

March 14, 2017

ARTADIA ANNOUNCES AWARDEES FOR THIRD LOS ANGELES AWARDS

New York, NY - Artadia is pleased to announce the Awardees for the 2017 Los Angeles Artadia Awards: **Kahlil Joseph** and **Gala Porras-Kim**. As the 2017 Los Angeles Artadia Awardees, **Joseph** and **Porras-Kim** will receive \$10,000 in unrestricted funds as well as access to the ongoing benefits of the Artadia Awards program. This is Artadia's third year providing unrestricted Awards to artists in Los Angeles. Applications for the Awards were open to any visual artist living in Los Angeles County, for over two years, working in all media and at any stage of their career.

In the first round of jurying, **Daniel Joseph Martinez**, artist, Los Angeles, CA; **Yesomi Umolu**, Exhibitions Curator, Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts, Chicago, IL; and **Anuradha Vikram**, Artistic Director, 18th Street Arts Center, Los Angeles, CA, selected five Finalists: **Carmen Argote**, **Jibade-Khalil Huffman**, **Kahlil Joseph**, **Gelare Khoshgozaran**, and **Gala Porras-Kim**. **Bennett Simpson**, Senior Curator, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, joined **Vikram** for the second round of evaluations. The jurors conducted studio visits with each of the five Finalists to determine the Awardees.

Vikram extolled the ways in which **Porras-Kim** engages with cultural heritage and language in her practice: "**Gala Porras-Kim** is an artist in whose work a restorative vision of the future is not only envisioned but actively created. With extreme care and cultural sensitivity, **Porras-Kim** uses art's speculative and imaginative powers to focus attention on real-world cultures and languages that have been neglected. Through her own process of learning about and understanding the value of these endangered ways of being, **Porras-Kim's** artworks enhance the fields of archaeology, museology, and linguistics as well as contemporary art." Of **Joseph**, **Vikram** stated: "**Kahlil Joseph** has one of the most distinctively original visual styles of any artist currently working in film. His hybrid practice crossing cinema, visual art, fashion, and popular music is sparking conversation far beyond the usual art circles. Whether his work takes the form of immersive gallery installations or more conventional single-channel cinema display, **Joseph** captures the arresting choreography of the contemporary street, which is both his setting and his sphere of influence."

Simpson highlighted how each Awardee uniquely captures the current zeitgeist: "It is an honor to award two such interesting and distinctive artists as **Kahlil Joseph** and **Gala Porras-Kim**. In a short time, **Joseph** has become one of the filmmakers people simply must pay attention to. His attention to choreography, sound, and cultural and community signifying—his particular poetics of blackness—is at home both in the museum and in the worlds of film and music. He is one of the indispensable voices of his moment. In a not-dissimilar manner, **Porras-Kim** brings an ethno-poetic interest in cultural heritage and translation to her many-layered installations. Her research acumen and politics allow histories to surface and merge with our moment."

Artadia is a national non-profit organization that supports artists with unrestricted, merit-based Awards followed by a lifetime of program opportunities. Artadia is unique in that it allows any artist to apply, engages nationally recognized curators to review work, and culminates in direct grants. Since 1999, Artadia has awarded over \$3 million to more than 300 artists in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, and San Francisco.

The 2017 Los Angeles Artadia Awards are made possible thanks to the generosity of Allison and Larry Berg, Artadia's Board of Directors, Council members, and many individual donors in Los Angeles and throughout the United States.

2017 LOS ANGELES ARTADIA AWARDEES



Kahlil Joseph, *m.A.A.d.*, 2014, 35mm motion picture still (“Streetlight”),
1240 x 670 pixels

KAHLIL JOSEPH

“With various cinematic tools ranging from 35mm film to new digital technologies and intricate sound design, I explore the space between traditional cinema, and film installation. The themes I explore in my work include memory, time, dimensionality, rhythm, spirit, identity, and more. However, regardless of subject or form, dynamic, expressive imagery is paramount.”



Gala Porrás-Kim, *For Learning Zapotec Verbs*, 2012,
wood, pencil, paper, wire, found rocks, 50 x 37.5 x
2.5 inches

GALA PORRAS-KIM

Gala Porrás-Kim’s work is made through the process of learning about the social and political contexts that influence how intangible things, such as sounds, language, and history, have been represented through different methodologies in the fields of linguistics, history, and conservation. The work comes from a research-based practice that considers the way people represent forms of communication with objects, codes, or written forms, and conversely, how objects can be used to make an official narrative through artifacts.