

## Bronx scene

# Eye Am A Man opens at Longwood on March 2nd

The Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos, the contemporary art center of the Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA), presents Eye Am A Man: Man-Hood In The Gay-Hood by the ART-HOOD, a new exhibition on view in the gallery's Project Room through May 4. The opening reception (postponed due to February 2's hazardous weather conditions) will be held on Wednesday, March 2, from 5 to 9 p.m., in conjunction with that evening's Bronx Culture Trolley. Longwood is located on the campus of Hostos Community College at 450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street. Admission is free and all are welcome.

Curated by Ivan Velez Jr., Eye Am A Man, includes painting, photography, drawing, sculpture and video. It

explores gender constructions, religion, machismo, popular and street culture and how they shape our notions of queerness, and homosexuality.

Featured Artists: Chad Boss, Jennifer Camper, Riccardo Osmondo Francis, Jr., David Goldenberg, Louis Kwong, La Buruquena, Steve Macisaac, Harry Medina, Aaron Mustamaa, Kei Otani, Carlo Quispe, Joseph Raddoccia, Jean Segarra-Rosa, Soulivanh Thammavong, and Ivan Velez Jr.

About the Curator: Ivan Velez Jr. is a Bronx native who was influenced by chop-socky karate flicks, Astro Boy cartoons, blaxploitation films, Spanish soap operas and Silver Age comic books. Mr. Velez received BCA's Digital Matrix Commission

in 2008 and was included in Longwood's 25th Anniversary Exhibition Everyday is Like Sunday. Ivan's art and writing have been featured in a number of publications including Gay Comics, Details Magazine, NYQ, and HX, HBO and the Hudlin Brothers, Blood Syndicate, and Ghost Rider, as well as in Marvel and DC Comics. Ivan is mostly known as the creator of Tales of the Closet, a ten-chapter graphic novel that depicts the lives of eight gay teenagers in Queens.

On Saturday, February 26, the Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos presents a panel discussion: "Art-Hood discusses Man-Hood In The Gay-Hood," (2 to 4p .m.). Admission is free and all are welcome.