

C. DANIEL DAWSON

C. Daniel Dawson first learned photography at the age of 14 from his father who was an avid amateur photographer. While in high school, he continued his studies by sitting in on a class his brother was taking at the Newark School of Fine and Industrial Arts. In college he studied with Ralph Hattersley (Columbia University), Lizette Model (New School for Social Research), and Paul Caponegro (Graduate Institute of Film and Television/New York University). In between studies Dawson also worked as a medical photographer at the New Jersey College of Medicine and Dentistry where he developed his craft under Marshall Taub, the Chief Medical Photographer. At NYU, Dawson also studied the history of photography under John Szarkowski and Peter Bunnell.

While in film school he met Louis Draper, one of the founding members of Kamoinge, and was later asked to join the group in 1970. As a photographer, he has been published in numerous books and magazines and has shown in over 30 exhibitions.

Dawson began curating while still in high school at Arts High in Newark, New Jersey. He went on to become the first James Van Der Zee Curator of Photography, Film and Video at the Studio Museum in Harlem. In addition he has curated more than 50 exhibitions

including Harlem Heyday: The Photographs of James Van Der Zee and The Sound I Saw:

The Jazz Photographs of Roy DeCarava. He has also been associated with many prize-winning

films including Head and Heart by James Mannas and Capoeiras of Brazil by Warrington Hudlin. He has worked as a consultant for the American Museum of Natural History, Caribbean Cultural Center, Cooper Hewitt Museum, International Center for Photography,

Lincoln Center, Museum for African Art, Ralph Appelbaum Associates and three different

divisions of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC.

As a scholar, C. Daniel Dawson has lectured at the House of World Cultures-Berlin, the Kit Tropenmuseum-Amsterdam, the University of California-Berkeley, University of Texas-Austin, University of Wisconsin-Madison, New School for Social Research, Columbia University, Princeton University and the Federal Universities of Bahia and Rio de Janeiro-Brazil. Dawson has also taught seminars on African Spirituality in the Americas at Columbia University, University of Iowa, New York University and Yale University.