March 26th
Opening Reception

TENANTS ORGANIZE
IN NEW YORK CITY
An exhibition at Interference Archive
March 26 through June 15, 2015

Interference Archive presents We Won’t Move: Tenants Organize in New York City, an exploration of collective action by NYC tenants for decent and affordable housing from the 1940s to the present.

The creation and subsequent dismantling of the rent regulation system forms the backdrop to a rich history of tenant struggle, including:

- Neighborhood resistance to urban renewal in the South Bronx
- Integration struggles at Stuyvesant Town and in Brooklyn
- Rent strikes in Harlem
- Tenants demonstrate in support of the Emergency Tenant Protection Act, which extended rent stabilization to most of the apartments affected by vacancy decontrol (circa 1975)
- Private collection of the Metropolitan Council on Housing

Formed in 1936 by residents of Knickerbocker Village, the City Wide Tenants Council was the first citywide federation of tenant associations in NYC (1938).

There is no place to move -- so let’s stay and fight to the finish.

The WE WON’T MOVE COMMITTEE of the Metropolitan Council on Housing, circa 1970

This exhibition was developed in collaboration with:
- Asian Americans for Equality
- Banana Kelly CIA, Inc.
- Community Action for Safe Apartments
- Cooper Square Committee
- Crown Heights Tenant Union
- Equality for Flatbush
- Flatbush Tenant Coalition
- Metropolitan Council on Housing
- Southside United HDFC – Los Sures®
- St Nicks Alliance
- Tenants & Neighbors
- United Community Centers, Inc.
- Urban Homesteading Assistance Board

Organized by Maggie Schreiner with Ash Bayer, Bonnie Gordon, Jen Hoyer, Karen Hwang and Greg Mihalko

Design by Partner & Partners

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This project is sponsored, in part, by the Greater New York Arts Development Fund administered by Brooklyn Arts Council (BAC), a program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

Interference Archive
131 8th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11215

Hours
Thursday, 1—9pm
Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 12—5pm

Interference Archive explores the relationship between cultural production and social movements. This work manifests in public exhibitions, a study and social center, residencies, workshops, publications, and an online presence. Through our programming, we use cultural ephemera to support and inspire people organizing for social transformation. We consider the use of our collection to be a way of preserving and learning histories and material cultures that are often marginalized in mainstream institutions. As an archive from below, we work to collaboratively explore the role of our collection in developing and disseminating new narratives and arguments for social justice.

We work in collaboration with like-minded projects and encourage critical as well as creative engagement with our collection’s histories and current struggles.

The archive is all volunteer and relies on the help of many people. We welcome you to get involved.

Visit www.interferencearchive.org for more information.
March 26
Opening Party
7pm

RECEPTION at Interference Archive
Join us to celebrate the opening of We Won’t Move: Tenants Organize in New York City an exhibition of collective action by NYC tenants for decent and affordable housing from the 1940s to the present.

April 4
My Brooklyn
7pm
SCREENING & DISCUSSION at Interference Archive of issues raised in the film with Director Kelly Anderson

April 10
Strengthening Rent Regulation
3pm
WORKSHOP with Tenants & Neighbors
Explore the loopholes in the rent regulation system and how they cause gentrification in our communities. Learn about the current campaign for a stronger rent regulation system.

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April 30
Policing and Gentrification
7pm
PANEL DISCUSSION at Interference Archive
Introduction by Christina Hanhardt, author of Safe Space: Gay Neighborhoods History and the Politics of Violence with panelists from Equality for Flatbush, GOLES and Picture the Homeless. This panel brings together organizers, residents and academics to discuss the intersections between policing and housing policy. Topics include policing in public housing, in rapidly gentrifying neighborhoods, and of people experiencing marginal housing.

May 6
Know Your Rights Workshop for Tenants
7pm
WORKSHOP at Interference Archive with Mario Mazzoni of Penn South Mutual Redevelopment Houses Get an overview of basic NYC tenant rights, learn how to determine the type of housing you live in, and how to fight for your tenant rights!

May 16
Housing Justice in NYC: Tenant Organizers in Conversation
4pm
DISCUSSION at Brooklyn Public Library
10 Grand Army Plaza, Info Commons Lab Join us for an informal conversation between members from CAAAV: Organizing Asian Communities, Community Action for Safe Apartments, Cooper Square Committee, Crown Heights Tenant Union, Equality for Flatbush, Flatbush Tenant Coalition, Met Council on Housing and Tenants & Neighbors about current issues and organizing in different neighborhoods. Connect with the organizations and individuals fighting for housing justice in our city!

May 30
Open House and Curator Tour
1pm
GUIDED TOUR at Interference Archive
Join us for light refreshments.