**Sophia Dawson**

*Palante* 2015

Acrylic and collage on canvas

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My paintings are inspired by Michael Abramson’s photos of the Young Lords in his book, *Palante.* Photographs that depicted women at the forefront of the movement were selected with the goal of conveying the roles women assumed in building the organization and defending its highest aspirations.

**Sophia Dawson** is a Brooklyn based visual artist who has dedicated her life’s work to exposing the stories and experiences of individuals who are striving to overcome the injustices they face both individually and collectively. By raising awareness of these individuals she aims to humanize social justice issues and to prevent such experiences from being repeated in the future. She holds a B.A from the School of Visual Arts and a M.A. in visual arts administration from New York University. Her work has recently been exhibited in Rush Arts Gallery and the Bronx Museum for the Arts. She is a recent participant of the Whitney Museum's Independent Studio program and a current resident of the Bronx Museum of Art’s first residency program. She leads art worskhops at Rikers Island through Artistic Noise a nonprofit based in harlem that serves the growth of court involved youth. Some of the subjects of her practice include mothers who have lost their children to police brutality both past and present, the Central Park 5, and political prisoners from the Black Liberation movement that are still incarcerated within the United States.