

KATE WERBLE GALLERY

83 VANDAM STREET NEW YORK, NY 10013

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By Nina Korman

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You may recall working with beads from your halcyon days in summer camp. Sure you created a few gorgeous bracelets, necklaces, and key chains, but that was kid stuff. Beads are a sophisticated medium for a sophisticated art form. To wit: Donald Pierce's intricate necklaces; Ken Tisa's wall hangings resembling Haitian flags and banners; Sonya Clark's brightly colored Afro and dreadlocked wigs; and Judy Onofrio's huge triumphant sculpture. All those powerful works are made of beads and can be seen at the Lowe Art Museum (1301 Stanford Dr., Coral Gables) through July 25 in the exhibition "Pure Vision: American Bead Artists," which presents 60 works by 28 contemporary artisans. This evening at 8:00 the show's cocurator, Sherry Leedy, comes to the Lowe from Kansas City, Missouri, to deliver a slide lecture. She'll discuss the artists and talk about the latest trends in beadworking. Admission is free for members; five dollars for nonmembers. Call 305-284-5587.