

**For Immediate Release**

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\*\*\* *Open House:* Sunday, March 2, 2008, 2-6pm \*\*\*

**BRONX MUSEUM EXHIBIT “MAKING IT TOGETHER”  
EXPLORES THE ART OF COLLABORATION  
DURING THE FEMINIST MOVEMENT**

(Bronx, NY, January 2, 2008) – On Sunday, March 2, 2008, The Bronx Museum of the Arts will open *Making It Together: Women’s Collaborative Art and Community*. On view through August 4, the exhibition explores an important chapter in recent history when women artists, inspired by the 1970s Feminist Movement, worked collectively in new ways to engage communities and address social issues.

“Artist teams and groups have become an increasingly fashionable mode in recent years,” says guest curator critic **Carey Lovelace**. “Feminist Art laid the groundwork for this, challenging ideas about authorship, particularly the myth of the solo male artist.”

The movement pioneered new approaches to group identity through various means such as collaborative performances, women’s co-ops, “leaderless” institutions and inclusive artworks engaging communities. Set to coincide with *WACK! Art and the Feminist Revolution*, which opens at P.S.1 in February 2008, the exhibition will feature key performances and visual-arts collectives, showcasing innovative examples of activist art created in the 1970s and early 1980s through video and photo documentation as well as various ephemera.

“Today,” remarks Lovelace, “artists are seeking ways to make potent political statements. The women in this exhibition created art works that truly affected the world.”

Among those showcased are **Suzanne Lacy** and **Leslie Labowitz**, whose landmark, multi-part event *Three Weeks in May* (1977), recreated into a large-scale installation, combining art-related performances and public workshops, was at the forefront of the movement against sexual violence. **Spiderwoman Theatre** (1975), a Native American collective, communicates native tradition and feminist issues through “storyweaving.” Other groups represented include the **Guerilla Girls**, whose satiric posters challenged art-world gender and racial politics, the **Heresies** collective, who deployed innovative Feminist approaches to publishing to produce a legendary journal, and **Judy Baca’s** *Great Wall of Los Angeles*, the world’s largest mural, which employed “at risk” youth to research, visually imagine, and paint the “hidden histories” of the California Southland.

A newsprint publication will accompany the exhibition, featuring an essay by Lovelace, co-president emeritus of the U.S. Chapter of the International Association of Art Critics, who has written essays on topics related to feminist art for *Art in America*, *Artforum*, *ARTnews*,

*Art on Paper* and many other publications. *Making It Together* marks Lovelace's debut as a curator.

In addition, as a counterpart to *Making It Together*, The Bronx Museum will also feature *Highlights of the Permanent Collection: Women Artists*, a special exhibition from its permanent collection highlighting women artists whose works comment on social and political situations. Artists include Tania Bruguera, Ana Mendieta, Adrian Piper, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Graciela Sacco, Gary Simmons and Rachel Lachowicz, and Carrie Mae Weems.

### **PUBLIC PROGRAMS**

In conjunction with the exhibition *Making It Together: Women's Collaborative Art and Community*, the Bronx Museum will present an exciting series of panels and public programs on the art of collaboration.

#### Panel Discussion: Collaboration and Feminist Practice

SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 3:00 pm

North Wing—2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Admission: \$5.00, free for Bronx Museum members

Having as point of departure the exhibition *Making it Together*, the panel will trace the role of feminist thought and gender-based critique in shaping artists' collaborative and collective practices that have been growing in importance over the past 30-plus years.

Participants: Faith Wilding, Emily Roysdon, Wendy Babcox, Uzma Z. Rizvi, Tiffany Ludwig, Renée Piechocki, and Carey Lovelace.

Moderator: Amy Mackie, Curatorial Assistant, New Museum.

#### First Fridays! Words and Sounds in the Soul of Life

Celebrating Women's History Month

FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 6:00 to 10:00 pm

South Building—Lower Gallery

Admission: Free

First Fridays! creates the perfect soundtrack to celebrate the opening of the exhibition *Making it Together*. An all female line-up provides words and sounds by and for women.

With DJ Moni (Ubiquita-NYC), Shanelle Grabiell (HBO'S Def Poetry Poet), and Grupo Yaya (Bomba, Plena and Roots Music)

#### Family Affair—The Art of Togetherness

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1:00 to 3:00 pm

North Wing—3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

Free with Museum admission

An intergenerational hands-on workshop exploring ideas related to the three exhibitions on view. Guided tours, music, snacks!

#### A Day of Collaborative Performance

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 12:00 to 6:00 pm  
North Wing—2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Admission: \$5.00, free for Bronx Museum members

Contemporary collectives do outrageous Work! A day long performance at the Museum featuring The Brainstormers (in collaboration with the Guerilla Girls), Crystal Brown and InSpirit, Six-Plus, Ridykeulous, Broadband, and much, much more....

## **CONCURRENT EXHIBITION AT THE BRONX MUSEUM OF THE ARTS**

### ***Teen Council Presents: Jamel Shabazz***

On view in the North Wing  
March 2 – August 4, 2008

The Bronx Museum's Teen Council class of 2007-2008 organizes a small exhibition of photographs by Jamel Shabazz based on the theme of community. During their tenure, the Teen Council conducted an interview with Shabazz for the education department's DVD series. The teens worked in collaboration with Shabazz and assistant curator Erin Riley-Lopez to put the exhibition together.

## **THE BRONX MUSEUM OF THE ARTS**

The flagship cultural institution of The Bronx, founded in 1971, The Bronx Museum of the Arts focuses on 20th-century and contemporary art, while serving the culturally diverse populations of The Bronx and the greater New York metropolitan area. The museum's home on the Grand Concourse is a distinctive contemporary landmark designed by the internationally-renowned firm Arquitectonica.

The Bronx Museum of the Arts maintains a permanent collection of 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>-century works by artists of African, Asian, and Latin American ancestry. Additionally, the Museum collects works by artists for whom The Bronx has been critical to their artistic practice and development. The Museum's educational offerings spring from these central programs with outreach to children and families as well as adult audiences. For more information please visit [www.bronxmuseum.org](http://www.bronxmuseum.org).

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