

## [ NYOC GALLERY ]

22 East 30<sup>th</sup> St. 2<sup>nd</sup> Flr. NY, NY 10016 | Tel: 212-219-2527 | [www.opencenter.org/gallery](http://www.opencenter.org/gallery)



(Left to Right) Sittin' in the Corner, Spirituality in Brooklyn, Framing the Other ii, Hall of Records, 1/11 EV

### 1 WORLD, 1 FUTURE

On view through July 15, 2012

### CANNON HERSEY

Gallery Hours: Mon - Fri / 10 - 6pm

June 10, 2012 / 5-7:30pm

ARTIST'S RECEPTION

June 10, 2012 / 7-7:30pm

ARTIST'S TALK

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New York Open Center Gallery is pleased to present **1 World, 1 Future**, a solo exhibition of selected works by Cannon Hersey. As an experienced world traveler and living abroad for a period of time, Cannon has always found it easy to amalgamate with varying cultures and societies. Through his photography and printmaking artwork, he acquaints the viewer to the vibrancy, spirituality and soul of the places he has visited and inhabited.

In **1 World, 1 Future**, Cannon asserts his belief in the actualization of a unified global community, embracing all societal, cultural and religious differences to create a positive co-dependency. This exhibition showcases selected photography from the *Silk Route* series and silk screen prints from the *Kokasi and Electric Organic* series.

The **Silk Route** series were taken between 1996-2000 during his excursions throughout China, India, Mongolia, Tibet and Nepal. Referring to the historical network of interlinking trade routes between Asia and Europe, these photographs expose the meeting of religious landmarks and the rapidly changing global culture. From 2006-2010, the photographs were then mounted on contemporary and antique textiles and artifacts from the regions to signify the past colliding with the future.

In 1996, Cannon took a journey of a life time, hitchhiking throughout Africa's southern region stopping at Zimbabwe, Zambia, Botswana, Namibia, and South Africa. South Africa has now become a second home, visiting the region 15 times. The **Kokasi** series, a slang term meaning "In the Community", were taken in Kliptown, one of the poorest communities in South Africa where the Freedom Charter was drawn to end apartheid and create a new South Africa. This series was inspired by the courage of South Africans in their perseverance to combat identity issues, economic hardship, and racial inequality.

The **Electric Organic** series evolved through Cannon's exploration of the illusions of reality. Utilizing his photographic images as a starting point and with his desire to take the impermanence (photography, as it fades with time) to a state of permanence (in ink), Cannon felt compelled to design abstracted silk screen works. The breaking down of reality is rendered by his use of brilliant and bold colors, lines and forms – the very expression of his unyielding optimism that art is a vital form of communication in enabling healing and connection beyond borders.

Cannon Hersey has exhibited at numerous institutions and galleries including Lincoln Center, NYU, Vassar College, MoCADA, Earth Pledge Foundation, the Johannesburg Art Foundation and the Sao Paulo Bienale and is collected by major collectors around the world. Furthermore he is the founder and executive director of CrossPathCulture (CPC), a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting global community building through the arts. [www.cannonhersey.com](http://www.cannonhersey.com)

**1 WORLD, 1 FUTURE** is curated by Lola C. Shepard.

**For Further information, contact Lola C. Shepard:**

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### **About the New York Open Center Gallery**

Re-established in 2010, the New York Open Center Gallery exhibits both emerging and mid-career contemporary artists whose body of work primarily focuses on world culture, spirituality, psychology and holistic consciousness. [www.opencenter.org/gallery](http://www.opencenter.org/gallery)

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