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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BROOKLYN, NY - (August 21, 2006) Brooklyn Arts Council announces **3rd Wave: The Planet of Brooklyn Transitions**, an exhibition of works by 25 Brooklyn-based artists, which presents a visual analysis of the effect immigration, migration and gentrification has had on New York's most populous borough. The exhibition is curated by Philip Harvey and will be on view from **October 13, 2006 through January 12, 2007 at BAC Gallery, located at 111 Front Street, DUMBO.**

RECEPTION: Friday, October 13, 6 – 8pm

OPEN HOUSE: Saturday, October 14, 1 – 5 pm

A '3rd Wave' of new Brooklyn residents, which follows two previous large-scale influxes of immigration into Brooklyn, has resulted in a unique mix of traditions, cultures and perspectives on life that characterize the borough today. **3rd Wave: The Planet of Brooklyn Transitions** captures this shift in Brooklyn's ever-changing history through the eyes of 25 artists, working across two dimensional forms. Brooklyn-based artists, **Scott Andresen, Laylah Amatullah Barrayn, Betty Alexandra Bastidas, Steven Bornholtz, Martin Brecht, Delphine Fawandu Buford, Samantha Casolari, Linn Edwards, Cacy Forgenie, Lucy Fradkin, G Grippo, Akintola Hanif, Jayson Keeling, Nsenga Knight, Youme Landowne, Erica McDonald, Ocean Morisset, Lori Nelson, One9, David Pham, Joan B Reutershan, Misty Rice, Tom Russotti, Hidemi Sato and Rachel Wells** contribute works that create a mosaic of images and themes, each representing a dimension that makes up the culture of present day Brooklyn.



Lucy Fradkin, *39 Birds,
2 Women and a Boy*, 2004

HISTORY OF BROOKLYN IMMIGRATION

In the early to mid 1850's, the population of Brooklyn nearly doubled in size. This rise was the result of a great influx of immigrants largely from Northern and Western European countries. The rush of new cultures and traditions, later termed the 1st Great Wave of European immigration, changed the social fabric of Brooklyn. The 2nd Great Wave of European immigration began in the 1880's and lasted until the beginning of the 20th century. It proved to be even more intense than the first and by 1900 the population of Brooklyn had reached 1.1 million people.

In 1965, President Lyndon Johnson guided a historic Immigration Act through Congress that called for a change in the protocol for accepting immigrants into the United States. Officially named the "Immigration Act of 1965," the new legislation would have a profound effect on the cultural make-up of the United States in general, and Brooklyn in particular, as large numbers of immigrants of color from

South and Central America, Asia, the Caribbean and Africa poured into the country. The promise of opportunity also attracted greater numbers of U.S. born migrants who saw prospect in the land where, "a tree grows." Real estate developers, artists, and people fleeing the high rents of

Manhattan also moved into Brooklyn, further changing the social fabric of the borough and creating the 3rd Wave of Brooklyn immigration.



Erica McDonald, *Fuss*, 2006

3rd WAVE

By visually translating the effect that immigration, migration, miscegenation and gentrification are having on the cultural, social and economic make-up of “the planet of Brooklyn,” the artists of 3rd Wave provide a visual entrée into a world where cultures intersect across national, racial and social boundaries and form a unique and vibrant community.

Brooklyn based, Argentinean born artist, designer and cultural activist **G Grippo**, digitally manipulates photographs of Brooklyn landmarks, offering a contemporary spin on the iconic imagery of the borough. Saturated colors enliven his subjects and communicate the palpable vibrancy present in previously dilapidated or ignored urban corners. **Lucy Fradkin's** *39 Birds*, *2 Women and a Boy* and *Mixed Emotions* are figurative mixed-media paintings that draw viewers into a world quietly hinting at the confluence of race, gender and sexual identity, paralleling life in Brooklyn.

Linn Edwards uses her camera to provide an intimate look into the lives of people who have moved to Brooklyn for its proximity to the career and social opportunities of Manhattan. Emphasizing gesture, mood and atmosphere, Edwards explores the private lives of women in their late 20's and early 30's who grapple with their choice of having opted to follow the path of creative fulfillment over financial stability. **Misty Rice**, also a photographer, focuses her attention on the everyday life of a husband and wife team of Chinese immigrants who run a local laundromat in Brooklyn, giving face to the people who hold neighborhoods together as the forces of gentrification work to change their communities.

ABOUT THE CURATOR

Philip Harvey is the editor of **nat creole**, an online monthly magazine (www.natcreole.com) dedicated to offering an entertaining yet informed perspective on the literature, politics, art and music of contemporary global culture. With a focus on broadening the conversation on the arts and their role in an increasingly inter-connected world, **nat creole** provides an ideal forum for the exchange of ideas, beliefs and forms of cultural expression.

BAC Gallery is located at 111 Front Street, Suite 218 (alternate entrance at 55 Washington Street, between Front and Water Streets) Regular gallery hours are Monday through Friday from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

All of the artists included in this exhibition are members of the BAC Online Registry of Brooklyn Literary, Performing and Visual Artists. Contact Gallery Coordinators Sally Sturman (sssturman@brooklynartscouncil.org) or Courtney Wendroff (cwendroff@brooklynartscouncil.org) for more information about BAC Gallery or to find out how to join the BAC Online Registry.

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Founded in 1966, the Brooklyn Arts Council, Inc. (BAC) is a service organization dedicated to helping artists, arts organizations and community groups promote and sustain the arts. BAC is unique in the borough in that it assists artists – both amateur and professional – in all disciplines. Major areas of service include BAC's Community Arts Regrant Program, Professional Development Seminars for the Arts, Arts in Education, BAC Folk Arts, the Printmaker's Portfolio Project, the BAC International Film and Video Festival and BAC Gallery.

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