

STATE PROPERTY



image by Scott Houston

A three-venue exhibition between Andrew Freedman Home, BronxArtSpace and Swing Space, STATE PROPERTY is a multi-disciplinary examination of American consumption of prison labor and our daily choices to purchase, condone or reject goods created in penitentiaries. The exhibition asks guests to consider more carefully what "Made in the U.S.A" currently means in relation to the incarceration system and corporate outsourcing. Currency and choice (or lack thereof) are the springboards towards a much deeper dialogue that recognizes these present injustices.

STATE PROPERTY describes a citizen that once incarcerated is inspected, catalogued, housed, and assigned to the state as its property like a slave whose body if damaged or altered from its original value is further financially penalized.

STATE PROPERTY also describes all goods manufactured in correctional facilities and government land and buildings from courthouses to public housing, in which many of these products from furniture to mops are then used.

When major corporations can buy into this labor system as a way of appealing to the "locally owned, locally grown" fad, the prison industrial complex pins inmates into either forced labor as a means to pay back the cost of their incarceration, or solitary confinement as punishment. Prisoners

provide luxury and everyday items that they themselves cannot partake in, while taxpayers provide for the upkeep of prisons. As incarceration rates grow exponentially, taxpayer money is transferred from poor minority communities to white rural counties to reflect these drastic shifts in population.

The boundaries that are challenged between product, services, and citizenry are intentionally blurred by the artists forcing us to question how we define ourselves and personal ethics within our social system.

Touching upon a narrative that categorizes people of color as property, STATE PROPERTY comments on power paradigms that perpetuate today's socioeconomic tiers, and simultaneously presents a

visual alternative that is more hopeful. Through painting, photography, sculpture, installation, video, and performance, artists scrutinize mass incarceration, police brutality, class conflict, and racial hierarchy.

Yasmeen Abdallah & Berdscarnival, Nava Atlas, Benton C Bainbridge, Aileen Bassis, Knowledge Bennett, Renee Cox, Walter Cruz, Sophia Dawson, Abdoulaye Diallo, Tasha Dougé, Emory Douglas, Nicky Enright, Donelle Estey, Xavier Figueroa, Ryan Garvey, Noté Peter George, Josué Guarionex, Cannon Hersey, Scott Houston, Rush Humphrey, Incarcerated Nation, Duron Jackson, Julia Justo, Suprina Kenney, Alan Ket, Brittany Kathryn Knapp, emma lee, Ann Lewis, Roberto Lugo, Mare139, Meredith McNeal, Alice Mizrachi, Five Mualimm-ak, Trokon Nagbe, Gigi Ng, Isaac Scott, Bryan Shih, Bayeté Ross Smith, Solitary Watch, Pamela Talese, Hank Willis Thomas, Trap IF, Boo Lynn Walsh, Jennie West, Levester Williams, Natalie Collette Wood

Press Contact afhpress@gmail.com

| For a full list of upcoming screenings and talks, visit AndrewFreedmanHome.org and BronxArtSpace.com

BronxArtSpace

305 E 140 St Bronx, NY 10454

SHOWING Sep 9th – Oct 21th

VIEWING HRS W – F 12 – 6:30pm & Sat 12 – 5pm

OPENING RECEPTION Sep 8th, 6pm – 9pm

Swing Space

900 Grand Concourse Bronx, NY 10451

SHOWING Sep 15th – Nov 20th

VIEWING HOURS Tues – Sat 12 – 8pm

OPENING RECEPTION Sep 15th, 6pm – 8pm

Andrew Freedman Home

1125 Grand Concourse Bronx, NY 10452

SHOWING Sep 22th – Nov 20th

VIEWING HOURS Tues – Sat 12 – 8pm

OPENING RECEPTION Sep 22th, 6pm – 11pm

f //AndrewFreedmanHome & //BronxArtSpace

@afhbronx & @BronxArtSpace

STEP INTO THE CYPHER Sep 15th @ 6:30pm
Installation and Performance by Bayete Ross Smith

STATE PROPERTY is sponsored by Mid-Bronx Senior Citizens Council. BronxArtSpace is a sponsored project of Fractured Atlas, a non-profit arts service organization, and is generously supported by individuals and public funds from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs in Partnership with City Council, the New York State Council on the Arts, and the New Yankees Stadium Community Benefits Fund.