

# GALLERY AFERRO

## **Activate: Market Street II**

*Lawless Innovation by a Timeless Generation*

Ngu Asongwed



Ngu Asongwed, *City on Fire*, film still, 2017

**Feb. 11 - April 1, 2017**  
**75 & 77 Market St.**

Opening Reception

February 11th, 2017

7-10 pm at Gallery Aferro

73 Market Street

**ACTIVATE:**  
**MARKET STREET**

Activate: Market Street II

*Lawless Innovation by a Timeless Generation*

Alex Scott Cumming, Jasmine Mans, & Ngu Asongwed

Presented by Gallery Aferro

With the support of RBH Group

Gallery Aferro's "Activate: Market Street," is a year-round public art project transforming hundreds of linear feet of vacant storefront windows in Newark's historic downtown district. Storefronts owned by RBH Group on Market Street between Washington and University Streets are activated with installations, films, animation, neon sculptures, kinetic and interactive art, and performative public programming from local, national and international artists. Supported by RBH Group, and created by Gallery Aferro, the project delivers arresting, unexpected, and highly memorable experiences with contemporary art directly to the public, whether residents, students, workers or first-time visitors.

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

[www.aferro.org](http://www.aferro.org) | [www.aferrostudios.org](http://www.aferrostudios.org) | [www.activatedmarketstreet.org](http://www.activatedmarketstreet.org)

73 Market Street, Newark, NJ | 973.353.9533

Wed - Sat 12-6

## Visit

73 Market Street, Newark, NJ  
Wednesday - Saturday 12-6  
and by appointment.  
aferro.org  
aferrostudios.org  
activatemarketstreet.org

## Contact

973 353 9533  
info@aferro.org

Gallery Aferro  
Ironbound Station  
PO Box 5668  
Newark, NJ 07105  
USA

## Mission

The mission of Gallery Aferro is to bring cultural education and aesthetic engagement with contemporary issues to all people equally, and to create an environment where artists can gather and share physical and intellectual resources. We are working towards an arts community that is available to everyone, without sacrificing standards or quality of experience.

## Accessing The Gallery

Gallery hours are listed above, come by for a visit! Gallery Aferro is a street level storefront gallery and is wheelchair accessible. If you need special assistance, requests, or desire additional information about accessibility, please email our ADA Coordinator, Evonne Davis, at edavis@aferro.org. We believe art is absolutely for everyone and are very happy to accommodate anyone's needs but please give us 1 week notice for any arrangements that will need to be made at the gallery. If you require large print press materials please let us know 48 hours ahead of time.

## Sponsors

We gratefully acknowledge the support of our funders, sponsors and the individual donors who make our programs possible. The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, The New Jersey State Council on the Arts/ Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and RBH Group.



Ngu Asongwed, *City on Fire*, film still, 2017

*Lawless Innovation for a Timeless Generation* is a collaborative exhibition between Alex Scott Cumming, Jasmine Mans, and Ngu Asongwed for Gallery Aferro's Activate: Market Street II. The exhibition includes "67BRXSQAD", Ngu Asongwed's ongoing video journal within the first installation. Its footage of Newark, some shot by Asongwed himself and other artists, is presented within a "living room". Locations in the footage, playing in a continuous loop, are familiar to viewers. This contrast of sculpture and film act as the "memory of the present" written of by Paolo Virno in *Déjà Vu and the End of History* and a "historical a priori" of Michel Foucault in *Archaeology of Knowledge*. The words of Jasmine Mans, a poet, are presented in the second installation by banners and shapes. Banners and shapes meet text to address our ability to speak and define experience as individuals and communities. The final installation is a structure resembling of Pennsylvanian coal mine tipples as photographed by Bernd and Hilla Becher. The structure is built replicating the seemingly spontaneous construction of these tipples, some built by miners for mines abandoned during the Great Depression. In addition to the structure, this installation includes New Jersey state law books. As a whole, Activate: Market Street II presents interpretations of memory, language, labor, and law in poetry, sculpture, and video.

Ngu Asongwed is a video artist and curator living in Newark, NJ. Asongwed works primarily in video and curates performances and art shows in spaces around downtown Newark. The goal of Asongwed's work is to explore the interaction between cultures and their environments. Using his main subject, skateboarding, he shows the effect an environment can have on the culture within it and vice versa. Asongwed seeks to re-contextualize the skate video by including commentary on the social issues that arise in the modern urban environment in to his work such as architecture, gentrification, violence and race. Starting with his involvement in the Submerged Art Gallery in 2010, Asongwed has been a key figure in the multi-disciplinary arts and music community in downtown Newark. His curatorial credits include The Kanek skateshop and gallery, The Metropolitan performance space and The Life Lab performance space and gallery. Asongwed is currently involved in organizing a monthly performance series with Newark producer and artist Uniiqu3 and releasing limited runs of apparel.

[www.sqadnwk.com](http://www.sqadnwk.com)

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