



September 23, 2010



**Bronx, NY**

## **Bronx Culture Trolley Returns on Wednesday, October 6, 2010**

***Las Casita Revisited* Exhibit at Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos, BomPlenazo 2010 at Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture, and more!**

**Bronx, NY**— Bronx Culture Trolley returns on Wednesday, October 6th, offering family activities along the South Bronx Cultural Corridor including nine art exhibitions at the Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos, the Bronx Museum of the Arts, Gordon Parks Gallery, BronxArtSpace, and the Bruckner Gallery at the Bruckner Bar & Grill.

The evening will also include the kick-off of BomPlenazo 2010 with music and dance in the Hostos Memorial Garden and a concert in the Hostos Repertory Theater. 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.

October 6th's Trolley begins at the Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos (Hostos Community College, 450 Grand Con-course at 149th Street) at 5:00pm with an opening reception for *Las Casitas Revisited*, on view in the Main Gallery, is a timely recreation of the legendary *Casitas* exhibition originally produced in 1990 by the Bronx Council on the Arts. The original exhibition opened at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., traveled to Chicago and closed at the Bronx Museum of the Arts in 1991. *Las Casitas Revisited* highlights a unique urban phenomenon featuring an actual casita recreated in the Longwood Gallery along with photography, found objects, video foot-age, musical instruments and art. Contributing Artists: Martha Cooper, Juan Fernando Morales, José "Chema" Sota, and Aurelio Rivera. Contributing Collectors: Henry Medina, Ivan Torres, and Richard Tanco. Join us in this important exploration of urban Puerto Rican culture and vernacular architecture. This exhibition, co-sponsored by the Bronx Council on the Arts and the Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture, was made possible with funding from New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, New York State Council on the Arts, and the Scherman Foundation, and Council Member Maria del Carmen Arroyo. Proyecto Recinto Creativo, on view in the Project Room, is an exhibition of photography by Hostos students and faculty that documents their 2010 summer abroad in Mayagüez, Puerto Rico. For more information on the Longwood Art Gallery and its upcoming exhibits, visit [www.bronxarts.org](http://www.bronxarts.org) or call 718-518-6728.

Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture kicks off BomPlenazo 2010 – A celebration of bomba and plena, Puerto Rico's African-rooted music and dance traditions – with a number of events through October 10, beginning with some trolley night activities.

In the Hostos Memorial Garden (adjacent to the college), all are welcome to participate in a free Bomba Dance Workshop from 5:30-7:00pm. Norka Nadal, musical director of Bambulá, will conduct this workshop with her cousin, Liz Saira Díaz Nadal, a member of the Rumbacuembé ensemble from Mayagüez. While in the garden, enjoy free a 6:00pm Plena jam session led by the resident plena troupe from La Casita de Chema – plena as it was meant to be played and sung: street-corner style. Bring your instruments! For information on these garden activities, call 718-518-4455.

In the Hostos Repertory Theater, (1) Los Tambores del Sarao – Anthropologist/writer Ramón López's group opens the BomPlenazo festival and honors the legacy of Efraín Mon Rivera and Ángel Luis Torruellas. A commentary by López serves as an ode to the two great pleneros from Mayagüez. (2) Segunda Quimbamba – This celebrated family-based bomba y plena ensemble from New Jersey performs under the direction of Juan Cartagena. (3) Tito Cepeda y sus Estudiantes – Master bomba drummer Tito Cepeda is joined by vocalist Miriam Félix in this special program featuring many of the students Tito has mentored over the years. Admission to this concert is \$15. A \$5.00 discount will be offered to all Bronx Culture Trolley Riders. (Box Office: 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 most 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 view the exhibitions: (1) Yankee Stadiums features Jeff Chen-Hsing Liao's iconic image of the two Yankee Stadiums capturing a unique moment of transition in the South Bronx; (2) Paul Strand in Mexico — Organized in collaboration with Aperture Foundation, the exhibition features

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twenty images (The Mexican Portfolio) depicting the indigenous people, landscape, architecture and religious objects Paul Strand encountered in Mexico in 1932-33; (3) Lobby-For-The-Time-Being, a project by Acconci Studio. (4) Urban Archives: Happy Together featuring Asian and Asian-American Art from the museum's Permanent Collection. For information on the Bronx Museum and its many events and activities, call 718-681-6000 or visit [www.bronxmuseum.org](http://www.bronxmuseum.org).

**NEXT STOP:** Gordon Parks Gallery (332 East 149th Street) for a viewing of Exodo: Exploring Further Evidence, a featured show of the Bronx Latin American Art Biennial 2010 which engages in a collaborative partnership between several organizations that attempt to place art, as a common language, in various locations throughout the Bronx. Artists include: Liliana Avalos, Rafael Carabano, Luis Carle, Pablo Caviedes, Ricardo Celma, Sonia Cunliffe, Alejandro Delfin, Melanie Diaz, Jorge Opazo Euicker, Xavier Figueroa, Guillermo Lorente, Adal Maldonado, Diego Marcial Rios, Renelio Marin, Jesus I Valdez Martinez, Carolina Mayorga, Luis Pagan, Ramon Peralta, Iris Perez, Aixa Requena, Claudio Roncoli, Catalina Schliebener, and Antonio Tovar. Curated by Alexis Mendoza, Miguel Lescano and Luis Stephenberg. For additional information, call 718-665-1310.

**NEXT STOP:** BronxArtSpace (305 East 140th Street) for a viewing of About Me – A group exhibition of mixed media exploring different ways that contemporary artists make use of the trope of autobiography in their work. They make reference to themselves at times sincerely, subtly, ironically, and in so doing, ask us to question the relationship

between personal history and memory, as well as the veracity of self- presentation. Featured artists are Colby Bird, Carla Edwards, Naomi Miller, Maia Palileo, Carlos Reyes, and Jim Zeske. About Me was curated by Nora Lawrence, a Curatorial Assistant in the Department of Painting and Sculpture at New York City's Museum of Modern Art. The show is a presentation of the Bronx River Art Center. For additional information, call 718-401-8144, e-mail [llcuning@gmail.com](mailto:llcuning@gmail.com), or visit [www.BronxArtSpace.com](http://www.BronxArtSpace.com).

**FINAL STOP:** Bruckner Gallery at the Bruckner Bar & Grill (1 Bruckner Blvd.) to view an art exhibition curated by Robert Dumé of Briefcase Productions. Visit the Bruckner's website at [www.brucknerbar.com](http://www.brucknerbar.com) for information on this exhibit or contact Mr. Dumé at [Briefcase@gmail.com](mailto:Briefcase@gmail.com). If you're not in a hurry to leave, stick around to eat, drink, and wind down your trolley night with the Bruckner's drink specials and full menu.

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](mailto:trolley@bronxarts.org). The Bronx Culture Trolley will roll again on November 3, 2010. Visit BCA's website at [www.bronxarts.org](http://www.bronxarts.org) in mid-October for information on November 3rd's Bronx Culture Trolley activities as well as updated information on other events, activities, and programs of the Bronx Council on the Arts. ■