

## **ERA-DEFINING LOWER EAST SIDE ARTWORK AND AGITPROP TO BE DISPLAYED AT MUSEUM OF RECLAIMED URBAN SPACE**

**“Taking it to the Streets! The Art + Design of Posters and Flyers on the Lower East Side In the ‘80s + 90s” to Open at the Museum of Reclaimed Urban Space**

**Thursday, May 4, 7:00 PM**

**Anton Van Dalen, Seth Tobocman, Eva Cockcroft, Among Artists Featured**

New York, NY April 28, 2017 — Underscoring its mission to archive and promote the history of social activism of the East Village, The Museum of Reclaimed Urban Space (MoRUS), in collaboration with ABC No Rio In Exile, will display a suite of powerful images from posters, flyers and ‘zines created throughout the turbulent 1980s and 1990s in what has become known as the East Village. **“Taking it to the Streets: Art + Design of Posters and Flyers on the Lower East Side In the ‘80s + 90s,”** will open at MoRUS on Thursday, May 4 with a reception at 7:00 PM. The show will run through Tuesday, June 20 at MoRUS, 155 Avenue C between 9th and 10th Streets. The museum is open Tuesdays and Thursday through Sunday from 11:00 AM until 7:00 PM.

Before Twitter and Facebook people had to use the streets to organize, their messages wheatpaste poster right on a pole. It was the era of 'xeroxcracy' and the streets were the gallery walls. These political posters and fliers raised awareness and helped organize community for grassroots political change. The posters range in subject from defending the squats and community gardens, taking on gentrification and the rich, police brutality, gender equality, environmentalism and anti-nuclear war activism. The floors of the museum will be stenciled to resemble the sidewalks of the past. "The artists and activists of the Lower East Side used the streets to convey their message of political resistance, while this call to action helped organize local communities for positive change, many of their messages became global campaigns." says Bill DiPaola, MoRUS co-executive director.

The Museum of Reclaimed Urban Space is pleased to partner with ABC No Rio in Exile as they prepare to build their new facility on Rivington Street. The exhibition is supported in part by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, and the New York State Council on the Arts.

### **About ABC No Rio**

Founded in 1980, ABC No Rio, a center for art and activism on New York's Lower East Side, is internationally known as a venue for oppositional culture. Last summer ABC No Rio vacated its building on Rivington Street in preparation for demolition and the construction of a new facility for its projects, programs and operations. During the building of its new home, ABC No Rio will continue "in exile" at other venues and in collaboration with other organizations. This renewed focus towards collaborative work brings ABC No Rio back to its roots — ABC No Rio was founded by members of the 1970s artist group Collaborative Projects. For more info: <http://www.abcnorio.org>

### **About MoRUS**

Opened in December 2012, MoRUS is a fully volunteer-run and staffed non-profit history museum. The museum is a living archive of urban activism that aims to preserve grassroots activist history in the East Village and promote environmentally sound community-based urban ecologies. Housed in the storefront of C Squat, MoRUS is open Tuesdays and Thursday through Sunday from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Also showcasing the unique public spaces and community gardens for which the neighborhood is renowned, MoRUS offers walking tours every Saturday and Sunday at 3:00 PM. For more information visit [www.morusnyc.org](http://www.morusnyc.org).