



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** Phil Cardone

**Phone:** 718-931-9500 x33

**E-Mail:** [phil@bronxarts.org](mailto:phil@bronxarts.org)

**Web:** [www.bronxarts.org](http://www.bronxarts.org)

## **June 3rd Bronx Trolley First Wednesday Arts & Culture Tour: Exhibitions, Book Reading, Gallery Tour and a Ride on the Trolley**

(Bronx, NY – May 21, 2015) **The Bronx Trolley First Wednesday Arts & Culture Tour**, a program of the Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA), rolls again on June 3rd with an evening of exhibitions at BCA's [Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos](#), [Bronx Museum of the Arts](#), [Bronx Documentary Center](#) and [WallWorks Gallery](#). Additionally, the evening will include a book signing and reading at the Bronx Museum of the Arts. The evening begins and ends at Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos on the campus of Hostos Community College. Admission to venues is free and all are welcome to hop on board the trolley and enjoy them. **Directions to Hostos:** Subway: 2, 4 & 5 trains; Bus: BX1, BX2 & BX19; all destinations to 149th Street/Grand Concourse.

**June 3rd's trolley begins at 5:00pm** at **Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos** (Hostos Community College, 450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street) for the opening reception for **Freddy Rodriguez: My Geometries 1970-2002**, a solo exhibition featuring paintings, drawings and mixed media works between 1970 and 2002, created by the Dominican-born, New York-based artist and curated by Rocio Aranda-Alvarado. This is the first exhibition to chart the artist's expansive and unique approach to geometric abstraction since his formative training during the apogee of Minimalism. While Rodríguez's early work drew inspiration from Piet Mondrian, Frank Stella and Mark Rothko—whose paintings he encountered at MoMA—his work soon came to reference historical, emotional and political subjects often deemed antithetical to pure formalism. Meet the artist and the curator at this evening's opening reception.

First comes the physical: the hard-edged abstraction of the 70s joins content in the form of human figures; sensual references to music, dancing and culture emerge. In the 80s, crisp geometric lines co-exist with fluid, loose brushstrokes. Sensuality again breaks through. The 90s see the historical and political take center stage: color and form combine with sugar, dirt, ground glass and peppercorns to evoke the European "Encounter" with the New World. Priestly vestments and slashed canvases reference the sexual abuse scandals in the Catholic Church. This is not your average geometry.

**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 trolley is your free ticket to a cultural tour along the South Bronx Cultural Corridor of the lower Grand Concourse. The 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.

**In addition to Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos**, this month's trolley stops and attractions include:

- **Bronx Museum of the Arts:** (1) **"Reading & Conversations"** featuring author Marcus Baram who will read excerpts from *Gil Scott-Heron: Pieces of a Man*, followed by a Q&A. In this biography, Baram traces the volatile journey of troubled musical genius Gil Scott-Heron, best known for his 1970 polemic *The Revolution Will Not Be Televised*. (2) **Free Guided Tour of the Museum's Current Exhibitions:** *Craft and Colony: from the Arachnae Series by Aristides Logothetis; Escape Route: Paintings and Drawings by Jeffrey Spencer Hargrave; Jaime Davidovich: Adventures of the Avant-Garde; Please Touch; Three Photographers from the Bronx; Cuba Libre!*; and *Highlights from the Permanent Collection*. Visit [bronxmuseum.org](http://bronxmuseum.org) for exhibition details.
- **Bronx Documentary Center** for the SDN Exhibition: **Visual Stories Exploring Global Themes** featuring works by Social Documentary Network's Call for Entries winners on "Visual Stories Exploring Global Themes" featuring seventeen countries and five timely themes.
- **WallWorks Gallery** for a viewing of *MadC - Bits & Pieces*, an exhibition by German graffiti artist MadC known for her large-scale outdoor artistic works.

The Bronx Trolley First Wednesday Arts & Culture Tour will return on July 1, 2015. Visit [www.bronxarts.org](http://www.bronxarts.org) in mid-June for information on July 1st's trolley as well as other BCA programs and activities. Additional information: 718-931-9500 x33.

*The Bronx Trolley First Wednesday Arts & Culture Tour, a program of the Bronx Council on the Arts and the Bronx Tourism Council, is made possible with funding from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, NYS Council on the Arts, the Lambent Foundation Fund of Tides Foundation, Lily Auchincloss Foundation, Inc., Hostos Community College, Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr., NYC Council Members Andrew Cohen, Andy King, Melissa Mark-Viverito and James Vacca and the Bronx Delegation of the City Council.*

###

**Bronx Writers Center • BCA @ 2700 • Longwood Art Gallery**

1738 Hone Avenue, Bronx, NY 10461

718-931-9500 • Fax: 718-409-6445 • [contact@bronxarts.org](mailto:contact@bronxarts.org) • [www.bronxarts.org](http://www.bronxarts.org)