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Artadia
The Fund for Art and Dialogue

DISTINGUISHED PANEL MAKES UNPRECEDENTED DECISION IN SELECTING ALL TEN FINALISTS AS AWARDEES FOR INAUGURAL NEW YORK ARTADIA AWARDS.

NEW YORK, NY - Artadia: The Fund for Art and Dialogue is pleased to announce the 2015 New York Artadia Awardees. Park McArthur and Georgia Sagri will each receive $10,000 unrestricted funds. Yevgeniya Baras, Joe Fyfe, Donna Huanca, Bill Jenkins, Jennie Jieun Lee, Eric Mack, Sara Magenheimer and Kameelah Rasheed will each be awarded $5,000 in unrestricted funds. All ten artists will receive the lifetime benefits of the Artadia Award program including access to our New York Residency, Awardee exhibitions, connections with curators, and participation in Artadia projects at art fairs across the country.

Second-round jurors Matthew Higgs, Director and Chief Curator of White Columns, John Rasmussen, Executive Director of Midway Contemporary Art, and Ingrid Schaffner, Curator, Carnegie International, Carnegie Museum of Art, conducted studio visits with the previously chosen ten finalists for two consecutive days in May. The jurors felt that the ten finalists selected from the largest applicant pool ever were remarkable, stating that, “it became clear by the second day that the group of New York-based artists were all extraordinarily strong.” Higgs, Rasmussen and Schaffner noted that the Awardees “are a nucleus of what is dynamic about contemporary art and speak to something beyond the commercial marketplace.” Each of the jurors were impressed by the complexity of the Awardees’ practices, and “in the case of Park and Georgia, their work has expanded a vocabulary that [they], as curators, work with every day.”

Applications for the New York Artadia Awards were open to visual artists living in New York’s five boroughs for over two years and working in all media, and at any stage of their career. In the first round, three jurors — Matthew Higgs joined by Amanda Hunt, Curator at The Studio Museum and artist Michele Abeles — selected ten finalists from a pool of 1050 applicants. Higgs served on both the first and second rounds of the Artadia jury to lend continuity and context to the review process.

Artadia founder Chris Vroom said of the inaugural New York Awards, “We are thrilled to bring Artadia’s
national network of direct support for artists to New York, our seventh program city. Artists here and around
the country are forging what will become our cultural legacy and we are proud to nurture their efforts.”
Since 1999, Artadia has recognized artistic excellence in cities across the United States with unrestricted,
merit-based Awards to contemporary artists chosen through a rigorous evaluation process juried by two
distinct panels of internationally recognized curators. In addition to New York, Artadia currently funds
Awards on a rotating cycle in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

The 2015 New York Artadia Awards were made possible thanks to the generosity of the Melva Bucksbaum
Family Foundation, the Artadia New York Award Council, HSBC, Sotheby’s, anonymous donors, Artadia’s
Board of Directors and members and many individual donors.

About Artadia: The Fund for Art and Dialogue

Artadia: The Fund for Art & Dialogue is a national non-profit organization that supports visual artists with
unrestricted, merit-based Awards and fosters connections to a network of opportunities. We recognize
artistic excellence in cities throughout the United States and introduce local communities to the
international art conversation. In the past 15 years, Artadia has awarded over $3 million to more than 285
artists throughout its participating Award cities of Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, San Francisco, and
Los Angeles. Over 20,000 artists have applied for the Artadia Awards program.

By providing artists with significant, unrestricted financial Awards ranging from $5,000 to $20,000, and
ongoing assistance through out their careers, Artadia establishes a strong incentive to support artistic
excellence. Additionally, continued support is achieved through close collaborations with its host cities
to create exhibition opportunities for artists, arrange studio visits with local as well as national curators,
source residency programs, and make introductions in the field.

As one of the few organizations to operate on both a local and national level, Artadia is in a unique position
to create sustainable fiscal and social change for artists. In addition to its ongoing Award cycles, Artadia
activates its unique network of artist services and support through national partnerships, in addition to
its own residency program at the International Studio and Curatorial Program in Brooklyn and a national
Award program with the New Art Dealer’s Alliance in New York and Miami. The Artadia/NADA Award helps
bring recognition to artists who are shown at one of the most visited national art fairs in the world.
2015 New York Artadia Awardees

Yevgeniya Baras

Through a unique narrative, Jennie Jieun Lee interprets historical forms and processes into brand new contexts with clay.

Joe Fyfe

“There is a strong desire to engage the viewer through visceral or haptic means, utilizing materials that are not overly cultural but only identifiably so, transforming them partially through re-use into the unfamiliar.”

Donna Huanca

Donna Huanca’s installations fuse tactile materials, such as clothing and ephemera to create architectural collages that are performative in nature. Working primarily with deconstructed clothing, dipped in paint and solidified, her sculptural gestures pause a once-fluid life of the garment.

Bill Jenkins

“My symbolical investigations consider; the landscape, the body as a shell, closeness, division, burdens, coupling, guilt, lack of understanding, and loneliness. For me, symbolism is a way celebrate the mystery.

“In the past year and in upcoming projects I have been making installations to solve real and imagined problems with the distribution of light in interior spaces. I pretend that light works in a similar way to water in that it falls and pools, and that I can control it as such.”

Jennie Jieun Lee
"At the center of my practice lies the exploration of performance as an ever-evolving field within social and visual life, interconnected, though distinct from the dialectics of representation in theater, music, and dance."

"I empathize with the fragment, in its origin being variable, as plain as it’s surface reads. Its potentiality is so great, so very urgent."

"I arrange objects, manipulate materials, collage sound, and direct scenes that rupture logical cohesion. Disrupting what are often thought of as closed systems creates an opportunity for new meanings to emerge; not just a normative thing and its opposite, point and counterpoint, but a third, fourth or fifth category."

"Much of my work involves pathways to and through the multiplicity of work as a critique of the individual: whether as a ready-made object designed and produced and shipped around the world, or as a list printed as a wall label of the names of the hundreds of people who have physically lifted my body in acts of care."

"As an artist-archivist, my work reckons with the complexity of memory, ritual, historiography, and archival practices as they relate to the construction of both personal and social histories."

"I empathize with the fragment, in its origin being variable, as plain as it’s surface reads. Its potentiality is so great, so very urgent."