

June 19, 2018

ARTADIA ANNOUNCES FIVE FINALISTS FOR 2018 CHICAGO AWARDS

New York, NY - Artadia is pleased to announce the five Finalists for the 2018 Chicago Awards: **Bethany Collins, Daniel Eisenberg, Brendan Fernandes, Leonard Suryajaya, and Derrick Woods-Murrow**. The Finalists will receive studio visits with second round jurors, who will ultimately select two artists as Awardees to receive \$10,000 in unrestricted funds.

The Finalists were selected by jurors **Darby English**, Consulting Curator, the Museum of Modern Art; Carl Darling Buck Professor of Art History, College Modern and Contemporary Art, Cultural Studies, UChicago; **Courtenay Finn**, Curator, Aspen Art Museum; **Jamie Isenstein**, artist

Finn praised the criticality and breadth of work from the Chicago applicant pool. Nearly 300 artists, across every discipline, living across city submitted applications. "Artadia continues to not just actively and crucially support, but also bring to light the exciting and groundbreaking practices of artists working across the US. As part of the 2018 Chicago jury, I was taken aback by the strength of submissions, the experimentation in media, and the thoughtfulness and nuance in storytelling and subject matter. Now more than ever, we need artists' voices and if the pool of artists seen through the 2018 Chicago Artadia Awards is indicative of where artists are going, I could not be more excited to follow their lead. We are in for hard conversations, generous gestures, and a breath of new ways of thinking and looking at the world around us."

Of the finalists **Isenstein** noted: "I was impressed with the breadth and quality of art submitted to Chicago Artadia Awards, but was particularly drawn to the works that are critically engaged with our world. We selected these finalists for the clarity in how their ideas are portrayed in their work and for their original voice. All of these artists' works are challenging, thought-provoking and relevant."

This is Artadia's ninth Award cycle in Chicago. The application was open to all visual artists living in Chicago for over two years, working in any media, and at any stage of their career. Finalists and Artadia Award recipients are selected through Artadia's rigorous, two-tier jury review process. In the first round of review, jurors evaluated the merit of all submissions and collaboratively determined the five Finalists.

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 artists and curators to review work, and culminates in direct grants. Since 1999, Artadia has awarded over \$3 million to more than 320 artists in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, and San Francisco.

The 2018 Chicago Artadia Awards are generously supported by individual donors across the country, Chicago Council members, and Artadia's Board of Directors.

2018 Chicago Awards Finalists

BETHANY COLLINS

Bethany Collins' works have been exhibited in solo and group exhibitions nationwide, including the Studio Museum in Harlem, the Drawing Center, the Wexner Center for the Arts, and the Birmingham Museum of Art. Collins has been recognized as an Artist-in-Residence at the Studio Museum in Harlem, the MacDowell Colony, the Bemis Center and the Hyde Park Art Center among others. In 2015, she was awarded the Hudgens Prize.



Bethany Collins, *The Birmingham News*, 1963, 2017, 25" x 19", Twice embossed newsprint

DANIEL EISENBERG

Daniel Eisenberg has been making films and videos since 1976. His films have been screened throughout Europe, Asia, and North America with solo exhibitions at the Museum of Modern Art, NYC, the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, the Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley, the American Museum of the Moving Image in New York, the Musée du Cinema, Brussels; De Unie, Rotterdam; and Kino Arsenal, Berlin. His films have been shown in the Berlin Film Festival; the Sydney Film Festival; the London Film Festival; the Jerusalem Film Festival; Vue Sur Les Docs, Marseilles, and the Whitney Biennial, New York.



Daniel Eisenberg, Still from *THE UNSTABLE OBJECT II* work-in-progress, 2018, 3 hours, digital cinema

BRENDAN FERNANDES

Brendan Fernandes is a Canadian artist of Kenyan and Indian descent. He completed the Independent Study Program of the Whitney Museum of American Art (2007) and earned his MFA from the University of Western Ontario (2005) and his BFA from York University in Canada (2002). Fernandes has exhibited widely domestically and abroad, including exhibitions at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Museum of Modern Art, New York; Museum of Art and Design, New York; Musee d'art contemporain de Montreal; The National Gallery of Canada, Ontario; The Brooklyn Museum, New York; The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York; Mass MoCA, North Adams, MA; The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh, PA; Deutsche Guggenheim, Berlin; Bergen Kunsthall, Norway; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; The Sculpture Centre, New York; The Quebec City Biennial; and the Third Guangzhou Triennial in China.



Brendan Fernandes, *Seven Imitate*, 2016, Siligraph mono-prints. 30" x 42", African Art images courtesy of the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Justin and Elisabeth Lang Collection of African Art

LEONARD SURYAJAYA

Leonard Suryajaya received an MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2015 and BFA from California State University, Fullerton in 2013. Recent exhibitions include Irvine Fine Arts Center, CA; Expo Chicago, IL; Chicago Artist Coalition, IL; The Center for Fine Arts Photography, CO; Roy G Biv Gallery, OH. Leonard's work is in the collections of The Art Institute of Chicago; Joan Flasch Artist Book Collection and his publications include Lenscratch; Chicago Tribune; Chicago Magazine; South Side Weekly. Leonard has been awarded the New Artist Society Award; James Weinstein Memorial Fellowship; Claire Rosen and Samuel Edes Prize for Emerging Artist; and the Robert Giard Foundation Fellowship.



Leonard Suryajaya, *Mom and All of The Jewelleries She Bought Herself With Her Own Money*, 2015, Archival Inkjet Print, 40" x 54"

DERRICK WOODS-MURROW

Derrick Woods-Morrow is a multidisciplinary Chicago-based artist working in photography, sculpture, installation, and performance. His practice navigates and negotiates sexual identity by fragmenting notions of representation, exploring personhood, memories & reimagining ways to understand power dynamics as they pertain to consent and self preservation.



Derrick Woods-Morrow, Still from Film, *The Roach is Coming*, 2018