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in collaboration with

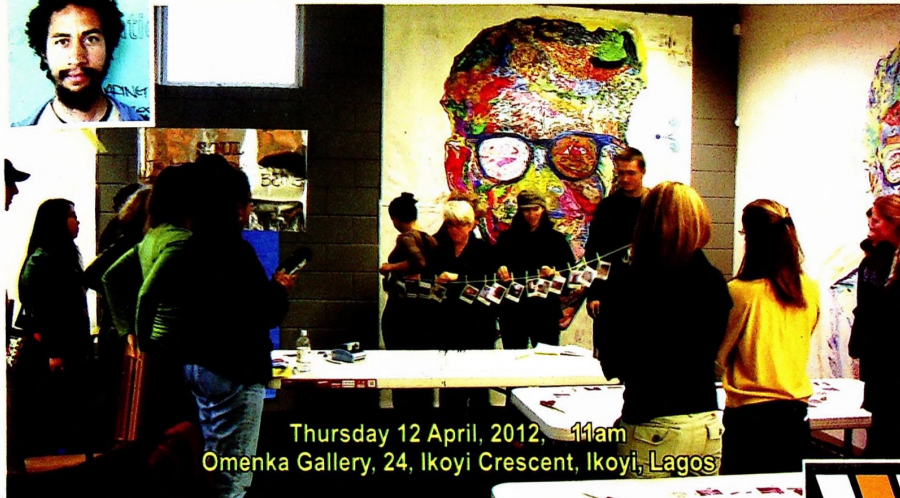
The Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York &
The Women and Youth Art Foundation, Nigeria

Presents

smARTpower Sharing Culture Collaborative Workshop

with

Brett Cook, American Artist, Educator and Healer



BRONX MUSEUM



The U.S. Department of State's smARTpower initiative is a program which builds on U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton's vision of "smart power diplomacy," which embraces the use of a full range of diplomatic tools – in this case the visual arts – to bring people together and foster greater understanding. Fifteen US artists under this initiative are to be sent to fifteen different countries across the globe. Brett Cook from Berkeley, California was selected to carry out his community- based project titled Sharing Culture in Nigeria. He would lead a series of presentations and multi-faceted workshops including the collaborative creation of artifacts, celebrations, public art installations, and digital documentation to foster new connections and build community.

Cook is visiting Nigeria for the first time under the joint partnership of the Bronx Museum of the Arts in New York and the Women and Youth Art Foundation in Nigeria as a part of The Sharing Culture Collaborative Project. He has produced installations, exhibitions, curricula, and events widely across the United States, the Caribbean, and Mexico. His prized collections can be found in the Smithsonian Institute's National Portrait Gallery in Washington, DC, the Studio Museum of Harlem in New York, and at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

While in Nigeria he will make presentations of his work, lead collaborative workshops and create public artworks and community celebrations that express a variety of cultural and aesthetic positions in both Lagos and Ibadan.

Sharing Culture smARTpower is committed to creating an experience where international participants transform themselves through creative collaboration, and then by the nature of that ongoing evolution, transform the world. To affect the future, heal the past, or transform the relationship to others is to be concerned with our own transformation in the present moment, and change the way that we relate to each other in the world. Through the powerful mechanism for learning that is collaboration, Sharing Culture smARTpower will exemplify interconnectedness in very tangible ways.

The smARTpower initiative in Nigeria is taking place through a grant from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the United States Department of State to the Bronx Museum of the Arts in New York.