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April 7th's Bronx Culture Trolley: Nine Art Exhibitions, A Concert, Film Screenings, A Literary Performance, and Karaoke

(Bronx – March 19, 2010) **Bronx Culture Trolley rolls again on Wednesday, April 7th** along the [South Bronx Cultural Corridor](#), the evening offers an array of family activities including art nine exhibitions at the [Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos](#), the [Bronx Museum of the Arts](#), [Gordon Parks Gallery](#), [BronxArtSpace](#), and the [Bruckner Gallery](#). The evening will also include the bronxArtworks artisans, a free concert, an oral performance, a film and video screening, a literary reading as part of the second-day kick-off of The Big Read in the Bronx, and, of course, our Karaoke after-party at the Bruckner Bar & Grill.

In a salute to [The Big Read](#) 2010, the trolley will be transformed into a Mexican trolley and short stories from the book *Sun, Stone and Shadows* will be played over the trolley's on-board CD system. All riders will receive a free copy of the book. The [Bronx Culture Trolley](#) is a program of the [Bronx Council on the Arts](#) (BCA). Admission to most venues is free and all are welcome to hop on board and enjoy them.



April 7th's Trolley begins at the **Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos** (Hostos Community College, 450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street) at 5:00pm with a viewing of three exhibitions: (1) ***...in the City: Memory, Places and Spaces*** is inspired by the city's unique urban flavor, socio-political, and economical issues as well as its inhabitants. The works comment on issues of displacement, migration, development, and urban planning. The show, curated by Juanita Lanzó, includes installation, mixed media, painting and video by Michael Paul Britto, Suzanne Broughel, Jerry Gant, Jayson Keeling, Juan Fernando Morales and Luis Stephenberg. (2) ***Transmit-Transit*** – In this exhibition Mr. Ramos-Fermin presents a multimedia installation focusing on issues of migration, access and globalization. The exhibition, curated by Ricardo Miranda-Zuñiga, addresses the notion of traveling in the city, in particular the ethnic diversity of the drivers and the borough. This project maps the Bronx residents and its diversity. (3) ***Impractical Hats: Indie Crafts Reinvent Everyday Gear*** – Curated by Lisa Curran, *Impractical Hats* is a provocative exhibition by indie craft designers who utilize a wide variety of materials in the construction of hats and hat related objects. Featured artists are members of the Bronx Council on the Arts bronxArtworks collective. *Impractical Hats* is an exhibition in collaboration with the Seventh Annual Immigrant Heritage Week Celebration, a program of the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs, of which the Bronx Council on the Arts is a proud event partner. For more information on the Longwood Art Gallery and its upcoming exhibits, visit www.bronxarts.org or call 718-518-6728.

While at the Gallery, join the students of Wings Academy and their teacher, Ray Felix, as they create a **Student Mural** (on view through May 8th) inspired by Octavio Paz's short story, "Life with the Wave." Ray will talk about the mural as a prelude to **Cuentos de Casa: Stories from Latin America**. In this trolley night segment, **Bobby Gonzalez** and **The Colorado Sisters** tell stories and play live music in celebration of the people and history of Mexico and *Sun, Stone and Shadows*. Free copies of the book will be distributed to attendees. The Longwood Art Gallery is located at Hostos Community College (450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street in the Bronx). Transportation: IRT 4 & 5, Bx1, Bx19 to Grand Concourse and 149 Street. For information on this exhibit, call 718-518-6700. For further information on Longwood and its exhibitions, call 718-518-6728 or visit www.bronxarts.org/laq.asp.

Outside the Gallery: From 5:00-8:30pm, the **bronxArtworks Artisans** will be on hand in the Hostos Lobby displaying and selling their imaginative creations in all price ranges. Items included are Korean knot tying novelties, art cards and prints, original ceramics, silver jewelry, and much more.

In the **Hostos Repertory Theater**, enjoy the live music of **Prima Divas**, a free 7:00pm concert featuring Alkebulan/Teana Rodriguez, The Rebel Songstress and Melissa Diaz and Sleeping Phoenix. **Teana "Alkebulan" Rodriguez**, 2009 BRIO winner for vocal performance, began tracing her roots back to her African ancestors, drawing on their legacy as she embarked on her mission to not only honor their memory, but to break the stereotypes in popular music, thus giving birth to a style she has dubbed "Rebel Soul," a unique blend of R&B, Jazz, Soul, Hip Hop, Pop, Rock, Dance & Reggae. BxIndie artist **Melissa Diaz** is a singer, songwriter, percussionist and member of Puerto Rican roots group "Yerbabuena", as well as Dominican "Musica Tipica" group "Kombacarei". **Sleeping Phoenix**, Melissa's new solo project, is a fusion of Afro-Caribbean, Alternative rock and Latin pop by blending of major cultural influences and an attempt to give voice to the subculture of first generation Americans from different ethnic backgrounds who belong neither "here nor there" culturally. **Admission to this concert is free, but a ticket must be picked up at the box office on the day of the performance** (718-518-4455).

The trolley bell clangs at 5:30pm, 6:30pm, and 7:30pm indicating the trolley's departure from Hostos on its way to the evening's cultural events. The Bronx Culture Trolley is your free ticket to a cultural tour along the South Bronx Cultural Corridor of the lower Grand Concourse. **Admission to all participating venue attractions is free.** The Bronx Culture Trolley runs on the first Wednesday of each month (except January and September) providing Bronxites and tourists alike a fun way to travel via a replica of an early 20th-century trolley car. Passengers are given the opportunity to sample several of the area's hottest cultural attractions, dining establishments and entertainment venues along the way.

FIRST STOP: Bronx Museum of the Arts (1040 Grand Concourse at 165th Street) to tour the museum and its new exhibitions: **Road to Freedom: Photographs of the Civil Rights Movement, 1956-1968** – During the span of twelve years, a series of events, later hailed as the Civil Rights Movement, would forever change the social and political course of America. The Bronx Museum of the Arts presents *Road to Freedom: Photographs of the Civil Rights Movement, 1956–1968*, an exhibition that chronicling these pivotal moments in the nation's history. Featuring 150 vintage photographs, *Road to Freedom* is the most comprehensive collection of photographic prints and related artifacts ever devoted to the subject and was organized by the High Museum of Art in Atlanta to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s assassination. **After 1968: Contemporary Artists and the Civil Rights Legacy** – As a complement to Road to Freedom, The Bronx Museum will also present AFTER 1968: Contemporary Artists and the Civil Rights Legacy. This smaller exhibition includes works from seven African-American, emerging artists and collectives — all born on or after 1968 — who have created new work examining the heritage of the Civil Rights Movement and its affect on the lives of this new generation. Using the movement as inspiration, context or critique, these artists address their own personal understanding of race, identity, American violence, and political activism providing new perspectives on and discourse about this critical time in the history of the United States. Artists include Deborah Grant, Leslie Hewitt, Otabenga Jones & Associates, Adam Pendleton, Jefferson Pinder, Nadine Robinson, and Hank Willis Thomas. For information on the Bronx Museum and its many activities, visit www.bronxmuseum.org or call 718-681-6000.

NEXT STOP: Gordon Parks Gallery (332 East 149th Street) for a viewing of **Flash in Retrospective: Photographs by Lola Flash**. In this exhibition, presented by The College of New Rochelle at the Gordon A. Parks Gallery & Cultural Arts Center, Lola Flash uses photography to challenge stereotypes and offer 'new ways of seeing.' Her passion for the medium of photography and its ability to visually allure while initiating change and progress is essential to her work. Flash welcomes sharing her ideas with those who are willing to not only look, but also see. Lola is a practicing artist and teacher in the US and UK who has had numerous international exhibitions and commissions over the past twenty years. Her work has been included in public collections in London and featured in the book *Posing Beauty*, in the Nueva Luz photographic journal, and is currently on exhibit across the US. **Note: You can meet and talk with Ms. Flash at the gallery on April 7th.** For information on this exhibition, call 718-665-1310.

NEXT STOP: BronxArtSpace (305 East 140th Street) for **CONVERSIONs**, an evening of art, oration, and film beginning with *I'm Caught Up...*, A group exhibition featuring the work of Blanka Amezkua, Daniel Bejar, Charles Beronio, Chris Bors, Vidal Centeno, Juan Doe, Hasan Elahi, Clare Grill, Edwin Gonzalez-Ojeda, Ketta Ioannidou, Jayson Keeling, Ivan Monforte, Christy Speakman, and Xavier; an oratory performance by artist Charles Beronio; and a sampling of film and video work selected by Synthetic Zero curator Mitsu Hadeishi. For information on additional CONVERSIONs events this month, contact Melissa A. Calderón at 917-742-0169 or info@conversionsnyc.com, or visit www.conversionsnyc.com. For additional information, call 718-401-8144, e-mail llcuning@gmail.com, or visit www.BronxArtSpace.com.

FINAL STOP: Bruckner Gallery at the Bruckner Bar & Grill (1 Bruckner Blvd.) to view **Icebergs**, a photo exhibition of icebergs off Iceland by Dan Asher and curated by Barry Kostrinsky. Visit the Bruckner's website at www.brucknerbar.com for information on this exhibit or call Mr. Kostrinsky at 845-729-5467. Plan to stick around for the Karaoke that starts at 8:30. **Mistress Wanda's Karaoke Survivor** – Part Game Show, Part Karaoke. *This ain't your momma's karaoke party!* Join us for the official Trolley After-Party hosted by artist and all around bad girl Wanda Raimundi-Ortiz. Drink specials and full menu available. Come to sing, laugh or just watch.

For additional information on the Bronx Culture Trolley and the Bronx Cultural Card (which offers percentage off discounts at participating Bronx organizations and business establishments), contact Phil Cardone at 718-931-9500 x33 or at trolley@bronxarts.org. The Bronx Culture Trolley will roll again on May 5, 2010. Visit BCA's website at www.bronxarts.org in mid-April for information on May 5th's Bronx Culture Trolley activities as well as updated information on other events, activities, and programs of the Bronx Council on the Arts.

The Bronx Culture Trolley, a program of the Bronx Council on the Arts' Bronx Cultural Card and the Bronx Tourism Council, is made possible with funding from the Rockefeller Foundation, JPMorgan Chase Foundation, Scherman Foundation, Carnegie Corporation, the Bronx Empowerment Zone, NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, NYS Council on the Arts, and Council Member Maria del Carmen Arroyo.

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