

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RECLAIMING BROOKLYN'S ABOLITIONIST PAST  
Brooklyn-based artist presents sound and light installation

Tonight, April 29, 2010 at 8PM- 8:30PM  
227 Duffield Street, Brooklyn, NY.

April 29, 2010 – Brooklyn-based artist Alex Vessels will tonight present *Reclaimed*, a sound & sight installation on one of the few remaining sites on Brooklyn's Freedom Trail. The installation highlights the opportunities and conflicts that still exist today, long after Brooklyn's abolitionist heyday.

A historic home, 227 Duffield Street was saved by Joy Chatel from New York City's attempted eminent domain seizure, *Reclaimed* projects the images and WPA-era interviews with former slaves, at the home, now in the shadow of Downtown Brooklyn's rapid construction boom. Historically significant recordings with nationalistic and dissenting themes are will also be included.

"With this installation, I have created a space in which people could feel a sense history at this little-known place through sound and light," said Alex Vessels. "This is why the project is important to me, and I want people to remember what went on here. "

Touching on issues of race and African-Americans' relationship with America, the installation represents the conflicting "double consciousness" that can arise from being of African descent and American.

For more information, go to <http://www.alexvessels.com/alex/reclaimed.php>

**About Alex Vessels**

Alex Vessels is a Brooklyn-based artist and master's candidate ('11) at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. After growing up on a Civil War battlefield in Cold Harbor, Virginia, he now calls New York City his home.