FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Los Angeles, CA (September 28, 2021) — ONE Archives Foundation announced today a new iteration of the Pride Publics: Words and Action exhibit in honor of LGBTQ+ History Month. Pride Publics will open at the Los Angeles State Historic Park in downtown Los Angeles on October 9 and run through October 24. The first edition of the exhibit ran in West Hollywood during Pride Month this past June with a record attendance of 10,000 visitors.

An opening event will take place on Saturday, October 9 at 3:00 p.m, featuring new, site-specific performances by three Pride Publics artists:
Transgender singer-songwriter, performance artist, and designer Yozmit will present WALK – a silent, durational, meditative walk in monochromatic and sculptural costumes which will lead to a live performance of songs from her recent album, Sun Moon Door.

Performance artist and curator Marval A Rex becomes Marilyn Monroe (or does she become him?) in MARILYN MON REX, a timed, performative meditation drenched in the violence of "fame," exploring the psycho-spatial ramifications of Hollywood on urban working populations in Los Angeles.

Using the Los Angeles State Park as a symbolic jump-off, 25-year old visual/ performance artist Peter Kalisch will explore the lessons he learned through last year’s intense journey of self reflection, as noise, chaos, pain, struggle, heartbreak have transformed into growth.

The Pride Publics exhibit is free and open to the public. Los Angeles State Historic Park is located at 1315 N Spring St, Los Angeles, CA 90012. The outdoor exhibit will be mounted on the fence on the south end of the park, near the Welcome Center, facing the interior of the park. Viewing hours are 8:00 a.m. to sunset.

Pride Publics: Words and Actions stages a visual dialogue between historical and contemporary LGBTQ+ changemakers. Twenty-eight large-scale black-and-white posters are wheatpasted in public spaces, with hand-applied accent colors unique to each site of installation. These posters feature dynamic and engaging portraits of contemporary LGBTQ+ artists, writers, and community organizers, along with two quotes: one from the selected artists themselves, and the other from an LGBTQ+ trailblazer who inspires them.

Artists featured in the exhibit include:


Learn more about the featured artists here: https://pridepublics.onearchives.org/

This exhibition is organized by ONE Archives Foundation and curated by Rubén Esparza, a multidisciplinary artist, activist, and independent curator based in Los Angeles. He says, “Rendered in black and white with hand-applied accent colors and jotting, this exhibition serves to break up the urban visual noise field with an homage to protest culture and street art.”

Esparza’s design inspiration comes from queer lineages of activist-artists, including Gran Fury member Robert Vásquez Pacheco’s method of propaganda-making, inspired by advertising strategies, and photographer Zoe Leonard’s analogue typeset work, “I want a president” (1992).

“LGBTQ+ liberation is a multi-generational story. Every civil right we possess is a result of ongoing struggle over decades of movement work.” says Umi Hsu, Director of Content Strategy at ONE Archives Foundation. “Pride Publics honors those whose shoulders we
stand on, and illustrates a lineage seen through the lens of today’s changemakers. I’m excited that the opening program will animate LGBTQ+ expressions and meditations on history through public performances and gathering in a historically conscious state park.”

A web guide, found at pridepublics.onearchives.org, provides supplementary media content including conversation videos between the artists, artist-created exhibition soundtracks, and an original essay.

Pride Publics: Words and Action is made possible in part by California Humanities, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, Schmitt-Young Group at Morgan Stanley, and Steve Pepdjonovic & Joshua Jetson.

About ONE Archives Foundation
Founded in 1952, ONE Archives Foundation is the oldest active LGBTQ organization in the United States, and is dedicated to telling the accurate stories and history of all LGBTQ people and their culture. As an independent nonprofit, ONE Archives Foundation promotes ONE Archives at the USC Libraries — the largest repository of LGBTQ materials in the world — and provides innovative educational initiatives, public exhibitions, and community programs. The curatorial and educational choices made by ONE Archives Foundation are guided by our commitment to social equity and justice. We engage with the complexity of LGBTQ history and representation through highlighting the intersectional and authentic narratives of Black, Indigenous, people of color (BIPOC), women, gender-nonconforming and transgender people, people of various abilities, youth, and elders across all socio-economic classes. Learn more at onearchives.org, and connect with ONE on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @onearchives.

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