

THESE ARE NOT MY PROBLEMS

**8TH DAY CENTER FOR JUSTICE
PRESENTS**

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May 10th 12PM / 7PM

A
SOCIAL JUSTICE
VISUALIZATION
AND JOURNEY
(TO
RE-
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THE SHOW

"Freedom is indivisible, and when one is enslaved, all are not free." Declared by President John F. Kennedy during his "Berlin Wall" speech, these words—often quoted and re-appropriated—are as relevant today as they were in 1963. As we look at the world, we can neither deny the presence of widespread injustice nor deny how we, as a people, have failed to respond to it. In order to insulate ourselves from injustice, we are taught to distance ourselves from suffering. To protect ourselves from facing oppression, we have allowed ourselves to be washed of its presence around us. It has been the service of many of our institutions to systematically create this distance for us, reinforcing false divisions, and relieving us of our most basic human responsibilities. As we look at the world today, it seems we have forgotten that we belong to one another.

8th Day Center for Justice proudly presents *These Are Not My Problems*. The exhibition aims to break down the walls that separate everyday people from the awareness of injustice in their midst. *These Are Not My Problems* humbly invites you to open yourself up to the vulnerability of looking at the world through the eyes of a shared humanity.

To ensure that artwork is informed by ground-level work for justice, we have paired contemporary social justice issues with Chicago-based champions of human rights. These issues, understood through the lens of social justice organizations, offer unique insight into what fundamentally lies behind the struggle for justice. We have invited artists to garner inspiration from these organizations, to learn how they resist injustice, uncover the truth, and advocate for the oppressed.

It is our goal that this process will create an informed perspective, grasping the core of the struggle behind these issues, and inspiring the most accurate artistic expression.

To honor the courageous work of these organizations, one print will be gifted to them from the artists.

ISSUES

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|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Immigration Detention | Interfaith Committee for Detained Immigrants |
| 2. LGBTQ | Center on Halsted |
| 3. The Working Poor | Fight for 15 |
| 4. Drone warfare | Voices for Creative Nonviolence |
| 5. Rape Culture | Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation |
| 6. Government Surveillance | ACLU Illinois |
| 7. Mountain Top Removal | Eco Justice Collaborative |
| 8. Sexual Harassment | YWCA Chicago |
| 9. Wealth Inequality | Oxfam |
| 10. Government Surveillance | ACLU Illinois |
| 11. Trade Agreements | Chicago Religious Leadership Network on Latin America |
| 12. The War on Drugs | St. Leonard's Ministries |
| 13. Solitary Confinement | Illinois Coalition Against Torture |

8TH DAY CENTER FOR JUSTICE

8th Day Center for Justice envisions a world of right relationships in which all creation is seen as sacred and interconnected. We engage those on the margins and several coalition partners in carrying out our mission to create a world free of oppression. With these partners, we work for justice through social analysis, advocacy, education, and action.

THE VENUE: LACUNA ARTIST LOFTS, BLANK CANVAS GALLERY

Great art deserves a great venue. Lacuna Artists Loft is just that. It provides the ideal spot for *These Are Not My Problems* with nearly 4,000-square-feet of space. Exposed brick, polished wood flooring, and copious amounts of natural lighting will turn any exhibition into an experience. One of the gems of the Pilsen Art District, Lacuna has garnered plenty of attention and will prove to be an important site for up-and-coming and proven artists alike.



EVENTS DETAILS

5/8/14

(7-10 pm) Industry Night: A private event for artists, social justice organizations, and other distinguished guests. This event will be invite only.

5/10/14

(12-7pm) Opening Night: This event will open the gallery to the public. This coincides with Second Saturdays at Lacuna.

5/8/14 - 5/31/14

The gallery will be open to the public. Opportunities for private events are available. Private events throughout the month will be a great way for organizations to take full advantage of this exhibition in an intimate setting. If you are interested in scheduling one, please contact Ashley Velchek at Avelchek@gmail.com.

Prints will be available for purchase at all the events; any unsold prints will be available for purchase online for one month.

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