

For Immediate Release

“In Our Own Voice: Expressions of Truths, Lies and Dreams”

80's Heavies Exhibit at the Paterson Free Public Library Paterson, NJ opens June 14, 2019, and runs through the end of July.

The 80's Heavies expect to plant seeds inside of people who engage with their pieces. “In Our Own Voice,” will cause you to question things we learned in school, see in the media, and enjoy the possibilities and promise of our future - from the group's interpretation of Abel Meeropol's (Billie Holiday) “Strange Fruit,” to individual pieces that address education and the American judicial system - to a six-canvas “blind” collaboration, whereas each artist started a 16” X 20” canvas; sent it to the next artist (in two-week rotations); with no boundaries of how each determined to treat each canvas they received.

Members of the 80's Heavies: Doris Arnett-Gary (Paterson, NJ), Larry Bradshaw (Washington, DC), Marshall Brown (Bowie Maryland), Terrence Burnett (Washington, DC), Walter Freeman (Chicago Illinois), Monica Guidry-Kelsie (Chicago, Illinois).

The “80's Heavies” met on the campus of Howard University as art students. They were initiated into the proud cultural tradition and rich art heritage of Howard by great artists, instructors and historians in the Fine Arts Department. Labeled as “The Heavies” by a beloved instructor and sculptor, they continued to challenge each other to think differently in their quest toward achieving success in visual expression.

Fast-forward 30 years, they're still challenging each other to reach higher levels of creative thinking. Their individual journeys include influences by professional, family and spiritual experiences - along with major successes and personal tragedies. The 80's Heavies culmination, “In Our Own Voice: Expressions of Truths, Lies and Dreams” has resulted in rich, thought-provoking art; an evolution that is on-going, fueled by the exchange of individual ideas, and collective social concern. They have worked hard to stay true to their mission: To awaken minds and motivate souls, foster social change, explore and celebrate the beauty in people of color and their cultures.

The show will run through July 31, 2019.

For more information about the artists: www.80sheavies.com

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