



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“SLAVES LIVED HERE” PROJECTED ONTO HISTORIC NYC MUSEUM

*ARTIST REGGIE BLACK HIGHLIGHTS THE IGNORED HISTORIES OF
MANHATTAN’S ENSLAVED PEOPLE*



Photo by Marquis Perkins

New York, NY (December 7, 2020) – Tonight and on the night of Wednesday, December 9th, internationally renowned artist [Reggie Black](#) is projecting the words “SLAVES LIVED HERE” on the exterior of the [Dyckman Farmhouse Museum](#), a historic landmark and Manhattan’s last remaining farmhouse. Titled *No Records*, the exhibition calls attention to the history of slavery at the farmhouse and within New York City. It can be prominently seen from street-level when passing through the intersection at West 204th Street and Broadway.

The public exhibition is inspired by the Dyckman Farmhouse Museum Alliance’s [DyckmanDISCOVERED initiative](#), which – through a grant from [The New York Community Trust](#) – has uncovered biographical data on [six people who were enslaved](#) by the Dyckman household, and whose biographical information was not recorded in detail by the family.



Reggie Black. Photo: Jordan Kirk

No Records features Black’s signature hand type, fabricated from a meticulous analog to digital process, creating a simple yet striking message on the exterior of the farmhouse. Also written as “ESCLAVOS VIVIERON AQUÍ” - to pay homage to the Spanish-speaking community of Uptown Manhattan - *No Records* marks the first public display of the artist’s hand type in a second language.

The bold and impactful project resonates with artist Reggie Black - a progressive multimedia artist, designer, speaker and mental health advocate who has exhibited in cities ranging from Hong Kong and Tokyo to Bangkok and Washington, D.C., and who has presented talks at Apple, Advertising Week and TED, to name a few platforms. In his work and presentations, Black often addresses the importance of art, design, technology, mental health, transparency, vulnerability and the human connection.



"No Records is an exhibition that addresses how we see and know history in the present day," said artist Reggie Black. "The history of slavery is deep in New York City, not just in the South as sometimes perceived. Everyday we walk past buildings and streets named after slave owners. For us, Black people, to tell our own stories is a powerful confrontation of that history. Let's put that on display, too."

No Records is one of several programs the Dyckman Farmhouse Museum has coordinated in tandem with DyckmanDISCOVERED. Currently on view among the interiors of the over 235-year-old house is [Unspoken Voices: Honoring the Legacy of Black America](#), which features work also inspired by the data uncovered through DyckmanDISCOVERED.

"At the Dyckman Farmhouse Museum, we're both looking to the past to uncover ignored histories, and looking to the present to share this information with New Yorkers and underscore its significance," said Meredith Horsford, Executive Director of the Dyckman Farmhouse Museum Alliance. "We have an obligation to shed light on the experiences of underserved and underrepresented marginalized communities. Our museum is eager to continue this service through the impactful work of artists like Reggie Black."

No Records by Reggie Black is made possible with the [NYSCA/GHHN Creativity Incubator Grant Program](#) – a partnership between the [Greater Hudson Heritage Network](#) (GHHN) and [New York State Council on the Arts](#) (NYSCA). The NYSCA/GHHN Creativity Incubator Grant is made possible with funds from the NYSCA, with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

For more information on the Dyckman Farmhouse Museum Alliance, follow along on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

For more information on Reggie Black, follow the artist on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) and go to www.iamreggieblack.com.

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About Reggie Black

Reggie Black is a multimedia artist, designer, speaker, and mental health advocate. His work has been exhibited internationally in cities including Tokyo, Hong Kong, Bangkok, and Washington, DC. His hand type artistry is rooted in aspirational public messaging with a focus on vulnerability, mental health and self-discovery. Black uses probing questions and inspiring statements in an austere style to shed light on the human experience in an accessible format. Black has presented talks at Apple, Advertising Week, TED, Pecha Kucha, and Marble Print + Clay addressing the importance of art, design, technology, mental health, transparency, vulnerability, and the human connection. For more information, visit www.iamreggieblack.com.



About the Dyckman Farmhouse Museum Alliance

The mission of the [Dyckman Farmhouse Museum Alliance](#) is to support the preservation of the historic namesake site, to be a catalyst for engaging, adventuresome programming and to be a good neighbor and a dynamic resource for the uptown Manhattan community. The Dutch Colonial-style farmhouse, perched above Broadway at 204th Street, was built on this site by William Dyckman around 1784 and was originally part of several hundred acres of farmland owned by the family. In 1915, family descendants purchased the farmhouse, restored it and donated it to the city. It has been open to the public since 1916. Today, nestled in a small garden, the farmhouse is an extraordinary reminder of early Manhattan and an important part of its diverse Inwood neighborhood.

About The New York State Council on the Arts

The New York State Council on the Arts champions community and creativity by preserving and advancing numerous aspects of the cultural heritage that makes New York State an exceptional place to live, work and visit.

NYSCA upholds the right of all New Yorkers to experience the vital contributions the arts make to our communities, education, economic development and quality of life. Through its core grantmaking activity, NYSCA awarded \$51M in FY2019 to 2,400 organizations statewide through direct grants and regrants in our 15 programs, the Regional Economic Development Council initiative and the Mid-Size Capital Project Fund. NYSCA funding supports the visual, literary, media and performing arts and includes dedicated support for arts education and underserved communities. NYSCA further advances New York's creative culture by hosting convenings with leaders in the field and providing organizational and professional development opportunities and informational resources.

Created by Governor Nelson Rockefeller in 1960, and continued and expanded to the present day with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, NYSCA is an agency of the Executive Branch of the New York State Government. For more information on NYSCA, please visit: www.arts.ny.gov.

About GHHN (Greater Hudson Heritage Network)

GHHN is the statewide 'go-to' service organization for responsive assistance, interpretation and collections care. Our program services are local, professional and statewide. GHHN offers grants, workshops, webinars, consultations, technical assistance, a resource network and professional development opportunities to advance the work of historical societies, historic house museums, heritage centers, historic sites, archives and libraries. To learn more about our work, please visit www.greaterhudson.org.