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DISTINGUISHED NATIONAL PANEL SELECTS FOUR ARTISTS FOR ARTADIA AWARDS 2013 SAN FRANCISCO

NEW YORK, NY - Artadia: The Fund for Art and Dialogue is pleased to announce the Artadia Awards 2013 San Francisco. For two consecutive days (February 12–13, 2013), three nationally known jurors—**Apsara DiQuinzio**, Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art and Phyllis C. Wattis MATRIX Curator, University of California, Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, CA; **Rita Gonzalez**, Associate Curator in the Department of Contemporary Art at the Los Angeles Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA; and **Yasufumi Nakamori**, Ph.D, Associate Curator in the Department of Photography at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston, TX—conducted 45-minute studio visits with each of the 10 short-listed artists. The Finalists were chosen from approximately 430 visual-art applicants living and working in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The two recipients of Artadia Awards 2013 San Francisco at the \$15,000 level are: **Lucy Raven** and **D-L Alvarez** (James D. Phelan Awardee). The two recipients of the \$3,000 awards are: **Alicia McCarthy** and **Liam Everett** (San Francisco Council Awardee). (See attachment for images and descriptions of the awardees' work.)

“This year's group of finalists is incredibly impressive which did not make the decision process easy. We think that our selection gives a sense of the incredible range of artistic practices in the Bay Area but also signals a certain shared quality of generosity and engagement that seems to be a product of working in a tight knit community,” said national juror **Rita Gonzalez**.

“It is my great pleasure to congratulate these Bay Area artists on such an incredible achievement,” stated San Francisco Arts Commission Director of Cultural Affairs **Tom DeCaigny**. “These Artadia Awards affirm the Bay Area's prominence at both the national and international levels as a place where artists can flourish and break new ground in their work.”

Artadia Founder and President **Chris Vroom** added, “Artadia was founded in the Bay area to amplify the visibility of the amazing artistic practice resident here. We're so excited to have the opportunity to showcase this group of fantastic artists in this, the 14th year of the Artadia Awards in San Francisco.”

Applications for the Artadia Awards were open to visual artists in all media and at any stage of their career working and living in the 5-county San Francisco Bay Area. The application was available online for 10 weeks from November 1, 2012 to January 15, 2013. The three first-round jurors—**Apsara DiQuinzio; Holly Block**, Director, The Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York; and **Paul Pfeiffer**, Artist, New York—named the 10 finalists in New York in January. This is the eighth cycle of Artadia Awards in San Francisco.

National juror, **Yasufumi Nakamori** said of the process, “Artadia San Francisco 2013 awards gave me not only a chance to meet a dozen fantastic artists in all media in the Bay Area, but also a sense about the area's art community and its history. I found the process extremely enjoyable, working with a selection team that consists of a local curator and two out-of-town curators, and meeting with the organization's board members, administrators, and other supporters.”

Additionally, Artadia presented the works of the ten finalists at the “Finalist Exhibition & Reception” at **Stephen Wirtz Gallery** on February 12th, 2013. The Artadia show was curated by San Francisco curator **Maurizio Hector Pineda**.

Visionary support for Artadia in San Francisco is provided by the San Francisco Foundation, the Phyllis C. Wattis Foundation, the Artadia San Francisco Council, and many generous individuals in San Francisco who share a deep commitment to supporting the arts. To honor the generous gifts of the San Francisco Foundation **D-L Alvarez** was named **James D. Phelan Awardee**. To honor the Artadia San Francisco Council gift, **Liam Everett** was named **San Francisco Council Awardee**.



About Artadia: The Fund for Art and Dialogue

Artadia supports visual artists with unrestricted awards and connections to a network of opportunities, while providing local communities with national exposure. By awarding significant financial awards to artists, Artadia establishes a strong new incentive to support artistic excellence. Artadia was founded as The ArtCouncil in 1997 by investment banker and art collector Christopher E. Vroom. Artadia is active in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, and San Francisco and has awarded over \$3.0 million to more than 250 artists. Started as an individual's vision, Artadia's base of support now includes private foundations, a national Board of Directors, a National Council, a City Council, and members who are active in supporting the core of creative culture: the individual artist.

Artadia Awards are determined through a rigorous jury process that employs nationally prominent curators, artists, and critics. Artadia partners with local foundations and individuals in the host cities to raise funds that go directly to artists in that community. Artadia matches those contributions by providing the funds that administer the program. Once an artist receives an Artadia Award, he or she becomes part of a national network of lifetime support.

In 2009, Artadia launched a residency program, which brings Artadia Awardees from each of its program cities to New York for a 3-month residency at the International Studio and Curatorial Program. This groundbreaking addition to Artadia's commitment to individual artists is the first of its kind in New York City for US-based visual artists and is supported by the National Endowment for Arts (NEA). In 2010, Artadia launched a publications program and an Exhibitions Exchange program that shows Awardees from one partner city in another, offering Awardees crucial exposure outside of their local communities. Artadia also presents events in New York and Miami, which intend to not only demonstrate the tremendous creativity in partner communities, but also facilitate exchange and dialogue nationwide. Most recently, Artadia inaugurated an exhibitions space in New York to provide a platform for awardees to present their work in New York. Artadia presents over 20 events annually around the country, which are intended to demonstrate the tremendous creativity in partner communities and facilitate exchange and dialogue nationwide.

For press inquiries and information on Artadia, contact news@artadia.org.

For information on becoming a member or joining the National Council, Contemporary Council, or City Councils at Artadia, contact: Cara Benedetto, Program Director, cara@artadia.org; 212-727-2233 X 204.

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