

SAM REACHING OUT TO THE WORLD

PUBLICATIONS

The book *Spain in the Age of Exploration 1492-1819* organized by the Seattle Art Museum in partnership with the Patrimonio Nacional, Madrid, accompanied the exhibition of the same name. The book addresses the theme of Spain as a global power from the time of Columbus's first voyage in 1492 to the end of the eighteenth century. Exhibition curator and editor Chiyo Ishikawa selected leading American and Spanish scholars who wrote insightful essays relating to the empire, the history of the royal collection, the image of the king and the rise of science in Spain. Together they tell how an insular body of small kingdoms transformed itself into a global superpower, and suggest the attendant responsibilities, anxieties and accomplishments that accompanied such a dramatic metamorphosis.

TRAVELING SAM-ORGANIZED EXHIBITIONS

Art from Africa: Long Steps Never Broke a Back, an exhibition organized by the Seattle Art Museum, has been traveling since it closed in Seattle in May 2002. Brought together by a unique assembly of scholars and artists to showcase what happens when different cultures curate as equals, the museum's renowned African art collection began its national tour of the Philadelphia Museum of Art and moved on to the Wadsworth Athenaeum. In October 2005 *Long Steps* opened at the Cincinnati Art Museum, and in January 2006 it opened at the Frist Center for the Visual Arts in Nashville, Tennessee. The exhibition's reliance on personal voices and videos has inspired national acclaim for the collection and for new methods of putting art in context.

The exhibition was organized by the Seattle Art Museum, with generous funding provided by Washington Mutual.



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right: Performers from the African community in Philadelphia at the opening ceremonies of the *Art from Africa* exhibition. Photo: Pam McClusky

