



# BANDITS & HEROES POETS & SAINTS

POPULAR ART OF THE NORTHEAST OF BRAZIL

CON/VIDA  
POPULAR ARTS OF THE AMERICAS



*How many North Americans know that ten times more Africans were brought in bondage into Brazil than into the United States? How many know that the Northeast of Brazil has the largest population of African descent outside Africa? How many know how deeply the African heritage has influenced the culture of present day Brazil?*

religious objects, festival costumes, toys and booklets of poetry give access to the complex and vibrant culture of the Northeast of Brazil and introduce viewers to the festivals, heroes, and spiritual traditions that give shape and meaning to the daily lives of the *Nordestinos*, common people of Brazil's Northeast.

**U**sing engaging photographs and works of popular art, this exhibition tells the story of the resilience and vitality of the modern day descendants of Africa whose ancient cultures blended with indigenous and colonial Portuguese traditions to form the vibrant and complex cultural mosaic of modern Brazil. Sculptures, paintings, prints,

## BANDITS & HEROES, POETS & SAINTS IS AN EXHIBITION IN THREE PARTS:



### THE LAND ITS PEOPLE

**THE LAND & ITS PEOPLE** presents colonial Brazil with its complicated history of sugar plantations and African slavery. It introduces the parched backlands of the sertão and the challenging life of the *vaqueiros* (cowboys), *retirantes* (migrant workers), and the heroes of the ordinary people of the Northeast.



### EXPRESSIONS OF FAITH

**EXPRESSIONS OF FAITH** presents the rich African-Brazilian religion of Candomblé, exploring its historic African roots and its intersection with Roman Catholicism. Photographs, paintings and religious objects show colorful religious processions, festivals and pilgrimages of these two religious traditions.



### POETRY, CELEBRATION & SONG

**POETRY, CELEBRATION & SONG** features *literatura de cordel* (literature on a string) produced by singing poets who "sell" their songs in small chapbooks in markets and fairs. Poetry, prints and sculptures inspired by folk legends and current events signal the dynamic fusion of tradition and improvisation in the culture of the Northeast.



## BOOKING INFORMATION

### SCHEDULING

Bandits & Heroes opened at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit in August 2013 - January, 2014. Its current exhibition tour includes the DuSable Museum of African American History, Chicago, IL (May - August 2014) and the Robert W. Woodruff Library at the University Center, Atlanta, GA (September - December, 2014). We welcome further venues for 2015-2016.

### SPACE REQUIREMENTS

Approximately 400-500 linear feet of wall space and 3000 square feet of floor space are required for this exhibition. The exhibition consists of approximately 200 objects (or groupings of objects), photographs, videos, and photographic wall and text panels.

### SUPPORTING MATERIALS

The exhibition is accompanied by materials that provide historical and cultural context for the show.

- ★ Exhibition catalogues – a complimentary copy of the exhibition catalogue will accompany the exhibit; additional copies will be available at cost.
- ★ Website with expanded information
- ★ Press packets with information and photos
- ★ Educational materials for teachers and school groups

### EXHIBITION SIGNAGE

Large text panels and digital files for wall murals suitable for interior display are included with the exhibition. Con/Vida will provide copy for object labels digitally.

### REGISTRATION / PREPARATION

Installation assistance and registration instructions will accompany the exhibition.

### SHIPPING AND FEES

The rental fee for the exhibition is \$35,000 for three months plus one-way shipping, door-to-door insurance, and assistance from the Wright Museum with design/installation.

### CREDIT

Exhibiting institutions are required to credit Con/Vida- Popular Arts of the Americas and its partner, the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, on all public announcements and other promotional materials. The names of all funding agencies (e.g. NEH, the Michigan Humanities Council, etc.) must also be included on all publications and promotional materials.

### SECURITY

Exhibition requirements are:

- ★ Medium security
- ★ Climate controlled environment



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#### CONTACT

For additional information, please contact  
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