## Alexander and Bonin

## Press Release

## Portraits: Dalton Paula, John Ahearn and Rigoberto Torres November 18 – December 16, 2022



Dalton Paula Maria 2022



**John Ahearn** Otto and Karlee 2007



**Rigoberto Torres** Mango Man 1993-2004

Portraits is on view at Alexander and Bonin through December 16. John Ahearn, Rigoberto Torres and Dalton Paula portray the people in the communities in which they have lived and worked. John Ahearn and Rigoberto Torres are exhibiting cast plaster sculptures of residents of the South Bronx. Dalton Paula's portraits of figures in the black community close to his home in Goiâna are paired with histories of 18th and 19th Afro-Brazilians who were never visually depicted in their lifetime.

John Ahearn was a founding member of Collaborative Projects, Inc. and co-organizer of the "Times Square Show" (1980). Ahearn's work alongside that of his long-time collaborator, Rigoberto Torres was the subject of a survey exhibition, "South Bronx Hall of Fame," organized by the Contemporary Arts Center, Houston (1991), which traveled to museums in Europe and North America. In the 1980s and 1990s the artists executed several outdoor murals in the Bronx and collaborated on public projects and exhibitions in Europe and North America.

Ahearn's work has been included in exhibitions at the National Portrait Gallery, Washington DC; the Museum of Modern Art, New York (2017-18), The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (2018) and both of the artists' were included in "Like Life: Sculpture, Color and the Body" at The Met Breuer (2018). Torres had a solo exhibition at the Polk Museum of Art, Florida in 2002. "Swagger and Tenderness: The South Bronx Portraits by John Ahearn and Rigoberto Torres" opened on October 26, 2022 at The Bronx Museum of the Arts and will be on view through April 30, 2023.

Dalton Paula's work has been exhibited in the São Paulo Biennial (2016), the New Museum Triennial, New York (2018), "Histórias Afro-Atlânticas" Museo de Arte de São Paulo (MASP), the National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C. and Los Angeles County Museum of Art and his installation, *Rota do algodão* is currently on view at the Pinacoteca de São Paulo.