



50 Years and Looking Forward

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***PUERTO RICO IN ITS LABYRINTH Chronicles of a Country and a World in Crisis***  
**Opening Reception: Wednesday, October 3, 2012 at BCA's Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos**

(August 30, 2012 — Bronx) Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture and Longwood Arts Project, a program of the Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA), announces the opening of ***PUERTO RICO IN ITS LABYRINTH Chronicles of a Country and a World in Crisis***, a solo exhibition, **on view in the Main Gallery**, highlighting new work by Puerto Rican artist, educator and social scientist **José Buscaglia**. The exhibition consists of paintings, sculptures and texts commenting on the legacy of colonialism and the history of oppression in the Caribbean, the Americas and Africa in the midst of a global crisis and change. Buscaglia has produced over 40 monuments in Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the U.S. **Also on view, in the Project Room, *Plaza de la Identidad: Public Art Under House Arrest***, an installation of Buscaglia's 2003 public work commissioned by the Puerto Rican legislature, which until recently, was kept in storage because it was deemed too nationalistic for public display. This exhibition, co-curated by Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture and Longwood Gallery curatorial team in celebration of the 45th Anniversary of Hostos Community College and the 50th Anniversary of the Bronx Council on the Arts, will be on view September 24th through December 8th, 2012. Opening reception with the artist, in conjunction with that evening's Bronx Culture Trolley, takes place on Wednesday, October 3rd, from 5:00 to 9:00 pm at BCA's Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos.



**Jose Buscaglia** is the recipient of numerous awards including the Eugenio María de Hostos Citizen of America Medal from the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, a National Sculpture Society Fellowship; The John Holowchuck Award in Sculpture from the Copley Society; and a Gold Medal from the Accademia Italia delle Arte e del Lavoro Accademico. His works appear in numerous public and private collections, including a bronze portrait of Robert Frost in the collection of The National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C. Buscaglia received his BA from Harvard University in 1960 and an MA from the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras in 1977. One of his mentors is Ben Shahn, whose major murals are on permanent view at the Bronx General Post Office at 149th Street and Grand Concourse. Created in the late 1930s and collectively entitled *Resources of America*, they illustrate the nobility of the American worker, depict men and women throughout the country engaged in labor, from rural cotton and wheat fields to urban textile factories and steel mills. Mr. Buscaglia currently lives and works in Rhode Island.

**Wallace Edgecombe** has been the director of the Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture since its establishment in 1982. Born and raised in Havana, Cuba, he holds B.A. (history) and M.A. (journalism) degrees from Columbia University. He is the recipient of a special recognition award from the International Latin Music Hall of Fame and was named a *Maestro* by Los Pleneros de la 21, an honor reserved for artists and arts advocates who have made significant life-long contributions to Puerto Rican culture. Wally received the Bobby Capó Lifetime Achievement Award in 2006 from Governor George E. Pataki and El Diario/La Prensa's annual "EL" award in 2007, reserved for NYC's top Latino leaders in business, education and the arts. **Eugenio María de Hostos Community College** and **Center for the Arts & Culture**, part of the CUNY system, was founded in 1968. In addition to associate degree programs, Hostos has an award-winning Division of Continuing Education and Professional Studies that offers courses for professional development and certificate-bearing workforce training programs. The Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture consists of a museum-grade art gallery [Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos], a 367-seat theater, and a 907-seat concert hall, presenting national and internationally renowned artists, emerging and established local artists, and offers workshops in drama, folk arts, and dance to community residents.

The **Bronx Council on the Arts** was established in 1962 and is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2012. BCA is a private, non-profit membership organization and the official cultural agency of the Bronx. We are recognized nationally as a leading arts service organization that provides grants, cultural services and programming. We serve the entire county of the Bronx (over 1.3 million residents), and connect with Upper Manhattan, Westchester and regional resources. **Longwood Arts Project** is BCA's contemporary art center supporting artists and exhibiting their work since 1981. Programs include the Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos, Digital Matrix Commissions, and public programs that provide opportunities for free and open dialogue. **Gallery Hours:** Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00am-6:00pm. It is closed on Sundays and major holidays. **Directions to Hostos:** The Longwood Art Gallery is located on the campus of Hostos Community College, 450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street in the Bronx. Transportation: IRT 4 & 5, Bx1, Bx19 to Grand Concourse and 149 Street. **Information:** 718-518-6728 or [www.bronxarts.org](http://www.bronxarts.org).

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