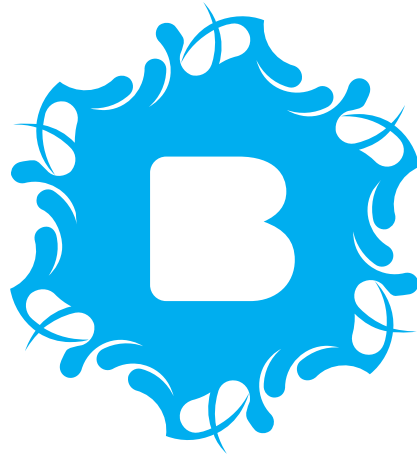


# Press Release



March 2011

## **Installation of Skylar Fein Mixed Media Portrait with Related Works on View at the Brooklyn Museum March 23 through August 2011**

A recent work by Skylar Fein titled *Black Lincoln for Dooky Chase* will be on view at the Brooklyn Museum from March 23 through August 2011 as the centerpiece of an installation including related works from the permanent collection. In Fein's 2010 work a silhouette portrait of Abraham Lincoln is overlaid on a panel created to resemble an old wall menu from Dooky Chase, a well-known New Orleans Creole and soul food restaurant.

Painted in acrylic on plaster and wood, Fein's portrait will be displayed alongside such works as an 1871 marble bas-relief profile of Lincoln, early nineteenth-century cut-paper silhouettes by French artist August Edouart, and Kara Walker's 2005 *Cotton Hoards in Southern Swamp* (from *Harper Pictorial History of the Civil War*).

Skylar Fein, a resident of New Orleans since 2005, believes that Lincoln's opposition to slavery was shaped by a trip that he took as a teenager to New Orleans, which was then the center of the slave trade. Fein's use of the silhouette taps into a long-standing visual tradition, examples of which are included in the installation.

The silhouette was popularized in eighteenth-century Europe and soon caught on in the United States. Figures and profile portrait heads were cut from black card and set against a white ground or, in some instances, painted on glass. Evocative of the antebellum period and offering a graphic contrast of black and white, the silhouette has inspired explorations of racial issues by contemporary artists such as Fein and Kara Walker.

A native of New York, Skylar Fein (born 1968) was a participant in *Prospect.1 New Orleans*, the 2008 biennial curated by Dan Cameron. His *Remember the Upstairs Lounge*, a multimedia installation about a disastrous 1973 New Orleans fire at a gay bar that killed thirty-two and injured dozens, received broad critical acclaim. His work has been the subject of solo exhibitions including the 2009 exhibition *Skylar Fein: Youth Manifesto* at New Orleans Museum of Art and is represented in public and private collections.

End

## **Brooklyn Museum**

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[www.brooklynmuseum.org](http://www.brooklynmuseum.org)

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Admission:

Contribution \$10; students with valid I.D. and older adults \$6. Free to Members and children under 12 accompanied by an adult. Group tours or visits must be arranged in advance by calling extension 234.

### Directions:

Subway: Seventh Avenue express (2 or 3) to Eastern Parkway/Brooklyn Museum stop; Lexington Avenue express (4 or 5) to Nevins Street, cross platform and transfer to the 2 or 3. Bus: B41, B69, B48.  
On-site parking available.

### Museum Hours:

Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; first Saturday of each month, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

**Brooklyn Museum Extended Hours:** The Brooklyn Museum is now open to the public eight additional hours a week and will open each day at 11 a.m.

- Wednesdays 11-6
- Thursdays and Fridays 11-10
- Saturdays and Sundays 11-6

The Museum continues to present *Target First Saturdays*, its popular free evening of art and entertainment, when it remains open until 11 p.m. the first Saturday of each month except September.