

NAOMI GATES GALLERY

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Art Installation Envisions “The Assassination of Barack Obama”

New York, NY: (February 29, 2008): The Naomi Gates Gallery announced today the opening of Yazmany Arboleda’s art installation, “[The Assassination of Barack Obama](#).” The installation explores the figurative, but highly effective attempts by the American populace to assassinate Barack Obama’s reputation during his historic candidacy for president. Reflecting the sentiment that no one is without blame or responsibility, Arboleda shows the extreme effects of a society intent on castrating anyone in power. The installation will be on display through March 30 and is available by appointment only.

In a take no prisoners fashion, Arboleda makes bold, unapologetic statements that reflect the extreme judgments and characterizations placed on the first competitive African American presidential candidate. For Arboleda, the statements and re-appropriated imagery in his installation are in direct response to the daily accusations laid on Senator Obama by everyone – the media, the electorate, the society at large – and attempts to make us all aware of the lasting effects of this process. Whereas everyone is responsible, no one – and no group – is safe in this highly evocative and controversial exhibit. In the all-encompassing installation that explores the themes of sexism, racism, ageism and religious intolerance, one questions to what end we are willing to go to tear down our leaders in the process of electing them.

In a similar vein as Marcel Duchamp’s readymades, Arboleda has taken pre-existing images and re-appropriated them to set his own point of view.

Due to the highly sensitive and controversial nature of the material presented in Yazmany Arboleda’s “The Assassination of Barack Obama” installation, it is being viewed by appointment only. You can view the exhibit online at www.theassassinationofbarackobama.com. Please contact the Gallery to set up an appointment by calling 212-813-6403 or by emailing contact@naomigatesgallery.com. The Naomi Gates Gallery is located at 594 West 22nd Street in New York City.

About the Artist

Yazmany Arboleda (www.yazmany.com) was born in 1981 in Boston, Massachusetts and currently resides in New York City. Shortly after birth, his family moved to Medellin, Colombia where he lived until 1992 when his family moved back to the United States. He holds a master’s degree in architecture and is trained extensively in photography, painting, fashion design and graphic design. His first solo exhibition, *The New Vitruvians*, was first unveiled in 2007 in New York City at the Issey Miyake Tribeca and went on to be featured in London. The project was a contemporary study of the misconceptions of the proportions and geometry of beauty.