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**EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO HOSTS
'FRIENDS OF ANTONIO'**

Thursday, November 3, 2016, 6:30pm - 8:30pm, HotelAmericano

NEW YORK, NY (NOVEMBER 4, 2016)- In partnership with HotelAmericano, El Museo del Barrio hosted 'Friends of Antonio' last night, Thursday, November 3, at the hotel's Chelsea location, NYC, 6:30 pm. Friends and colleagues of Antonio Lopez and Juan Ramos shared intimate moments and fond memories of the two artists.

The evening began with opening remarks by our moderator, Jean from [Idiosyncratic Fashionistas](#) and fashion illustrator, Robert W. Richards followed by a conversation with speakers Paul Caranicas, Lilliana Cavendish, Bill Blast Cordero, Pat Cleveland, Maureen Goss, Feliciano Martinez, Corey Tippin, and David Wolfson.

Highlighted Quotes from 'Friends of Antonio'

"Listening to the pencil hit the paper while Antonio sketched was incredible- it was magical."

- Feliciano Martinez

"I did not know how to dance and so Antonio would say to me 'you have to dance like a Puerto Rican! Move your hips!' Antonio Lopez taught me how to dance!"

- Lilliana Cavendish

"Antonio Lopez was like a dream that you always wanted come to life."

- Pat Cleveland

El Museo del Barrio's current exhibition is [ANTONIO LOPEZ: Future Funk Fashion](#), a tribute to Puerto-Rican born fashion illustrator and artist Antonio Lopez and his prolific three-decade career on the New York fashion scene- on view through November 27.

ABOUT ANTONIO LOPEZ

Antonio Lopez was born in Utuado, Puerto Rico on February 11, 1943. His family migrated to East Harlem in New York City when Antonio was seven and he attended P.S. 77 on East 104th Street. To keep her son off the streets, Lopez's mother, a seamstress, would ask him to draw flowers for her embroideries. He also helped his father, a mannequin maker, to apply make-up and stitch wigs onto the



figures. At the age of twelve, Lopez earned a scholarship to the prestigious Traphagen School of Fashion, which provided Saturday programming for children. From there he went on to attend the High School of Art and Design and the Fashion Institute of Technology.

Lopez rose to prominence illustrating fashions for Women's Wear Daily and The New York Times. He eventually became a freelance artist for many of the top fashion publications. He collaborated with the noted designer Charles James, creating an illustrated inventory of James' fashion designs (now in the collection of the Chicago History Museum). He later moved to Paris with his friend and business partner, Juan Ramos, where they both worked with Karl Lagerfeld and many other designers.

Through his work, Lopez made great strides in exploring and representing the gender-based, ethnic or racialized body within the world of high fashion. His imagery helped to develop and underscore a new canon of beauty throughout the 1970s and 1980s. He died of complications related to AIDS on March 17, 1987 at the age of 44.

ABOUT EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO

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.

El Museo del Barrio is located at 1230 Fifth Avenue, 104th Street in New York City. Hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11am to 6pm and Sundays from 12pm to 5pm. Admission is suggested.

For more information on El Museo del Barrio, please visit www.elmuseo.org. To connect with El Museo del Barrio via Social Media, follow us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/elmuseo](https://www.facebook.com/elmuseo), and using @ElMuseo on Instagram and Twitter.

ABOUT HOTEL AMERICANO

Located in the heart of Manhattan's Chelsea neighborhood alongside the world's best art galleries and New York's famed High Line Park, Hôtel Americano is Grupo Habita's first property in the U.S. and part of an expanding collection that now includes The Robey and the Hollander in Chicago, and twelve celebrated hotels throughout Mexico: Azúcar, Boca Chica, CONDESAdf, Deseo, Distrito Capital, Downtown Mexico, Downtown Beds, Endémico, Habita Hotel, Habita MTY, La Purificadora, and Maison Couturier. Hôtel Americano reflects the spirit of Latin culture while encompassing a variety of international influences. The 10-story



building, designed by award-winning Mexican architect Enrique Norten, is a glass structure encased in a metal mesh façade that captures the industrial feel of the surrounding neighborhood. Along the exterior, a glass-enclosed elevator shuttles guests between the street-level restaurant and rooftop terrace. The rooms, designed by French designer Arnaud Montigny known for his work at Parisian boutique Colette, suggest an urban ryokan with wooden platform beds, warm lighting and natural materials. Quality craftsmanship combined with midcentury design classics, custom amenities, and advanced technology provides guests a serene space in which to retreat from the bustle of city life outside.

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