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FLOATING MEDIA INSTALLATION “NIGHT WATCH” VISITS THE SHORES OF NYC TO PRESENT MOVING PORTRAITS OF REFUGEES AND ASYLEES

**More Art collaborates with multidisciplinary artist, and
photographer Shimon Attie to present a floating multi-media
film experience during the UN Annual General Debate**

July 27, 2018 – New York, NY – On **Thursday, September 20, 2018**, **More Art** – a NYC-based nonprofit organization that fosters collaborations between professional artists and communities – will present **“Night Watch”** by **Shimon Attie**. The first collaboration between Attie and More Art, “Night Watch” is a floating multi-media installation featuring portraits of refugees and asylees of various backgrounds (including largely a cast of queer, trans, HIV+ and youth) that will traverse New York City’s waterways during the **United Nations Annual General Debate**. “Night Watch” is a new media experience that blends new technologies with community-based engagement to address the urgent social issue of refugees in America. The installation will begin on Staten Island, and travel along the shores of Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, Roosevelt Island, Governors Island, Liberty Island, and New Jersey. The project can be sighted along the urban coast and at shoreline parks from the September 20 to September 27, 2018.

Displayed on a 20-foot-wide by 12-foot-tall LED screen mounted aboard a large, slow-moving utility vessel, the silent, minimalist floating film presents the lives and struggles of its subjects with dignity and power. Each day, the public can track the barge to attend historical tours, cultural events, and workshops/trainings related to immigrant rights. Attendees will be able to follow “Night Watch’s” journey and view the traveling film and public event series on the waterways on set days throughout the week. These events are co-produced with the film’s subjects and advocacy organizations such as Immigration Equality, Safe Passage Project, RIF, and Queer Detainee Empowerment Project. “Night Watch’s” route and schedule will be contingent upon rising tides, ferry schedules and water current speeds to optimize visibility.

“Night Watch” prioritizes community participation, approaches timely issues respectfully and poignantly, and encourages solutions-based dialogue and action. The projects sponsored by More Art are anchored by sustainable collaborations with grassroots organizations addressing social justice issues specific to their communities.

About Shimon Attie

Shimon Attie is a visual artist and photographer whose artistic practice includes creating immersive site-specific installations and public artworks in a wide variety of media, contexts, and communities. Attie's works include on-location media installations, immersive multiple channel video works, performance, photography, sculpture, and new media and hybrid forms. In many of his projects, he engages local communities in finding new courses for representing their history, memory, and potential futures, and explores how contemporary media may be used to re-imagine new relationships between time, space, place and identity. He is particularly concerned with issues of loss, communal trauma, and the potential for regeneration.

About More Art

Over the past 14 years, More Art has developed a body of work on issues of immigration through both its public arts commissions and artist fellowship programs. During this time, More Art has led workshops with recent and undocumented immigrants, which have greatly informed the process and final display of commissioned public arts projects that reach over 10,000 New Yorkers each year. Given the history of New York City as the American hub for newcomers, "Night Watch" highlights these very same waterways that served as an integral passageway to the American dream of freedom and the pursuit of happiness.

Support

"Night Watch" and accompanied public programs are supported in part by The Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation, Lambent Foundation, New York Department of Cultural Affairs, New York State Council on the Arts, and generous individual donations.