Columbus, OH
JP Morgan Chase Art Collection, Columbus, OH
King Arts Complex, Columbus, OH
National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, Cincinnati, OH
Newark Museum of Art, Newark, NJ
Ohio Dominican University, Columbus, OH
Ohio Otterbein College, Westerville, OH
Ohio University, Baker University Center, Athens, OH
Ohio State University, Fisher College of Business, Columbus, OH
Richmond Art Museum, Richmond, IN
Riverside Methodist Hospital, Columbus, OH
Robert J. Shiffler Foundation, Dayton, OH
Southern Ohio Museum, Portsmouth, OH
Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, OH

PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 Maciejunes, Nannette V., et al. *Raggin' On: The Art of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson's House and Journals*. Columbus: Columbus Museum of Art, 2020.
- 2017 Genshaft, Carole Miller. *Aminah's world: an activity book and children's guide about artist Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson*. Columbus: Columbus Museum of Art, 2017.
- 2010 *The Ragmud collection: Books by Aminah Robinson*. Toledo: Toledo Museum of Art, 2010.
- 2008 Genshaft, Carole Miller. *Along Water Street: new work by Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson*. Columbus: Columbus Museum of Art, 2008.
- 2002 Channing, Susan R. *Connections: Ohio Artist Abroad*. Columbus: Ohio Arts Council, 2002.
- Symphonic Poems: The Art of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson*. Columbus: Columbus Museum of Art in association with Harry N. Abrams, 2002.
- 2000 Battle-Lavert, Gwendolyn. *The Shaking Bag*. Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman & Company, 2000. (illustrated book)
- 1999 Bonowitz, Marvin. *Mt. Vernon Avenue: Jewish Businesses in a Changing Neighborhood, 1918-1999*. Columbus: Columbus Jewish Historical Society, 1999.
- 1998 Coleman, Evelyn. *To Be a Drum*. Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman & Company, 1998. (illustrated book)

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- 1997 *A Street Called Home*. San Diego: Harcourt Brace & Company, 1997. (illustrated book)
Precious Memories. Bexley: Hammond Harkins Galleries, 1997.
- 1996 *Master Printers and Master Pieces*. Kaohsiung City: Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts, 1996.
- 1995 King-Hammond, Leslie, ed. *Gumbo Ya Ya: Anthology of Contemporary African -American Women Artists*. New York: Midmarch Arts Press, 1995.
- Rosen, Michael J. *The School for Pompey Walker*. San Diego: Harcourt Brace & Company, 1995. (illustrated book)
- 1994 Fox, Mem. *Sophie*. San Diego: Harcourt Brace & Company, 1994. (illustrated book)
- Gould, Claudia, et al. *The Music Box Project*. New York: On the Table, Inc., 1994.
- 1993 *Will/Power: New Works by Papo Colo, Jimmie Durham, David Hammonds, Hachivi Edgar Heap of Birds, Adrian Piper, Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson*. Columbus: Wexner Center for the Arts, The Ohio State University, 1993.
- 1992 *The Teachings*. San Diego: Harcourt, Brace, Javanovich, 1992. (illustrated book)
- Rosen, Michael J. *Elijah's Angel*. San Diego: Harcourt Brace & Company, 1992. (illustrated book)
- 1991 Kelm, Bonnie G. *Kunstforum International, Outside USA*, March-April.
- 1990 Metcalf, Eugene Wesley and Gary Joseph Schwindler. *Contemporary American Folk, Naïve, and Outsider Art: Into the Mainstream?* Oxford: Miami University Art Museum, 1990.
- Roberts, Norma, ed. *Pages in History: The Art of Aminah Robinson*. Columbus: Columbus Museum of Art, 1990.
- Rogers-Lafferty, Sarah, et al. *Separate But Equal: Ohio Women Artists*. Columbus: Ohio Arts Council, 1990.
- 1989 Grudin, Eva Ungar. *Stitching Memories: African-American Story Quilts*. Williamstown: Williams College Museum, 1989.
- 1988 *Aminah Robinson: The Sapelo Series 1983-87*. Los Angeles: Women's Building Gallery, 1988.
- Influences from the Untaught: Contemporary Drawings*. New York: The Drawing Center, 1988.
- 1987 Desmett, Don. *American Policy: Edgar Heap of Birds, Alfredo Jaar, Aminah Robinson, Nancy Spero*. Cleveland: Cleveland State University Art Gallery, 1987.

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1986 Abt, Jeffrey. *The Book Made Art: A Selection of Contemporary Artists' Books*. Chicago: University of Chicago Library, 1986.

Watson-Jones, Virginia, ed. *Contemporary American Woman Sculptors: An Illustrated Biographical Directory*. Phoenix: Onyx Press, 1986.

1984 *Aminah in Poindexter Village*. Chicago: Esther Saks Gallery, 1984.

1983 Bishop, Anna S., ed. *Beyond Poindexter Village PT. II "Heroes" of the Blackberry Patch*. Columbus: Public Library of Columbus and Franklin County, 1983.

1982 *Selections: Six in Ohio*. Cincinnati: Contemporary Arts Center, 1982.

Bishop, Anna S., ed. *Beyond Poindexter Village: "The Blackberry Patch"*. Columbus: Public Library of Columbus and Franklin County, 1982.

1980 *Afrikan Pilgrimage: The Extended Family*. Columbus: Kojo Photo Art Studio, 1980.

PRESS

2024 "Art to See at U.S. Museums, Galleries and Auction Houses This Fall." *The New York Times*. October 22.

"We the People: Kandy G Lopez and Aminah Robinson." *Art Plugged*. September 4.

2023 "Editors' Picks for Things to See and Do Around Columbus in May." *Columbus Monthly*. May 2.

"Work of Columbus artist Aminah Robinson on display at Denison Museum." *Newark Advocate*. February 23.

2022 Hamlar, Deidre. "Late professor 'left a hole in my heart,' showed what can be done in a short time." *The Columbus Dispatch*. September 4.

2021 Dean, Terrance. "The power of Aminah Robinson: She captured 'Black love' living in plain sight." *The Columbus Dispatch*, October 28.

Stamberg, Susan. "Buttons, beads and bravado: Celebrating the simple joy in Aminah Robinson's art." *NPR WNYC*. October 1.

Opam, Kwame. "Overlooked No More: Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson, Whose Art Chronicled Black Life." *The New York Times*. February 26.

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Fugate, Marty. "Artists become storytellers in Ringling College show." *Sarasota Herald-Tribune*. February 5.

Sharp, Sarah Rose. "Immerse Yourself in the Vibrant Bricolage of Aminah Robinson." *Hyperallergic*. January 8.

2020 Cascone, Sarah. "The Late Artist Aminah Robinson Dedicated Her Life to Recovering America's Lost History. At Last, She's Finding a Bigger Audience." *Artnet News*. November 30.

"Aminah Robinson exhibition at Columbus Museum of Art gives intimate view of beloved artist." *The Columbus Dispatch*. October 3.

Valentine, Victoria L. "Columbus Museum of Art Announces Faith Ringgold, Kellie Jones, and Curlee Raven Holton Will Select Artists for 2020 Residency Honoring Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson." *Culture Type*. February 8.

2016 Sharp, Sarah Rose. "A Sprawling Show of Artists as Social Critics." *Hyperallergic*. March 16.

2013 Griffin, Amy. "On exhibit: Opalka gallery showcases Faith Ringgold and Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson." *Times Union*. January 30.

2012 Yates, Christopher A. "History Re-Imagined." *The Columbus Dispatch*. April 29.

2011 Yates, Christopher A. "Avenue to Past." *The Columbus Dispatch*. May 29.

Eckert, Kristy. "The Soulful Sage." *Capital Style*. March-April.

2010 Gilson, Nancy. "Public Gets Its First Peek at Book Set by Robinson." *The Columbus Dispatch*. November 28.

Lane, Tahree. "'Ragmud Collection' 22 Years in the Making." *The Blade*. November 17.

2008 Kotwal, Kalzaad. "Milestone Installation Speaks Boldly to the Heart." *The Columbus Dispatch*. August 17.

Yates, Christopher A. "Prints Reveal Other Facet of Robinson." *The Columbus Dispatch*. March 30.

2007 Mayr, Bill. "Fabric of Community." *The Columbus Dispatch*. July 1.

Litt, Steve. "'RagGonNons' Made from 'Hogmawg'." *ARTnews*. January.

2006 Mayr, Bill. "Museum Plans Space for Favorite of Storytellers." *The Columbus Dispatch*. December 3.

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Ponnekanti, Rosemary. "Tapestries of Life." *The News Tribune*. September 26.

Somerstein, Rachel. "Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson, Brooklyn Museum." *ARTnews*. Summer.

Glueck, Grace. "Visions of Africa and Ohio, in All Sorts of Materials." *The New York Times*. February 24.

Rice, Robin, and Carole Genshaft. "The Art of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson." *Women's Art Journal*. Autumn 2005 - Winter 2006.

2005 Star, Ann. "Genius at Work." *Columbus Monthly*. September.

2004 Albrecht, Brian E. "A World of Whimsy and Wonder." *The Plain Dealer*. October 31.

Mayr, Bill. "\$500,000 Grant Recognizes a Columbus Treasure." *The Columbus Dispatch*. September 28.

2002 Hall, Jacqueline. "A Body of Work Worth Exploring." *The Columbus Dispatch*. December 22.

Gilson, Nancy. "Aminah." *The Columbus Dispatch*. December 8.

Thompson, Lynne. "Woman of the Cloth." *Ohio Magazine*. November.

2000 Hall, Jacqueline. "Aminah Truly an Original." *The Columbus Dispatch*. February 27.

1997 Hall, Jacqueline. "A Bounty of Pleasures." *The Columbus Dispatch*. December 14.

1992 Mallet, Kay. "The Art and Spirit of Aminah Robinson." *Columbus Alive!* December 10-24.

1989 Chenfeld, Mimi Brodsky. "Aminah Robinson: One Artist's Ties to Folklife and Folk Art." *The Clarion: America's Folk Art Magazine*. New York: Museum of American Folk Art, Summer.

1988 Miller, Maureen E. "Storyteller: The Creative Process of Aminah Robinson." *Acclaim*. Fall.

1987 Ware, Jane. "The Magician of Poindexter Village." *Ohio Magazine*. June.

1985 Smith, Mary Polites. "Art is Alive and Well and Living in Columbus." *Columbus Homes & Lifestyles*. September-October.

1982 Hall, Jacqueline. "The Roots of Aminah." *Columbus Monthly*. July.

1980 Jones, John E. "Four Single Artists: Mind, Eye & Hand." *Living Single*. November.

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1979

Hoar, Adrienne W. "The Vision That Was Once a Reality." *Mahogany: The National Magazine for Black Entertainment*. May 6.