

CoveringsETC and Iron Side Team Up to Help Haiti's Children

Miami, FL Oct 2010 - After Haiti's devastating January 12 7.0 magnitude earthquake, Paulina Montes and the co-founders of Fundacion Manos del Sur decided they wanted to do something to help. Manos del Sur, a charity organization focusing on children and education to help solve social issues partnered with Antuan, the curator for this project, and a dozen international artists to paint huge canvas tents, each one of which will be able to seat about 30 children and serve as temporary classrooms in earthquake ravaged Haiti. Iron Side, the sustainable campus of mixed use facilities in the MiMo (Miami Modern Boulevard Historic District) donated warehouse space where the artists are working their magic in the open bay next to CoveringsETC.

The selected artists have contributed their own perspective of Haiti, using the tents as their canvas. Each tent is 20 x 10 feet and is 13 feet high. There are windows and openings in the front and back to allow for adequate air circulation. Antuan says he personally designed the tent style and carefully chose the material taking in consideration durability, paintability, water and wind resistance and security. He says he wanted the children to feel comfortable and safe inside. To help fund school equipment and supplies for the students, there will be an art auction, (many works have already been donated). Then the maquettes will be on display at the Frost Museum at Florida International University. The actual tents will be moved to Miami's EPIC Hotel in downtown Miami and exhibited during Art Basel, and finally shipped off to Haiti, possibly coinciding with the one-year anniversary of the quake.

"Many artists from other countries wanted to participate but we only have 10 tents," Antuan says. "But I think we have a really interesting group and each of these artists - in one way or another - have through their works of art provided some form of help during a crisis or during difficult times, and they have all donated their works of art for humanitarian causes as well."

Stay tuned for an upcoming press preview and project launch being hosted by Coverings ETC (7610 NE 4th Court) where you will be able to take a closer look at the tents and meet the artists. CoveringsETC is a US Company based in Miami, FL with widespread distribution. For more information contact info@coveringsETC.com or visit www.coveringsETC.com



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