

Worth a road trip to Fort Myers: An art exhibit featuring work by James Franco

By Maggie Duffy, Times Staff Writer

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Fort Myers is kind of a hike, but a worthy one to see this exhibition, a collaboration between actor **James Franco** and renowned artist **Kalup Linzy**. The exhibit takes place at the Bob Rauschenberg Gallery at Florida SouthWestern State College and runs through July 29, so you have some time to get down there.

Here's some background on how this came to be, and what to expect: Linzy got his MFA at the University of South Florida, where his senior thesis was a video performance art sendup of soap operas called *All My Churen*. This piece was included in a group show at the Studio Museum of Harlem in 2005, which got him noticed by the *New York Times*' art critic and led to his work being shown at MOMA, the Met and the Whitney. Franco became aware of Linzy after seeing him perform at Art Basel in Miami in 2009, while Franco was playing a deranged artist on *General Hospital* — a role he considered a piece of performance art rather than acting. The two bonded and have been collaborating ever since.

The exhibition premieres several new projects while surveying their collaborative and individual photography, painting, multimedia works and related ephemera (including costumes and props used to create works on view). 8099 College Parkway. rauschenberggallery.com.



Courtesy of the Bob Rauschenberg Gallery

James Franco and Kalup Linzy collaborative exhibition is on display at the Bob Rauschenberg Gallery in Fort Myers through July 29.

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