

March 4, 2010

Bronxbeat

Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture and the **Bronx Council on the Arts** presents **Half and Half**, a four-person panel focusing on the construction of Dominican and Haitian national identities, taking into consideration their dismissal of each other's presence on the same Caribbean island. Hosted and moderated by Nicolas Dumit Estevez, this panel discussion will take place at 6:00pm sharp on Thurs., Mar. 11, at the Longwood Arts Gallery at Hostos Community College, 450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street. Admission is free and all are welcome.

This panel consists of two Dominicans and two Haitians: Diógenes Abreu, author of *Perejil*; Vladimir Cybil Charlier, artist; Sandy Plácido, activist; and Miriam Neptune, activist and filmmaker. **Half and Half** offers the speakers and those present the opportunity to discuss and reflect on one of the most controversial situations today in terms of race, ethnicity, politics and the legacy of colonialism in the Americas.

This panel will serve as a fundraiser for Haiti. All of the proceeds collected during the event will be donated to Seeds for Haiti.

Selected materials from the video-photographic documentation created by Sol Aramendi for *Borderless* in the Dominican Republic and New York City, plus Estevez's television appearances in the Dominican Republic will be projected during the evening. A transcription of the panel will be printed as a booklet to be shared with a wider audience. This material will later serve as the conceptual basis for upcoming art workshops to be implemented with Dominican, Haitian, Dominican-Haitian and Haitian-Dominican participants in Guayubín, the town in the Dominican Republic where most of Estevez's paternal family resides.