

OUTPOST FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

For Immediate Release

October 1, 2010

america
love me



an art project about immigration and education

Outpost Announces Artist Residency by Brazilian Art Collective, Grupo Bijari (Oct 22-Nov 21, 2010).

Grupo Bijari's Residency Project, *America Love Me*, asks 20 Youth what it looks like to be or not to be an American in America.

Grupo Bijari presents current artistic strategies in Brazil at Occidental College on Monday, Nov 8 at 5:30 PM.

Outpost Hosts Public Reception for *America Love Me*, Friday, Nov 19, 5:30-8 PM.

LOS ANGELES – Outpost for Contemporary Art is pleased to announce that Brazilian art collective, Grupo Bijari, will be in-residence from October 22 – November 21, 2010 as part of the organization's longrunning international residency program. Unlike previous residency cycles, this iteration will happen in partnership with Occidental College, a liberal arts college located within walking distance of Outpost in the Northeastern corner of Los Angeles. Occidental will provide housing to Outpost's visiting artists and faculty and students will assist in activating, situating, and executing the artists' dynamic projects.

Grupo Bijari is a collective of artists, urban planners, architects, and designers that was formed in São Paulo, Brazil in 1996. The group aims to find a synthesis between art and activism through participatory public projects and urban interventions. During their residency, Grupo Bijari will produce a participatory art project called *America Love Me* in collaboration with multiple community partners. The project will address education and immigration by creating a situational context for young people to respond and position themselves in relation to the changing conditions of contemporary American society. The project will revolve around two concurrent activities – one-to-one workshops between participating youth and Grupo Bijari artists and a Blog platform (www.americaloveme/outpost-art.org) that will serve as a hub for communication and exchange and archive content produced by the participants during the project's four week term.

An installation of material generated during the workshops and culled from the blog will be assembled and presented at Outpost and a silk-screened poster that speaks to the project's concerns and process will be created and distributed.

Free Public Events

Grupo Bijari will discuss current artistic strategies in Brazil during a free public lecture hosted by Occidental on Monday, November 8 from 5:30-7 PM in Johnson 200 Lecture Hall (Campus Map: <http://www.oxy.edu/x6062.xml>). A public reception to celebrate the project *America Love Me* and the resulting installation will be held on Friday, November 19, from 5:30 – 8 PM at Outpost's Highland Park headquarters (1268 N. Ave 50, Los Angeles, CA 90041).

About Grupo Bijari

Grupo Bijari has explored issues of sociopolitical control, urban gentrification and cultural identity, through a diverse range of resources and technologies, including, poster campaigns, large-scale video projections, installation, performance and VJing. Exhibitions in international venues include *Bienal de Havana*, (2003 & 2006) and *Collective Creativity*, Kunsthalle Fridericianum, Kassel and Siemens Arts Program, Munich. Curated by What, How & for Whom / WHW (2005). The group also develops motion graphics and audio-visual work for Cartier, Motorola, Nokia among others and award-winning videos for the music industry. English magazine, Time Out, singled out Bijari as one of the "Top Five Visual Artists" working today. Their extensive exhibition history is online at <http://www.bijari.com.br>.

About Occidental College

Founded in 1887 and located in the northeastern corner of Los Angeles, Occidental is a liberal arts college defined by its rigorous academic standards, its dedication to community engagement, its modest scale, and its city. Housing visiting artists and matching them with students and classes is one of many ways the college meets its mission goal to fulfill individual aspirations while fostering a deeply rooted commitment to the public good.

About Outpost for Contemporary Art

Outpost for Contemporary Art is a non-profit organization devoted to connecting people to art and artists from around Los Angeles and around the world through a wide variety of events, exchange programs and residencies.

Media contacts

Julie Deamer
Executive Director
323-899-3533
julie@outpost-art.org

David Bloom
Board member, Communications chairman
310-621-4284
davidbloom@earthlink.net