

**Brian Andrew Whiteley:** *Legacy Stone*  
September 23 – October 9, 2016  
119 Ingraham Street, Bushwick  
Opening: Fri. Sept. 23, 6 – 10 p.m.  
Q&A: Fri. Sept. 30, 7 p.m.

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## **Brian Andrew Whiteley’s “Trump Tombstone,” now adorned with NYPD evidence tags, to go on public view following investigation**

*Exploring a discourse of political art during the election cycle, exhibition programming will include a partnership with artnet News for which associate editor Sarah Cascone will lead a live Q&A with the artist and his attorney, Ronald Kuby, who negotiated the NYPD’s release of the stone and whose firm has defended political art cases since 1995*

**New York, NY – September 16, 2016** — Following in-depth interrogations by both the NYPD and Secret Service, Brooklyn-based visual artist Brian Andrew Whiteley is proud to announce the first public viewing of his “Trump Tombstone” since its recent release from NYPD custody. The solo exhibition and its related programming will be presented at Brooklyn Fire Proof (119 Ingraham Street, Bushwick) by Christopher Stout.

The 500-pound *Legacy Stone*, covertly placed in Central Park around 4 a.m. on Easter Sunday (March 27), came into the public eye via an early-morning jogger’s Instagram post. The stone read “Made America Hate Again” and bore the name “Trump, Donald J.” in sharp letters. Though it was removed in fewer than three hours, the work received viral media attention, followed by an extensive criminal investigation. While images of the work rapidly circulated on social media and as police searched for the “perpetrator,” the artist remained at large for nearly two months, taunting investigators with anonymous television, print, and online interviews. With Trump’s birth year but an open-ended death date, Whiteley anonymously affirmed the work to the *New York Times* as not as a death threat but rather a message to Trump that at that point (April), there was still time for the candidate to alter his legacy.

*Legacy Stone* was one of the earliest viral artworks created in response to the unprecedented nature of the 2016 Republican candidacy, and the piece has taken on expanded resonance alongside the progression of Trump’s campaign.

The upcoming exhibition will feature the original *Legacy Stone*; a limited edition 36” x 24” digital c-print of the iconic image taken in Sheep Meadow, Central Park by art photographer Ventiko (a.k.a. Dexter Dean); and a limited edition grave rubbing print of the actual stone, created in collaboration with master printer James Stroud of Center Street Studio.

*Following an opening reception from 6 – 10 p.m. on Friday, September 23, The Legacy Stone will be on view Thursday – Sunday, noon – 6 p.m., through Sunday, October 9.*

*Note that the artist will be onsite during Bushwick Open Studios (Saturday, October 1).*