

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE/ UPDATED**

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**PAMELA COUNCIL's RED DRINK: A BLAXIDERM MY JUNETEENTH OFFERING  
AT 2347 NORTH BOULEVARD, HOUSTON TX**

**(RESCHEDULED AND RELOCATED FROM MILLER OUTDOOR THEATRE)**

One day only! This Juneteenth, join New York-based visual artist Pamela Council for *Red Drink: A BLAXIDERM MY Juneteenth Offering*, a temporary fountain sculpture installation from 4:00 - 6:00 pm, at 2347 North Boulevard, Houston TX 77098. In this outdoor sculpture, Council presents a palm tree shaped fountain filled with 800 gallons of Big Red soda. Guests are welcome to participate in a new ritual performance with the fountain: dip styrofoam cups in the soda, toast to freedom, and fill the fountain with this celebratory drink for the ancestors.

**Sticky - Sweet - Nostalgic -Restorative!**

Pamela Council's "signature Afro-Americana campy style where humor-meets-horror meets dead serious revelations about history and materials" is called BLAXIDERM MY. For *Red Drink: A BLAXIDERM MY Juneteenth Offering*, the artist "will use this sensibility to create a colorful, 11 foot tall fountain as a temporary offering to the ancestors and performance site."

Council states, "By filling a fountain with red soda, I hope to transform this architecture into a conceptually ripe macabre scene that asks questions about freedom, and various systems of circulation:of sugary product, of blood in the body, and of human labor in the creation of public works. I will perform rituals and offerings with the fountain and provide cups for guests to join me."

This continues Council's Fountains series which began in 2016. Red Drink is presented by the artist with support from the Idea Fund, Rema Hort Mann Community Fund, Big Red, Miller Outdoor Theatre, HMAAC, and Stardust.

## **ABOUT PAMELA COUNCIL**

Pamela Council is an exuberant, outspoken change agent. She brings to light under-examined narratives through sculpture, installation, invention, intervention, printed matter, long form email, jokes, style, and performance. Pamela has created commissions for Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and the Studio Museum in Harlem. Her work has been featured at Williams College Museum of Art, African American Museum of Philadelphia, Houston Museum of African-American Culture, VOLTA and MoCADA. She earned a B.A. from Williams College, where, as a native New Yorker, she was a Merrill Lynch 9/11 Hopes & Dreams Scholar, and an M.F.A. from Columbia University, where she received the Toby Devan Lewis Award. Pamela was a participant in Adidas Group's Global Footwear Creation Trainee Program. Pamela has been an Artist-in-Residence at Bemis Center, Rush Arts Gallery, Mana Contemporary, Catwalk Artist Project, and Wassaic Project. She is a recipient of the 2017 Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters & Sculptors Grant. Support for this project, *Red Drink: A BLAXIDERM* Juneteenth Fountain, comes from the Idea Fund Grant, Rema Hort Mann Community Fund, Big Red, Miller Outdoor Theatre, HMAAC, and Stardust.

## **ABOUT THE IDEA FUND**

The Idea Fund provides cash awards to artists at three distinct levels: Spark (\$1,000), Catalyst (\$4,000), and Stimulus (\$7,000) artist-generated, or artist-centered projects that exemplify the unconventional, interventionist, conceptual, entrepreneurial, participatory, or guerrilla artistic practices that occur outside of the traditional frameworks of support. Support is provided for individual artists, curators, collectives, collaboratives, or partnerships from the Houston metro area (Harris, Galveston, Brazoria, Fort Bend, Waller, Chambers, Liberty, and Montgomery counties). *The Idea Fund is administered through a partnership of DiverseWorks, Aurora Picture Show, and Project Row Houses and funded by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.*