

ARTADIA
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ARTADIA ANNOUNCES 2022 NEW YORK AWARDEES



Left to right: Jeffrey Meris (Photo by Merik Goma), Alex Strada & Tali Keren (Photo courtesy of Artists), Kim Dacres (Photo by Max Yawney).

Embargoed Through May 4th, 2 pm

(New York, NY | May 4th, 2022)

Artadia, a nonprofit grant making organization and nationwide community of visual artists, curators, and patrons, is pleased to announce that **Kim Dacres**, **Jeffrey Meris**, and collaborative duo **Alex Strada** and **Tali Keren** have been selected as the recipients of the 2022 New York Artadia Awards.

Press-approved images of each artist's work are available [here](#).

The 2022 New York Artadia Awards are generously supported by the Orentreich Family Foundation, the Pollock-Krasner Foundation, The Willem de Kooning Foundation, an Anonymous Donor, the Artadia Board of Directors, Artadia Council Members, and individual donors across the country. The New York Artadia Network is generously supported by the Lily Auchincloss Foundation as well as the National Endowment for the Arts.

In addition to the financial Awards, all Awardees have access to the ongoing benefits of the Artadia Awards program. The 2022 New York Artadia Award application was open to visual artists working in any visual media, at any stage in their career, who have been living and working

throughout the five boroughs—Manhattan, Brooklyn, the Bronx, Queens, and Staten Island—for a minimum of two years.

The decision was reached after an extensive two-tiered jury process, culminating in virtual studio visits with Jurors **Susanna V. Temkin**, Curator, El Museo del Barrio and **Nat Trotman**, Curator, Performance and Media, Guggenheim Museum.

“Representing a diverse cohort working across sculpture, installation, and social practice, Dacres, Meris, and Strada & Keren were selected from a strong pool of nearly 500 applicants whose practices I have been privileged to learn about throughout the jury process.” stated **Temkin**. Fellow juror **Trotman** expressed similar sentiments “All six Finalists should be recognized for their extraordinary work, which truly represents the strength, breadth, and complexity of the artistic community in New York City. I am honored to have been able to learn about their practices and to contribute to Artadia's essential programming in support of artists.”

Trotman commented on **Dacres'** tire sculptures, remarking, “These evocative works brilliantly combine formal ingenuity with a careful reconsideration of the form and function of memorial sculpture, resulting in a powerful and wholly original body of work.”

On the collaborative practice of **Strada** and **Keren**, **Temkin** noted “Centering collaboration and collective memory, the research driven practice of Strada & Keren facilitates public dialogue about the challenges and potentials embedded in civic history and social structures, presented with aesthetic and equitable rigor.”

In addition to Dacres, Meris, Strada and Keren, this year's finalists for the Award included **Widline Cadet**, **Genesis Jerez**, and **Asif Mian**, selected by **Nancy Lim**, Associate Curator, Painting and Sculpture, SFMoMA, **Niama Safia Sandy**, Curator, Lecturer, and Multidisciplinary Artist, and **Susanna V. Temkin**, Curator, El Museo del Barrio.

Since its founding in 1999, Artadia has awarded over \$5 million in unrestricted funds to over 350 artists. Celebrating visual artists and the foundational role they play in shaping society, the Artadia Award benefits three artists annually in each of seven major US cities with high concentrations of creative workers—Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, San Francisco Bay Area, and New York. Beyond the grant, the Award includes lifelong access to a community of fellow artists and patrons. The Artadia Award is designed to provide essential funding and recognition to artists at pivotal points in their careers, strengthen their communities, and spur new levels of career achievement.

Press Contact

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About [Kim Dacres](#) (she/her)

Kim Dacres is a Bronx-born Jamaican American visual artist and sculptor who lives in Harlem. Her work has been exhibited at A.I.R Gallery (NYC), Harlem's Marcus Garvey Park, Galleria Anna Marra (Rome), UTA Artist Space (Beverly Hills), Gavlak, (Los Angeles | Palm Beach), The Armory (NYC), REGULARNORMAL x ArtNoir (NYC), and Art Basel (Miami Beach). She most recently participated in the survey exhibition *Black American Portraits* at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) and will be a part of the 2022 outdoor exhibition *Godhead: Idols in the Time of Crisis*, the 12th edition of Lustwarande in the Netherlands.

Kim uses found tires and rubber from automobiles and bicycles to create sculptures of ideas and significant people in her life and community. In the process of layering the materials, the rubber's experience and journey transform into muscle, bone, skin, hair, and personal style that underscore the embedded value of a person's experience. Each piece works to highlight black people, Blackness, and who is entitled to space and deserving of honorifics and monuments.

About [Jeffrey Meris](#) (they/him)

Jeffrey Meris (b. 1991, Haiti) is an artist who earned an AA in Arts and Crafts from the University of The Bahamas in 2012, a BFA in Sculpture from the Tyler School of Art in 2015, and an MFA in Visual Arts from Columbia University in 2019. Meris is a Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture 2019 alum, a NXTHVN 2020 studio fellow and currently a Sharpe Walentas Studio fellow 2021.

Conjured in the brain, the first images of healing that come to mind are often of light, purity, or the sublime. In my most recent body of work, I transition between the trauma of the colonial project in my sculptures to healing and restoring those wounds in my paintings. What would healing centuries of anti-blackness, xenophobia, homophobia, and other oppressions look like? I use the rust of oxidized steel calloused on my sculptures to reveal the messiness that lays hand in hand with the divinity in the regeneration process.

About [Alex Strada & Tali Keren](#)

Alex Strada (she/hers) and Tali Keren (she/hers) are New York-based artists and educators who have been working together since 2016. Their collaborative work has been shown at the Queens Museum, NY; Anthology Film Archives, NY; Socrates Sculpture Park, NY; Goethe-Institut, NY; MuseumsQuartier, Vienna; Kaunas Biennial, Lithuania; and on the screens of Times Square with *Midnight Moment*. Their projects have been featured in *The New York Times*, *New Yorker*, *Vice*, *Montez Press Radio*, *New York Magazine*, and on WNYC's *The Brian Lehrer's Show*. They both received an MFA in Visual Arts from Columbia University.

Strada and Keren are transnational collaborators whose socially-engaged process foregrounds experimental pedagogy, transdisciplinary dialogue, and collectivity. Through poetic interventions in cultural sites and legislative documents, they question the construction of hegemonic narratives and open spaces for political imagination and re-telling. Their projects are often iterative and take the form of film/video, performance, multi-media installation, and participatory workshops.