

Patrina Chatman
Fulbright Project – Brazil Planning Outline
October 15, 2018

Say Their Names

From the 16th Century to the 19th Century, the Portuguese, Spanish, English, and Dutch forcibly brought African captives to the western hemisphere, by way of the Trans Atlantic Slave Trade. The Europeans needed human cargo for one reason: to work for them as slaves. Given the hard work and inhumane treatment that the Africans underwent, the slave owners really did not expect them to survive. Not only did many Africans survive, they flourished.

Fast forward to the 21st Century. The world has drastically changed. Black people are no longer needed to do hard labor. Every year, new technology is being created that takes the place of the service jobs that Black people once did. While a small percentage of Black people have been able to move to the middle class—and even a few into the upper class—the majority are under educated, poverty stricken, and live in crime ridden neighborhoods.

Generally speaking, white people no longer have any use for Black people. But what can/should they do about them? During the past 10-20 years, they have begun to take back the cities that they abandoned when forced to integrate with Black people—gentrification. The police, who are sworn to protect and serve everyone, are more concerned about the people whose taxes pay their salaries—police killings of unarmed Black people.

Say Their Names is an exhibition that presents a brief history of the actions and lingering effects that Brazil (colonized by the Portuguese) and the United States (colonized by the British) have had on their Black citizens. Many people are unaware that two of the largest countries in the western hemisphere, and the world, are experiencing a similar problem of police killing unarmed Black people, especially boys and men. The question is why?

Say Their Names compares the similarities and differences between the current atrocities in the two countries, and also provides solutions to potentially help curb the problem.

Goal

The purpose of this project is to present the *Say Their Names* exhibition, and to provide complementary educational and public programs, to help bring national and international attention to the recent killings of unarmed Black people, many boys and men at the hands of police in Brazil and the United States.

Objectives

1. Develop an exhibition providing an historical perspective for the contemporary killing of black men and boys by police in Brazil and the United States.
2. Describe how Brazil and the United States' long-term treatment of black men has affected them spiritually, physically, and psychologically.
3. Provide statistics documenting the occurrences of police killing black boys and men over the past decade in their respective countries.
4. Explain why these events are occurring, what might be done to stop them, what are the long-term effects of police killing men in the United States and Brazil.

Approach

1. Use art, photography, religion, quotations, poetry, music, video, and dance to illustrate the historical similarities and differences between the countries.
2. Provide statistics compiling the number of killings of (unarmed) black men and women, as well as the number of arrests leading to the conviction of police who have killed unarmed black men and women.
3. Show what actions people are taking to stop the genocide of black people.

Deliverables

1. Establish an advisory board from both countries comprised of activists scholars, community leaders, and informed "millennials" to help guide the project.
2. Work with The Wright's Development Department and others to identify potential funders for the exhibition and associated programs.
3. Work with The Wright Museum's Development Department to help raise funds for the exhibition and associated programs.

Exhibition Process

1. Determine the theme
2. Identify art, artifacts, and archival materials (documents, photographs, books, etc.), including the following
 - a. Brazil (unconfirmed)
 - i. Paintings (3)

- ii. T-shirts
- iii. Possible video
- b. United States (unconfirmed)
- 3. Develop a working exhibition outline
- 4. Develop the exhibition script
- 5. Fabricate the exhibition
- 6. Install exhibition

Timeline (unconfirmed)

1. July 15, 2018 – Submit first draft of exhibition Concept. **Complete**
2. October 2018 – Submit the Fulbright Participant Evaluation Form (IRIS.ed.gov) – **Complete**
3. October 15, 2018 - Submit
4. October 16, 2018 – Begin discussions about fundraising and marketing plans for the exhibition.
5. October 22, 2018 – Schedule a meeting for the potential members of the Advisory Board and confirm their participation.
6. October 29, 2018 – Michigan Museum Association Conference
Presenters: Patrina Chatman, Curator of Collections and Exhibitions, Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History and Dan Kroupa, Lecturer of History and Director of Museum Studies, University of Detroit Mercy

Describe the Group Project Abroad in northern Brazil: The participants included University of Detroit Mercy faculty, museum professionals, and Michigan K-12 educators. The group visited numerous museums and historic sites, focusing especially on the African-American history and culture of Brazil. Many museums in Brazil face challenges when interpreting the history of slavery and race relations. These challenges are similar but different from those faced by museums in the United States. This session will review and discuss some of the challenges and opportunities related to interpreting slavery and racial issues.

7. October 31, 2018 – Submit final draft of Curriculum Project to Lara Wasner.
8. November 23, 2018 – Develop a first draft of the exhibition script with images. Provide a copy of the script to Development Department to use to

help start fund raising, the Education Department so they can begin to organize educational programs and tours, and the Advisory Team for recommendations.

9. December 7, 2018 – Meet with the Advisory Team for feedback on the script.
10. January 2019 – Meet with the Development Team to discuss progress on potential sponsors.
11. February 2019 – Meet with the Advisory Team.
12. April 2019 – Complete second draft of the exhibition script, include additional artifacts and input from the Advisory Team
13. May 2019 – Provide second draft of the script to Director of Design and Fabrications, Kevin Davidson.
14. May 2019 – Curatorial and Design meet with Kevin Davidson to discuss Bubble Plan.
15. June 21, 2019 – Provide final script to Curatorial, Design, Education, Development, and Advisory Team.
16. July 28, 2019 - Get final feedback regarding the script.
17. August 1, 2019 – Get final design elevations from Design
18. January 2019 – Open exhibition

Exhibition Process

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