



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Catfish Friday, Women's Art Collective presents: Naked**

Dates: **June 1 – 28, 2009**

Location: **The Ice Gallery at the Coffee Cave, 45 Halsey St. Newark, NJ 07102**

Artists Reception: **Sunday June 7, from 3 – 6 PM**

**Naked** is the title of this year's 2<sup>nd</sup> invitational art exhibition featuring the work of women artists who participate in Catfish Friday women's art collective. The topic of the exhibition **Naked**, curated by artist Toni Thomas, explores the concept of nakedness. What images conjure up when one hears the word naked? Are artists limited to portraying revealing nudes or will they reveal naked emotions on contemporary issues? Artists participating in this exhibition render their take on nakedness within the framework of their personal style, ideology and medium. The means by which they address the topic reaches across many subjects from nude renditions to portrayals of naked clichés, with adaptations of spiritual, emotional, conceptual, ideological and political perspectives. The work to be viewed takes one on a visual journey with many variations on the theme while inviting the viewer to grapple with their own perceptions of a naked reality that goes beyond the tangible physique.

Featured in the exhibition is the work of **Janice Anderson, Tinnetta Bell, Sadee Brathwaite, Maggie Brown, Kathleen Heron, Diana Jensen, Shonda Nicholas, Shirley Parker-Benjamin, Lynn Presley, Judth Salmon, Joya Thompson and Toni Thomas**. The artists reception on Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> will include the poetic work of **Mary Baldwin, Elaine Lee, Esther Morales and Lebrashawn Turman-Chase**.

**Catfish Friday, Women's Art Collective** is a growing community of women artists in the Newark, New Jersey area and surrounding communities. Catfish Friday strives to create community among women artists in a supportive, non-competitive environment. Providing critique and support for works-in-progress, Catfish Friday meetings are held on the second Saturday of every month from September through June. Participation is open to any female artist working in visual or literary art at any stage of development. For more information call 973-699-3269 or visit website: [www.catfishfriday.org](http://www.catfishfriday.org).