

David C Driskell (American b. 1931) *The Dance*, encaustic and collage on paper 1988

Highly regarded as an artist, scholar and curator, David Driskell is cited as one of the world's leading authorities on the subject of African American Art. He has been the recipient of ten honorary doctoral degrees and has contributed significantly to scholarship in the history of art on the role of Black artists in America.

Driskell was born in 1931 in Eatonton, Georgia, USA. He was educated at Howard University and received the Master of Fine Arts degree in 1961 from The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. He currently holds the title of Distinguished University Professor of Art, Emeritus, at the University of Maryland, College Park. He received the Presidential Medal from William Jefferson Clinton in December 2000 as a National Endowment for the Humanities recipient. Upon his retirement from teaching at the University of Maryland in 1998, The David C. Driskell Center for the Study of the African Diaspora was founded to promote his scholarship and service to the University.

Trained as a painter and art historian, Driskell works principally in collage and mixed media. This is an archetypal example of his work.