



Historic transatlantic rowboat heads to Equatorial Guinea museum

Decommissioning and send-off ceremony for the Spirit of Malabo is scheduled on October 12, 2017 at 11 am from the Gateway Marina in Brooklyn, New York.

BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, UNITED STATES, October 8, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [On his fourth try](#), Brooklyn born oarsmen, Victor Mooney completed a five-thousand mile solo transatlantic row from Las Palmas, Canary Islands and made landfall with the Spirit of Malabo at New York's Brooklyn Bridge on November 28, 2015. The journey would take an arduous twenty-one months.

The Brazilian built rowboat will now be transported back to Africa where it will be on permanent exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art Equatorial Guinea in the city of Malabo. Rowing and safety gear, books, equipment, diaries, charts, navigation tools, still photos and fishing apparatus that were part of the Atlantic crossing will accompany the museum exhibition.

The transatlantic row was for AIDS awareness and to memorialize the countless numbers of Africans that died during the transatlantic slave trade and worked on plantations in the Americas and Caribbean. The vessel was sponsored by the Republic of Equatorial Guinea along with numerous partners both locally, nationally and worldwide. Mr. Mooney became the first African-American to row across any ocean.

On World AIDS Day in 2004, the late [Pope John Paul II](#) gave Mr. Mooney an audience where he would receive a benediction from the pontiff for his mission of humanity.

The Spirit of Malabo arrived at Brooklyn's Kingsborough Community College in June 2013 by cargo ship from Sao Paulo, Brazil. The vessel would later launched sea trials, which started from SUNY Maritime College in the Bronx that was undertaken in New York waterways (Long Island/ New York City).

The decommissioning and send-off ceremony for the Spirit of Malabo is designed to coincide with the celebration of Equatorial Guinea's 49th Year of Independence from Spain. The Spirit of Malabo will be transported by Maersk Line, the worlds largest container shipping company.

Decommissioning and send-off ceremony
October 12, 2017
11 am
Gateway Marina (3260 Flatbush Avenue)
Brooklyn, New York
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