

100 MURDERS AND 1 SUICIDE

AIRCO CARAVAN

15% of the murders in New York City are committed in Manhattan. In 2013 visual artist Airco Caravan searched for spots, addresses and names of 100 murders in Lower Manhattan, Chinatown, Lower East Side, East Village and Chelsea. A lot of the killings appeared to be anonymous, but in many cases the faces of the victims and their perpetrators were found. Caravan encountered heartbreaking stories of domestic violence, disputes and plain robberies. Teenagers killing each other and gruesome nicknames like Baby-shower Slay. People just walking over a dead body in Rivington Street. A surreal murder by a man in a wheelchair stabbing another guy in a wheelchair to death. A killing because of watching television, Chinese business rivals, a 17-year old perpetrator upset 'over a look', a 16-year old boy shot to death because he didn't give up his Marmot winter parka.

The pictures were taken on the spot where the murders took place, sometimes the actual house numbers were shot (as shown on the right), but often only the sidewalk with no more than the shadows of some passers-by were photographed. Millions of people pass those sidewalks, without being aware what happened. Does the pavement reveal its past? Thus wandering through the streets of NYC, exploring life and death in this bustling city and questioning the glamour of the American Dream.

The mattresses from the R.I.P. series (see back side) offer the deadly injured victims a warm and soft landing place posthumously.

More of these series: www.aircocaravan.com/100-murders



09/14/08 - 112 E 17th St.
Victim: Arlene Coffey
white female, 72
Perpetrator: David Coffey
white male, 54
Motive: not reported
Weapon: gun - Arlene was a
longtime smoker and diagnosed
with cancer, killed by her son



07/01/12 10:40 AM - 83 Henry St.
Victim: Xiao L. Li, 70
Yong Hua Chen, 36
Perpetrator: Song Fei Li
asian male, 34
Motive: prostitution related
Weapon: gun - Both women
shot in the head, apartment set on
fire by the Chinese gang member



05/11/11 3:23 AM - 190 Stanton St.
Victim: Stewart Rhodes
black male, 50
Perpetrator: Charles Meredith
black male, 46
Motive: not reported
Weapon: knife - Stabbed
multiple times in Stanton House,
Meredith had seven prior arrests



06/16/05 - 47 East Broadway
Victim: Ming Wang
asian male, 43
Perpetrator: Sau Yung Cheng
asian male, 50
Motive: business rivals
Weapon: gun - Shot 4-8 times
in head and body in popular Yung
Sun Seafood Restaurant



06/09/12 2:48 AM - 737 E 5th St.
Victim: Corey 'Black' Capers
black male, 31
Perpetrator: Carl Knox
black male, 47
Motive: dispute
Weapon: knife - 'He died
defending somebody whom he
truly loves,' his fiancée Amy said



09/01/09 10:04 PM - 317 Bowery
Victim: Paul Green
black male, 39
Perpetrator: Daniel Abbastante
black male, 35
Motive: not reported
Weapon: other - Mr. Green
had serious head injuries after
being punched and kicked



04/10/11 2:37 AM - 63 Clinton St.
Victim: Sarah Coit
white female, 23
Perpetrator: Raul Barrera
hispanic male, 33
Motive: not reported - couple
Weapon: gun - Shot multiple
times throughout the body, struck
in the head, right arm, knee, neck
and back, cocaine related



06/02/11 12:33 AM - 85 Pitt St.
Victim: Jonathan Alston
black male, 23
Perpetrator: black male, 20
Motive: not reported
Weapon: gun - Shot multiple
times throughout the body, struck
in the head, right arm, knee, neck
and back, cocaine related

R.I.P.



The Other Side of Light - 235 W 22nd St. & 15 Broad St.
Two deaths on one pillow; a sad love story resulted in a murder and a
suicide. This pillow brings Margaux Powers and Jonathan Smith back
together again, to let them rest their heads in peace.

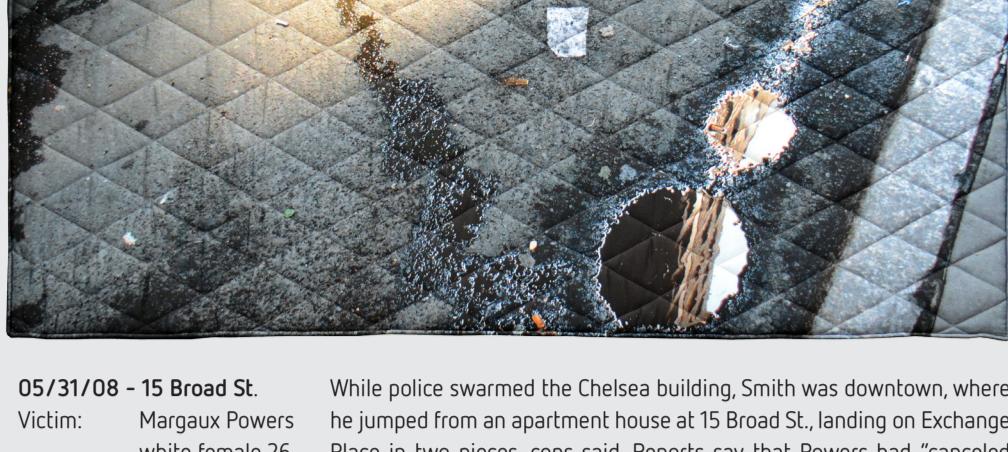
Printed murder address on each side of the pillow, 60 x 40 cm (23 x 15") 2014,
from the series 100 Murders and 1 Suicide (New York, 2013).

AIRCO CARAVAN

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POWERS VS. SMITH

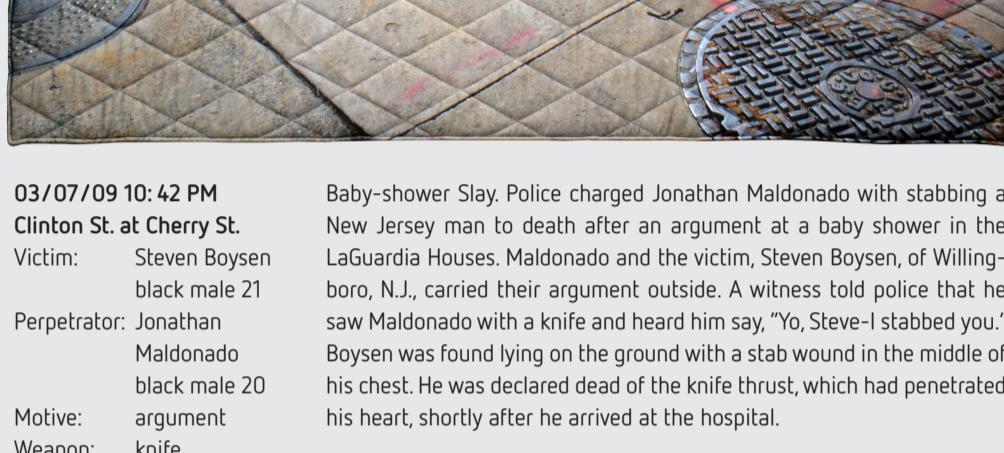


05/31/08 - 15 Broad St.

Victim: Margaux Powers
white female 26
Perpetrator: Jonathan Smith
white male 34
Motive: not reported
Weapon: knife

While police swarmed the Chelsea building, Smith was downtown, where he jumped from an apartment house at 15 Broad St., landing on Exchange Place in two pieces, cops said. Reports say that Powers had "canceled plans to attend a family gathering Thursday" so she could break up with Jonathan Smith. Powers and Smith, a chef who had been recently laid off, lived together in the Chelsea apartment on 235 W 22nd St. Police believe Smith slit her throat with a kitchen knife, which was later cleaned and heated in an oven, perhaps in an attempt to destroy evidence.

YO STEVE - I STABBED YOU

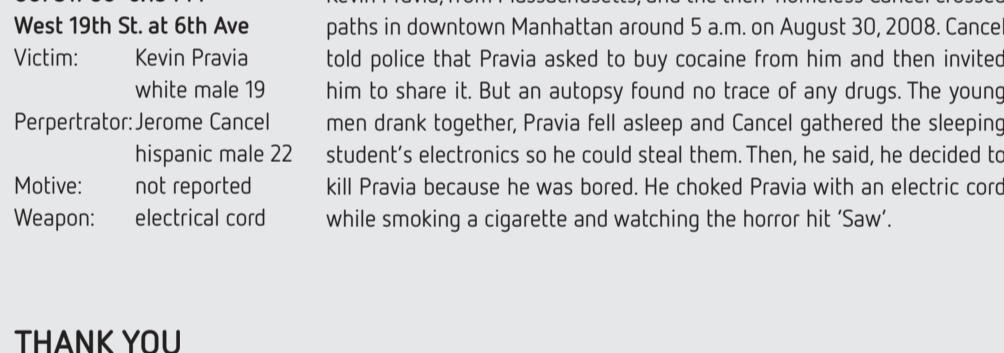


03/07/09 10:42 PM

Clinton St. at Cherry St.
Victim: Steven Boysen
black male 21
Perpetrator: Jonathan Maldonado
black male 20
Motive: argument
Weapon: knife

Baby-shower Slay. Police charged Jonathan Maldonado with stabbing a New Jersey man to death after an argument at a baby shower in the LaGuardia Houses. Maldonado and the victim, Steven Boysen, of Willingboro, N.J., carried their argument outside. A witness told police that he saw Maldonado with a knife and heard him say, "Yo, Steve-I stabbed you." Boysen was found lying on the ground with a stab wound in the middle of his chest. He was declared dead of the knife thrust, which had penetrated his heart, shortly after he arrived at the hospital.

CANCEL KEVIN

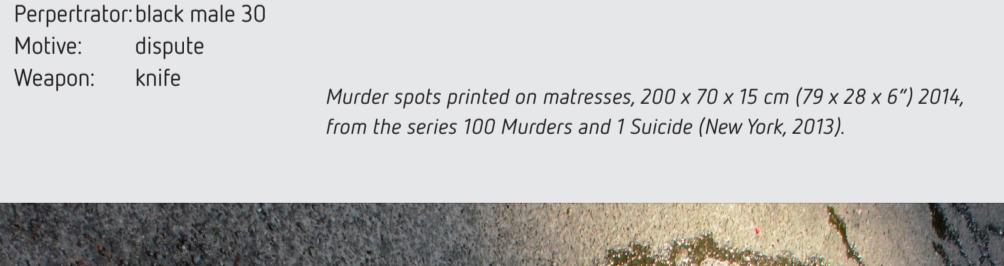


08/31/08 6:15 PM

West 19th St. at 6th Ave
Victim: Kevin Pravia
white male 19
Perpetrator: Jerome Cancel
hispanic male 22
Motive: not reported
Weapon: electrical cord

Kevin Pravia, from Massachusetts, and the then-homeless Cancel crossed paths in downtown Manhattan around 5 a.m. on August 30, 2008. Cancel told police that Pravia asked to buy cocaine from him and then invited him to share it. But an autopsy found no trace of any drugs. The young men drank together, Pravia fell asleep and Cancel gathered the sleeping student's electronics so he could steal them. Then, he said, he decided to kill Pravia because he was bored. He choked Pravia with an electric cord while smoking a cigarette and watching the horror hit 'Saw'.

THANK YOU



08/18/07 2:44 AM

W 21 St at Fifth Avenue
Victim: black male 25
Perpetrator: black male 30
Motive: dispute
Weapon: knife

No reports or details were found on this homicide.

Murder spots printed on mattresses, 200 x 70 x 15 cm (79 x 28 x 6") 2014, from the series 100 Murders and 1 Suicide (New York, 2013).

