



Courtesy of Caroline Cargo Folk Art Collection (Cazenovia, NY)



Photograph by Horace Perry, courtesy Alabama State Council on the Arts



Photograph by Jeffrey Wolf, Breakaway Films

**Bill Traylor: Chasing Ghosts** is an eye-opening documentary that explores the life of a unique American artist, a man with a remarkable and unlikely biography. Bill Traylor was born into slavery in 1853 on a cotton plantation in rural Alabama. After the Civil War, Traylor continued to farm the land until the late 1920s. Aging and alone, he moved to Montgomery and worked odd jobs in the thriving segregated black neighborhood. A decade later, in his late 80s, Traylor became homeless and started to draw and paint, devising his own visual language to depict his memories of slavery and scenes of a radically changing urban culture. He made well over a thousand drawings and paintings between 1939-1942, which reflect the profound social and political change he experienced during his life spanning slavery, Reconstruction, Jim Crow laws, and the Great Migration. **Bill Traylor: Chasing Ghosts** is a revelatory examination of one of America's most essential artists.

**BONUS FEATURES:**  
Additional interviews • Trailer

1.85:1, 16x9 • 76 minutes  
English with optional English SDH subtitles  
5.1 Surround and 2.0 Stereo • Color

SAM POLLARD PRESENTS A BREAKAWAY FILMS PRODUCTION OF  
A FILM BY JEFFREY WOLF  
RUSSELL G. JONES SHARON WASHINGTON AND JASON SAMUELS SMITH  
MUSIC BY DAVID MANSFIELD EDITED BY KEITH REAMER A.C.E.  
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY HENRY ADEBONOJO EXECUTIVE PRODUCER SAM POLLARD  
PRODUCED BY JEFFREY WOLF DAPHNE McWILLIAMS  
JEANY NISENHOLZ-WOLF FRED BARRON WRITTEN BY FRED BARRON  
DIRECTED BY JEFFREY WOLF

Front Cover: *Untitled (Legs Construction with Blue Man)* from the collection of the Smithsonian American Art Museum  
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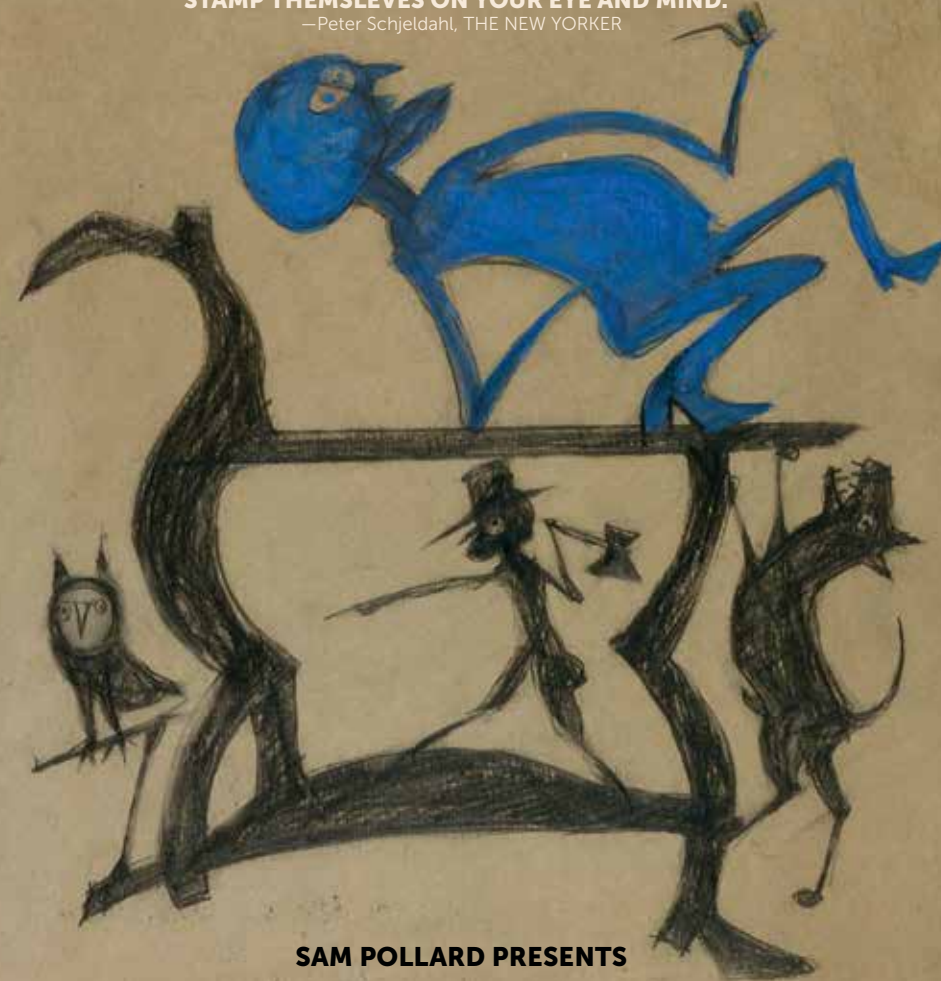
**BILL TRAYLOR**  
CHASING GHOSTS

**"BILL TRAYLOR'S ART SPEAKS TO THE UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE OF HUMANITY—A CRY FOR JUSTICE, DIGNITY AND RESILIENCE."**

—Andrew J. Young Jr., 14th US Ambassador to the UNITED NATIONS

**"AN EXTRAORDINARY ARTIST...TRAYLOR'S PICTURES STAMP THEMSELVES ON YOUR EYE AND MIND."**

—Peter Schjeldahl, THE NEW YORKER



SAM POLLARD PRESENTS

# BILL TRAYLOR

## CHASING GHOSTS

A FILM BY JEFFREY WOLF

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