

Black History Month - Keynote Presentation

# Banjo



A Historical Aesthetic Response to Africa  
Art giving understanding to the importance of knowing ones self is timeless.



*Photo Credit: Deb Faris*

By Professor Najjar Abdul-Musawwir,  
Professor of Fine Arts,  
Southern Illinois University at Carbondale

**ZOOM: Wednesday  
February 10, 2021  
11:00am-12:00pm**

**<https://zoom.us/j/98319050597?pwd=bHhMYXRheTJqc1IyVmxD1BlWUdNZz09>**

This presentation includes virtual slideshow lecture and question & answer period, and in addition, five 52 page signed exhibition catalogs of the Banjo Series will be provided for distribution. This lecture and exhibition will also be made available on the JALC diversity webpage for two months from the day of the lecture.



## BIOGRAPHY

“Najjar Abdul-Musawwir was born in 1958 in Chicago, Illinois. He is an internationally acknowledged artist who has exhibited in the United States, Africa, Asia and Europe. He has been the host to WSIU PBS TV show, Expressions. The content of his creative works is drawn from African-American culture, Islamic philosophy, and upbringing in America’s institutional racism. Abdul-Musawwir has received distinguish ac-knowledgments, and among them are: invitational Artist-n-Residency with Dr. Esther Mahlangu in Mpum-alanga Province, South Africa; Self-Residency at Smithsonian Museum of African Art, Warren M. Robbins Library, Washington, DC; Artist-n-Residency/exhibit at N’Namdi Center for Contemporary Art, Detroit, and many other national and international awards.”

Abdul-Musawwir currently works as a Professor of studio arts and art history in the School of Art and Design and Africana Studies at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois. He is currently the President of the African American Museum of Southern Illinois.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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