HUMBLE
September 1–October 13, 2018

September 1, 5–8 PM
Opening reception with artist introduction by Douglas Miles

We would like to acknowledge the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the Lenape peoples on which we are learning, working and organizing today.

BronxArtSpace is pleased to present, HUMBLE, works from 15 artists from various tribal nations across the US. Their presence and success comes at a crucial moment–amongst the state of urgency in which cultural spaces find themselves to actively acknowledge and contextualize ideas and creation outside the supposed mainstream. With doors being knocked down for artists and curators of color, the soapbox for the complex spectrum of Native Art is here to amplify.

Razelle Benally
Ginger Dunhill
April Holder
Frank Buffalo Hyde
Jacinthe Yvonne LeCornu
Cannupa Hanska Luger
Douglas Miles
Dylan McLaughlin
Rose Simpson
Hoka Skenandore
Douglas TwoBulls
Marty TwoBulls
Michael TwoBulls
Rory Wakemup
Micah “Werewolf” Wesley

Image above: Rose Simpson
Trie one, 2004
spray paint and acrylic

www.BronxArtSpace.com
art@bronxartspace.com

Gallery Hours
W-F 12-6:30, Sat 12-5pm
Self-described as “We’re a do-it-yourself space where Cerrillos meets Airport Road” a place of DIY happenings was activated by the core members of HUMBLE formed in the mid-2000’s. Today, HUMBLE, is a network of Native artists whose collaborations, influencers, and productions are a testament of their ongoing contemporary practices.

While attending and graduating from the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico, HUMBLE collective came to life as a reaction to the lack of unadulterated creative spaces. They opened their doors to raw and indomitable making, integral for collaborations, capable and conscious of its own prowess. This non-stop creative incubator instinctively planted seeds. In the 2008 catalogue Rupture, “HUMBLE describes itself as being unorganized, no restrictions, no intentions and fluid. Their invitation to people is, ‘Come do art or anything with us, you are the movement.’” With self-willed attitudes, they activated live painting sessions, collective production, ideas, and music. With exhibits every two months, late night making sessions, and a guitar and DJ set milieu the collective was under constant and supportive community production.

HUMBLE provided an alternative art space for making art surrounded with a strong sense of community responsibility, which exist outside the margins of a stereotyped market. As a generation of artists their attempt to deconstruct and tell their contemporary reality confronted expectations of Native traditions but wholeheartedly held community values. Their collective result is seen today as individual members continue their creative careers. There is an undeniable energy to Indigenize and hold sanction over untold histories, sustainability, and livelihood. The collective dismantled only to continue to nurture the growth and creative paths of each member and as such influencing and mentoring a generation of Native artists.

The connection to NYC came through the work of Douglas Miles and Cougar Vigil. Miles has been a frequent visitor to the South Bronx and Vigil recently graduated from Pratt Institute. In 2016, Douglas Miles was commissioned to paint a mural titled Fort Apache The Bronx Mural, on view now at The Point CDC. In roundabout conversation, the work continues to ground the histories of displacement as imposing gentrification plagues the South Bronx.

The goal of the exhibition is to present a contemporary series of works that derive from necessary and cathartic art making. True to form and beyond, this exhibition also serves as a reunion for the collective as it is the first time in several years that they have all exhibited together. Throughout the work, there are footnotes of influences and ties that have projected into the individual practice of the HUMBLE collective.
Events

**September 8, 6 PM** Curator’s walkthrough in conversation with filmmaker Razelle Benally

**September 22, 7–9 PM** Bronx Native Artists (BNA) Artist Talk - Artist Market - Soup & Wine

Dennis RedMoon Darkeem & Tecumseh’s Caesar

**October 3, 6–8 PM** Artist talk with exhibition artists Cannupa Hanska Luger & Micah Wesley

**October 6, 3 PM** Studio visit with artist Brad Kahlhamer, RSVP at art@bronxartspace.com

Organizers

**Cougar Vigil** is an artist and a enrolled member of the Jicarilla Apache Nation, whose work stems from documentation of his cultural heritage, as well as rebellious experimentation with photography. Originally trained in modern photography, Vigil breaks away from these modes and employs a more contingent philosophy by developing contact prints with the sun as an active participant and co-author. Vigil’s narratives emphasize the indigenous perspective, as well as reactionary awareness toward the colonizer gaze. Vigil received his MFA from Pratt Institute in 2018. As an active participant of the HUMBLE art collective, Vigil documented many of the collaborations, concerts, and art shows hosted by the collective.

**Eva Mayhabal Davis** is a collaborator. She works with artists and creatives in the production of exhibitions, texts, and events. As a curator and cultural liaison, her focus is on supporting multifaceted incubation spaces by increasing visibility and mediating conversations among artists, objects, and audiences. She was a Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation Curatorial Fellow at the Bronx Museum of Art and an alum of the No Longer Empty: Curatorial Lab. In 2018 she participated in the Art & Law Program Fellowship and she curated the En Foco 2018 Photography Fellowship Exhibition. Eva Mayhabal was born in Mexico, raised in the United States, and studied art history at the University of Washington. She is currently the Gallery & Studio Program Manager at Brooklyn’s Smack Mellon and a founding member of El Salón, a monthly meetup for cultural producers.

**BronxArtSpace** is a non-profit gallery that promotes the innovative ideas of underrepresented and emerging artists and curators from the Bronx and around the world. Started in 2009 by Linda Cunningham and Mitsu Hadeishi, BronxArtSpace is dedicated to exhibiting the highest quality artwork, fostering dialogue around contemporary issues, and advancing local arts education and opportunities. BronxArtSpace is a sponsored project of Fractured Atlas, a non-profit arts service organization. HUMBLE is supported in part by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in Partnership with City Council and The New York State Council on the Arts. Special thank you to all the contributors to our GoFundMe Campaign.