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## Artadia Reveals 2017 Chicago Award Winners

Rashayla Marie Brown and Claire Pentecost have been named the 2017 Chicago Artadia Award winners. They will each be given \$10,000 in unrestricted funds, access to the ongoing benefits of the Artadia Awards program, and the opportunity to present their works at Artadia's booth at EXPO CHICAGO. Pentecost will present *The Library of Tears*, a large-scale sculpture that employs materials resulting from oil and gas extraction, and Brown will exhibit a multimedia installation featuring photographs, video, and ephemera.



The award's jury, comprising artist Rashid Johnson; Omar Kholeif, the senior curator and director of global initiatives at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; Susan Thompson, assistant curator at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum; and Megha Ralapati, the residency and special projects manager at Hyde Park Art Center selected five finalists: Rashayla Marie Brown, Alex Chitty, Cameron Clayborn, Faheem Majeed, and Claire Pentecost.

"Rashayla Marie Brown is developing a new paradigm that shifts the way we consider identity and representation today," Ralapati said. "The work enacts a code of ethics for all who participate in it: artistic collaborators, patrons, and of course the artist herself. Rashayla is on the verge of big things, which we hope this award will help make possible." Commenting on Pentecost's work, Ralapati said, "Claire Pentecost has spent two decades evolving a practice, which ardently interrogates the cumulative impacts of climate change on our planet and all its life forms. Her work reminds us of the great urgency of this issue, to science and art in equal measure."

This is Artadia's eighth award cycle in Chicago. Only visual artists who have lived in Chicago for more than two years were considered for the award.