

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



**Featured Artists:** Alexandra Antoine, Alex Bershaw, Ellen Bepp, Rohan DeCosta, Patrick Dougher, David Graves, Kay Hickman, Al Johnson, Oding Muata, Eric Murphy, Najee Omar, Martin Segobia, Malik Seneferu, Amir Abdul-Shakur, Katie Sugarman, Lordy Rodriguez, William Rhodes, and Leisel Whitlock

**Exhibition Title:** “Recovery A.C.T. (Art, Culture, and Technology)

**Exhibit Dates:** July 10 – August 29, 2020

**Opening Reception:** Friday, July 10th, 6-9pm | Opening Libation Ceremony

Virtual performance by Poet Najee Omar (In gallery and via ZOOM)

**Artist Talk:** Friday, August 7th 6pm – 9pm (In gallery and via ZOOM)

**Poetry Reading:** Saturday, August 8th 2-4pm | Hosted by TeaRoots.org featuring Genny Lim (SF Jazz Poet Laureate), Wanda Sabir (Journalist), Michael Warr (Former Deputy Director, MoAD) and more

**Additional programs to be announced**

**To Register for events, visit:** <https://recoveryactexhibit.eventbrite.com>

**Curated by:** Eric Murphy | Co-curated by Tarris Iriarte of Curated Concepts LLC.

**Where: Joyce Gordon Gallery**

406 14th Street Oakland, CA. 94612 (12<sup>th</sup> St. Bart)

[www.joycegordongallery.com](http://www.joycegordongallery.com)

**Recovery A.C.T. Online Exhibit -** [www.rootsartistregistry.com/recoveryact](http://www.rootsartistregistry.com/recoveryact)

For more information please contact:

Joyce Gordon

[info@joycegordongallery.com](mailto:info@joycegordongallery.com)

510.465.8928

Joyce Gordon Gallery and B.E.P. presents, Recovery A.C.T. (Art, Culture, and Technology) Recovery A.C.T. is the inaugural and post shelter-in-place exhibit by the Brookland Exchange Project (B.E.P.), exploring various meanings and implications of what recovery means to each participating artist in the Bay Area and other East Coast cities.

The exhibit originated from a joint discussion with Oakland, Ca. based curator, Eric Murphy and Brooklyn, N.Y./Puerto Rico based curator, Tarris Iriarte of Curated Concepts, LLC. The conversation emphasised parallels of urban development and gentrification, not just from a local

perspective, but also from a broader bi-coastal study and how place-making aids historic preservation. Beginning with the cities of Brooklyn, N.Y. and Oakland, CA. which, historically in part, shared the same name, expanded to similar conditions taking place in other cities. For this exhibit, 'recovery' was chosen as the theme to reflect various conditions in this country from civil unrest, our current pandemic to personal loss and how arts, culture (communities) and technology can help heal and address solutions to preserving our world.

## **Background**

In 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower created the People to People program of sister cities. He set up this project recognizing that the surest way to break community cycles of fear and misunderstanding was for people to understand one another. He knew that for this shift to happen, it must come not through governments, but through the hearts of people yearning for dignity, freedom, and peace. Sister cities or twin towns are a form of legal or social agreement between towns, cities, counties, oblasts, prefectures, provinces, regions, states, and even countries, in geographically and politically distinct areas, to promote cultural and commercial ties.

B.E.P. adopted the historic practice of sister cities or people-to-people relationship building, for the social and community benefit of common cities, to encourage cultural exchanges through exhibits and other programs.

**The Brookland Exchange Project (B.E.P.)** is founded by curators Eric Murphy of (Oakland, CA) and Tarris Iriarte (Brooklyn, NY & Puerto Rico) owner of an NY-based Art Advisory firm, Curated Concepts, LLC.

B.E.P.'s mission is to foster sister city relationships for the social, and economic benefit of common cities and encourage cultural exchange through exhibition and programs centering on predominantly black and brown communities.

**Joyce Gordon Gallery** is a commercial fine art gallery located in the downtown district of Oakland, California. It exhibits art that reflects the social and cultural diversity of the Bay Area and international artists. The aim of the gallery is to respect the creative pursuits of the individual and seeks to make such work accessible to a broad audience.