

THE LOWER EASTSIDE GIRLS CLUB

56 East 1st Street
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www.girlsclub.org



The Lower Eastside Girls Club is dedicated to providing a place where girls ages 8 to 18 can grow, learn, have fun, and develop confidence in themselves and their ability to make a difference in the world. By delivering strong and innovative arts, athletic, cultural, life-skills and career-oriented programming, we provide our girls with the vision to plan -- and the tools to build -- their future.

For immediate release: EARTH DAY ART EVENT MEDIA ALERT

ART FOR EARTH'S SAKE Two Women Artists Give Voice to Mother Earth at the Lower East Side Art+Community Gallery

Where: Art+Community Gallery, 56 East 1st Street between 1st and 2nd Avenue

When: Wednesday, April 22, 6-9 PM

What: "Help! Mother Earth" an exhibition curated by the Lower Eastside Girls Club featuring two outstanding young women artists: Wahala Temi and Zoe Williams.

****The artists will be available for interviews on the night of the reception.**

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Wahala Temi credits her formative years growing up in Lagos, Nigeria and Brooklyn, New York, as influences on her work. "I use both African and Western materials and motifs in my work." Troubled by the practice of female genital cutting (FGC) in Africa and beyond, her current series balances celebration of the richness of Yoruba culture with confrontation of this sensitive issue. Each piece of art becomes a conversation on what it means to be a woman, a Yoruba woman or African woman living in a modern globalized world. Ms. Temi is an architect by training, an artist by profession.

Lyn Pentecost, Executive Director of The Lower Eastside Girls Club: "Ms. Temi's work speaks directly and eloquently to the tragedy of the mass mistreatment of women, and by metaphorical extension - Mother Earth, in our times. Our Girls Club members, young women in their formative teen years, have been captivated by the power of her message and the way in which she mixes materials in her sculptural/painted works."

Zoë Williams is a Seattle based artist who was born in New Orleans, Louisiana. She received a BA in Fine Art from the University of New Orleans with emphasis in New Media. Her work combines traditional and non-traditional materials, incorporating elements from a wide range of other disciplines. Her recent work draws inspiration from the crafts and fashions of bygone eras. This exhibition features *Rabbits*, a series of trophy heads created using a dry felting method known as needle felting in which a barbed needle is used to shape and mold wool roving into three-dimensional objects. *Rabbits* explores the image of the white rabbit, which originally appeared to the artist in a dream.

Lyn Pentecost, Executive Director of The Lower Eastside Girls Club: "I first saw Ms. Williams work in the Prospect 1 Biennial Exhibition in New Orleans this past winter, and was knocked out by the underlying power of her work. While 'cute' on the surface, a closer look reveals the passion and pathos of her intense sculptural work. I knew it belonged in the Lower Eastside Earth Day Environmental show, and was delighted that Zoe agreed"

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Art for Earth's Sake
at the Lower Eastside Girls Club's Art+Community Gallery
56 East 1st Street, NYC, NY 10003
April 8 - May 3



Wahala Temi



Zoe Williams

ART+COMMUNITY GALLERY at The Lower Eastside Girls Club represents artists from diverse and often overlooked communities. Art+Community is one of a trio of social venture programs run by the Girls Club- the others being our Sweet Things Bake Shop and La Tiendita: Fair Trade and Girl Made Cafe and Giftshop. All three programs provide job-training and jobs for low income girls and women living in Lower Manhattan.

THE LOWER EASTSIDE GIRLS CLUB is dedicated to providing a place where girls and young women 8-23 can grow, learn, have fun, and develop confidence in themselves and their ability to make a difference in the world. By delivering strong and innovative arts, athletic, cultural, life-skills and career oriented programming, we provide girls with the vision to plan - and the tools to build - their future.