



For Immediate Release
August 10, 2016

EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO PRESENTS *Antonio Lopez: A Photo Cocktail Party*



Antonio Lopez and Juan Ramos, *Assorted guests from Art and Cocktail Party*, 1979. Polaroid, 10 x 8 in.
Courtesy of the Estate of Antonio Lopez and Juan Ramos.

Opening reception: Friday, September 9, 6-8pm
Installation On View: September 10 & 11, 12pm – 6pm

New York - El Museo del Barrio is proud to present *Antonio Lopez: A Photo Cocktail Party*, a three-day installation that will pay homage to the 1979 *A Photo Cocktail Party* that the late Puerto Rican fashion illustrator Antonio Lopez (currently the subject of a solo exhibition at El Museo), and his creative collaborator Juan Ramos, hosted at New York City's Robert Freidus Gallery.

In the spirit of the artistic “happening”, Lopez and Ramos invited partygoers to pose for a large-format Polaroid camera and installed the images directly on the gallery walls to document the ephemeral party experience.

El Museo del Barrio invites guests to recreate this celebration in tribute to the renowned Puerto Rican fashion illustrator who bridged New York City subculture and style with a broader high-fashion audience through his prolific three-decade career. The opening reception of *Antonio Lopez: A Photo Cocktail Party* will recreate this artistic exercise, capturing a new audience at the intersection of art, fashion and nightlife. The days following, visitors will be able to visit the space and enjoy the installation.

Antonio Lopez: Photo Cocktail Party coincides with the exhibition, *ANTONIO LOPEZ: Future Funk Fashion*, on view at El Museo del Barrio, New York's leading Latino cultural institution, through November 26, 2016.



WHEN: Opening reception: Sept. 9, 6-8pm | Installation on view Sept. 10 & 11, 12pm – 6pm

WHERE: Prince St. Project Space, programming administered by the Leslie–Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art, 127-B Prince Street New York, NY 10012

TICKETS: This event is free and open to the public. It will be on a first come first serve basis.

For further press information or materials please contact:

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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 at 104 Street in New York City.

Hours are Wed – Sat: 11am–6pm, Sundays: 12:00pm–5:00pm. 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, follows us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/elmuseo](https://www.facebook.com/elmuseo), and using @ElMuseo on Instagram and Twitter.



ABOUT PRINCE ST. PROJECT SPACE (PSPS)

Programming is administered by the Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art. It is curated by Charles W. Leslie and is a venue for artists to exhibit and sell their work. Artists and Curators submit exhibitions that fit within the Museum's curatorial standards. The Project space is located at 127-B Prince Street in the SoHo neighborhood of New York City. Admission is free and hours are dictated by show.

ABOUT THE LESLIE-LOHMAN MUSEUM OF GAY AND LESBIAN ART

The Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art is the first and only dedicated gay and lesbian art museum in the world with a mission to exhibit and preserve gay and lesbian art, and foster the artists who create it. The Museum has a permanent collection of over 24,000 objects, 6-8 major exhibitions annually, artist talks, film screenings, readings, THE ARCHIVE - a quarterly art newsletter, a membership program, and a research library. The Leslie-Lohman Museum began as the Leslie/Lohman Gay Art Foundation, Inc., a non-profit founded in 1987 by Charles W. Leslie and Fritz Lohman, who have supported gay and lesbian artists for over 30 years. The Leslie-Lohman Museum embraces the rich creative history of the gay and lesbian art community by educating, informing, inspiring, entertaining, and challenging all who enter its doors. The Museum is located at 26 Wooster Street in the SoHo neighborhood of New York City. Admission is free, and hours are Tuesday through Sunday, 12-6 pm, and Thursday, 12-8 pm. The Museum is closed Monday and all major holidays. The Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art is a non-profit organization and is exempt from taxation under section 501(c)3 of the IRS Code. The Museum can be reached at 212-431-2609. For more information, go to LeslieLohman.org.