



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Phil Cardone

Phone: 718-931-9500 x33

Fax: 718-409-6445

Web: www.bronxarts.org

E-Mail: Phil@bronxarts.org

**Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture and the Bronx Council on the Arts presents *Half and Half*,
A March 11th Panel Discussion at Hostos Community College**

(February 25, 2010 – Bronx) 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 Thursday, March 11, 2010 at the Longwood Arts Gallery at Hostos Community College (450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street). Admission is free and all are welcome.



Nicolas Dumit Estevez (above) will host and moderate *Half and Half*, a four-person panel, focusing on the construction of Dominican and Haitian national identities, at 6:00pm on Thursday, March 11th at the Longwood Arts Gallery at Hostos Community College (450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street). Admission is free and all are welcome.

Photo by Sol Aramendi © 2008 Nicolas Dumit Estevez

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.

About Borderless

From 2008 until the present, Estevez has been journeying from his home in the South Bronx to his birthplace in Santiago de los Treinta Caballeros, Dominican Republic in order to trace and confirm any connection that he or his family may possibly have to the neighboring Republic of Haiti. Estevez goes to great lengths to prove what most Dominicans would prefer to bury as deeply as possible: any relationship with their neighbors.

Borderless is presented with support from Art Matters, Printed Matter and supported in part by the Ford Foundation, JPMorgan Chase and South West Airlines through a grant from the NALAC Fund for the Arts. *Half and Half* is presented with the generous support of The Bronx Council on the Arts.

For more information, e-mail indioclaro@hotmail.com or indio_oscurito@live.com. For a related Q & A between Linda Mary Montano and Nicolas Dumit Estevez, visit <http://lindamarymontano.blogspot.com/2010/02/interview-between-linda-mary-montano.html>.

Note: An upcoming *Borderless* Talk at Proyecto Luz /Conversatorio sobre Borderless en Proyecto Luz is scheduled for Sunday, March 28, 2010, at 6:00pm. The address is 45-10 Davis Street Long Island City, NY 11101.

Directions to Hostos: Hostos Community College is located at 450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street in the Bronx. Transportation: #2, #4 & #5 IRT trains and Bx1 & Bx19 bus to Grand Concourse and 149 Street. The Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos is wheelchair accessible. For additional information, call 718-518-6728.

###