

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**LOS MUROS HABLAN NYC
COMING TO 'EL BARRIO'**

*Urban art and music project kicks off live mural paintings
by international artists throughout El Barrio from August 19 - 25, 2013*

*****Press Conference: August 19, 1:00pm*****

In front of Manny Vega's Julia de Burgos Mural

106th St. btwn Lex and 3rd Avenues

RSVP at dgonzalez@elmuseo.org

NEW YORK, August 14, 2013 - La Respuesta, one of Puerto Rico's leading cultural spaces, presents *Los Muros Hablan NYC*, an international urban art and music project from August 19 to 25, 2013 throughout El Barrio. The project features a number of artists from around the world who will be painting various murals in the neighborhood and one in the Bronx, as well as host numerous events open to the public. Participating artists include Axel Void (Spain), Betsy Casañas (Philadelphia), Celso Gonzalez (Puerto Rico), Don Rim X (Puerto Rico), Elian & Pastel (Argentina), Jufe (La Pandilla) (Puerto Rico), L NY (Ecuador), Manny Vega (New York City), and Viajero (New York City). The mural locations will be announced at the **press conference on August 19, 2013 at 1:00pm**, to be held in front of Manny Vega's Julia de Burgos Mural on 106th St. btwn Lex and 3rd Avenues.

"Los Muros Hablan NYC is writing another chapter of the book between Puerto Rico and the great cultural scene present in the historic Puerto Rican neighborhood of El Barrio in NYC, and providing platforms for the greatest mural painting exponents from the island and the rest of the world. We transform spaces into places that promote cultural collaborations, exchange of ideas, dreams, concerns, and passions." said Jose Morales Perez founder of La Respuesta in Santurce, Puerto Rico.

"We are excited to have such a tremendously talented group of artists bring more of our empty walls to life. The murals will serve as a testament to El Barrio's long-standing artistic tradition and strong relationship with Puerto Rico. From the moment I learned about Los Muros Hablan in Puerto Rico. I knew that we had to bring this unique and dynamic event to El Barrio. This event is the first step in a true long-term partnership from which our community will benefit for years to come. I thank all that have made this happen, including all sponsors, and particularly El Museo del Barrio, Celso González and José Morales, proprietor of La Respuesta and producer of this event," said Councilwoman Melissa Mark-Viverito.

Los Muros Hablan NYC is presented in collaboration with Councilwoman Melissa Mark-Viverito, and El Museo del Barrio. Sponsors of the project are Acacia Network, Aetna, Artspace Projects, Inc., Blumenfeld Development, the Buena Vibra Group, The

Coca-Cola Company, East River Plaza, El Barrio's Artspace P.S. 109, El Barrio's Operation Fightback, Monadnock Construction, Parlour Productions, Remezcla, Street Art News, Turner Construction, and Worldwide UnderGround. Presented in partnership with the NYC Department of Transportation's Urban Art Program.

Below is a list of events related to the project:

Wednesday, August 7, 2013, 6:00pm – 7:30pm, El Museo del Barrio, FREE
Community Conversation with Muralist 'Viajero' on the conceptualization of his mural and encourages audience participation regarding the mural design.

Monday, August 19, 2013, 1:00pm, In front of Manny Vega's Julia de Burgos Mural, 106th bet. Lex and 3rd, FREE

Join us for a press conference discussing the project and offering detail on the mural locations. Featured speakers, include Councilwoman Melissa Mark-Viverito, Founder of La Respuesta Jose Morales Perez, and Participating Artist Celso Gonzalez. To RSVP, please email dgonzalez@elmuseo.org or call (212) 660-7119.

Wednesday, August 21, 2013, 7:30pm – 8:30pm, El Museo del Barrio, FREE
LOS MUROS HABLAN NYC Artists will be on-hand to discuss their experiences and visions for the murals. Conversation moderated by Gonzalo Casals, Chief Operating Officer of El Museo del Barrio. Immediately after, visitors are encouraged to join the fun at RADIANCE: After Hours at El Museo with Fifty-Five and resident DJ Les Carbonell spinning a mix of soul, afro beat and house.

Friday, August 23, 2013

For updated information, visit www.losmuroshablannyc.com!

Saturday, August 24, 2013, 1:30pm – 8:00pm, 105th bet. Lex and Park, FREE
Celebrate Los Muros Hablan NYC with a Block party featuring special appearances by Maria Laboy performing Iris Chacon, Orquesta del Macabeo, Flaco Navaja & The Razor Blades, Artist Miguel Luciano, and much more! There will also be art making activities for all ages. Beer and wine cash bar available inside JBLCC as of 5:00pm.

Saturday, August 24, 2013, 8:00pm - 1:00am, JBLCC, FREE

Dance the night away at our closing celebration with DJ Velcro, Busca Bulla, and closing with DJ DMarquesina. Beer and wine cash bar available.

Sunday, August 25, 2013

For updated information, visit www.losmuroshablannyc.com!

ABOUT LA RESPUESTA

La Respuesta is at the forefront of the Puerto Rican art scene. Born in Old San Juan in the late 1990s, it is home to up and coming, established and underground artists. In addition, it is also a musical venue, and a theater, running alongside an art gallery

space in which young and renowned artists converge, thereby creating an intellectual and creative atmosphere. La Respuesta is a space for free thought and expression, nurturing our souls with funky music and conscientious art. We create art and music inside and out of our walls, providing linkages for independent artists in and out of the island. For more info, visit www.larespuestapr.com.

ABOUT EL MUSEO

El Museo del Barrio, New York's leading Latino cultural institution, welcomes visitors of all backgrounds to discover the artistic landscape of Latino, Caribbean, and Latin American cultures. Their richness is represented in El Museo's wide-ranging collections and critically acclaimed exhibitions, complemented by film, literary, visual and performing arts series, cultural celebrations, and educational programs. For more information on El Museo del Barrio, please visit www.elmuseo.org.

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MEDIA CONTACT

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