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CULTURAL ICON JAY "JEEZY" JENKINS & DR. FAHAMU PÈCOU UNITE FOR GROUNDBREAKING ART AUCTION BENEFITING YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

**Custom Jeezy Portrait "School of Hard Knocks" Raises
Funds for Street Dreamz Foundation and African
Diaspora Art Museum of Atlanta**



ATLANTA, GA – In a powerful convergence of hip-hop culture and fine art, Grammy-nominated artist Jay "Jeezy" Jenkins joined forces with renowned visual artist [Dr. Fahamu Pècou](#) for an extraordinary evening dedicated to uplifting the next generation. The centerpiece of the event

was the unveiling and auction of "School of Hard Knocks," a one-of-a-kind custom painting created by Dr. Pècou commemorating the 20th anniversary of Jeezy's seminal album "Let's Get It: Thug Motivation 101". The invite-only private unveiling was held at [Johnson Lowe](#), an internationally known contemporary art gallery exhibiting the works of highly respected artists and is based in Atlanta, GA.



The masterwork, officially described as a tribute to "all the thinkers, hustlers, and visionaries molded in fire," presents Jeezy in striking white attire, positioned as a professor-like figure holding an imagined text titled "They We Didn't Realize We Were Seeds"—a reference to Dr. Pècou's acclaimed series exploring regeneration and resistance through African spiritual cosmologies. The composition features symbolic elements including a clear backpack filled with cowrie shells and a crystallized Snowman emblem, transforming objects of surveillance into sacred insignia of empowerment.

"This painting is not just a tribute to Jeezy's 20-year legacy," Dr. Pècou explains. "It is an offering to all the thinkers, hustlers, and visionaries molded in fire. For those of us who come through the

margins, the school of hard knocks isn't metaphor—it's alma mater. And from its halls, we emerge not broken, but forged—brilliant, unbowed, and blooming."



Radio legend Frank Ski served as auctioneer for the evening, facilitating the sale of the artwork to Mr. Jerry Thomas, Jeezy's revered mentor, for an undisclosed dollar amount. In a testament to the evening's philanthropic mission, 100% of the proceeds will be split equally between Jeezy's [Street Dreamz Foundation](#)—a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to empowering at-risk youth through technology, health, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy initiatives—and Dr. Pècou's African Diaspora Art Museum of Atlanta.

This collaboration represents more than an artistic achievement—it embodies the power of culture to create change. As Jeezy has consistently demonstrated through his music and philanthropy, and as Dr. Pècou illustrates through his visual narratives, art serves as both mirror and map, reflecting struggle while providing blueprints for transformation.

The Street Dreamz Foundation continues its mission to foster independence, respect, and leadership among young people, motivating each child to reach their ultimate potential. Similarly, the African Diaspora Art Museum of Atlanta remains committed to preserving and celebrating the rich artistic heritage of the African diaspora.

About Jay "Jeezy" Jenkins:

Grammy-nominated artist, New York Times best-selling author, entrepreneur, and philanthropist Jay "Jeezy" Jenkins has amassed over 6.5 billion catalog streams and 960 million YouTube views as the Atlanta pioneer of hip-hop's dominant trap genre. With more than a dozen RIAA gold, platinum, and multi-platinum hits and five consecutive #1 albums, Jeezy continues to impact culture through music, business ventures, and the Street Dreamz Foundation.

About Dr. Fahamu Pècou:

Dr. Fahamu Pècou is a renowned visual artist whose work explores themes of regeneration, resistance, and rebirth through African spiritual cosmologies and Black radical traditions. His acclaimed series and exhibitions have garnered international recognition for their powerful commentary on diaspora, identity, and transformation. Dr. Fahamu Pècou is represented by Johnson Lowe Gallery in Atlanta, GA, Backlash in Paris, France and Conduit in Dallas, TX.

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