

In 2019, the Jasper Project, a non-profit, multidisciplinary arts facilitator serving South Carolina arts communities, began a project that would ultimately bring together more than 50 of South Carolina's women artists to honor 12 women from South Carolina history whose work in the arts, sciences, education, business, athletics, and human rights literally – and usually without fanfare – changed the course of human history. Using as a model Judy Chicago's iconic feminist arts installation, The Dinner Party, and in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of Chicago's project, 12 artists in of the fields of literature, visual arts, filmmaking, and theatre each directed their talents at one 12 women from SC history who had devoted their lives to breaking barriers and improving humankind, including Mary McLeod Bethune, Alice Childress, Septima Clark, Mathilda Evans, Althea Gibson, Angelina and Sarah Grimke, Eartha Kitt, Julia Peterkin, Eliza Pinckney, Modjeska Monteith Simkins, Elizabeth Evelyn Wright, and Sarah Leverette.

The result was brilliant.

We created a magnificent 12' x 12' x 12' triangular shaped table, built from indigenous SC Sapelo mahogany and cherry wood by Columbia artisan **Jordan Morris**, and invited 12 of the state's most elite visual artists to each create a place setting honoring one of the women at the table. We also invited 12 equally accomplished women writers to author essays about the honored women, and another 12 filmmakers to create brief films celebrating the women. SC theatre artists Vicky Saye Henderson wrote and directed a play in which all the women came together for a conversation, as if they were seated around the supper table itself. The exhibit also included 12 portraits of the esteemed women created by renown portrait artist Kirkland Smith.

The Supper Table Artists

Bohumila Augustinova • Eileen Blyth • Tonya Gregg • Mana Hewitt • B.A. Hohman • Heidi Darr-Hope • Lori Isom • Flavia Lovatelli • Laurie Brownell McIntosh • Michaela Pilar Brown • Renee Roullier • Olga Yukhno • Jennifer Bartell • Carla Damron • Joyce Rose Harris • Kristine Hartvigsen • Meeghan Kane • Monifa Lemons • Eva Moore • Marjory Wentworth • Qiana Whitted • Candace Wiley • Christina Xan • Claudia Smith Brinson • Kirkland Smith • Jordan Morris • Betsy Newman • Mahkia Greene • Vicky Saye Henderson • Lee Ann Kornegay • Brenda Oliver • Kathryn Van

Aernum • Cindi Boiter • Joestra Robinson & Tamara Finkbeiner • Katly Hong • Laura Kissel • Roni Nicole • Lee Ann Kornegay • Ebony Wilson • Betsey Newman • Carleen Maur • Faye Riley • Jordan Mullen • Steffi Brink • Lillian Burke

From 2020 until early 2023, the massive Supper Table installation toured throughout the midlands and into the lowcountry, coming home over the summer of 2023 for touch-ups and refurbishment. But beginning in 2024, the Supper Table will be ready to tour again and delight even more audiences with its combination of historical significance and aesthetic beauty.

Here are a few comments from previous Supper Table hosts:

The Myrtle Beach Art Museum's experience exhibiting The Supper Table was phenomenal. The installation is a stop-you-in-your-tracks, major multi-media work of art that keeps visitors engaged and inspired, while at the same time, educating them on the exciting and important achievements made by an incredibly diverse group of both historical and contemporary South Carolinian women. — Liz Miller, Curator, Myrtle Beach Art Museum

The Jasper Project would love to bring the Supper Table to your venue, be it a gallery, museum, library, or theatre. We are scheduling our 2024 - 2026 tour now.

Please reach out to the Jasper Project and let us answer your questions about bringing the Supper Table to your town.

Sincerely,

Cindi, Christina, Keith, Jon

for the Jasper Project board of directors