LEONARD SURYAJAYA AND DERRICK WOODS-MORROW WIN CHICAGO ARTadia AWARDS

Artadia announced today the recipients of its 2018 Chicago Artadia Awards: Leonard Suryajaya and Derrick Woods-Morrow. They will both receive $10,000 in unrestricted funds, as well as access to the Artadia program’s resources. In addition, works by both artists will be featured in Artadia’s booth at EXPO CHICAGO, which will take place at the Navy Pier from September 27 to September 30.

In the first round of jurying, Darby English, University of Chicago professor and adjunct curator at the Museum of Modern Art in New York; Courtenay Finn, curator at the Aspen Art Museum; and artist Jamie Isenstein selected the finalists, which included artists Bethany Collins, Daniel Eisenberg, and Brendan Fernandes, Jordan Carter, assistant curator of contemporary art at the Art Institute of Chicago, assisted English in conducting studio visits for the second round of evaluations.

Commenting on the artists’ work, English said: “In his layered multidisciplinary practice, Leonard Suryajaya moves boldly across what appear to be insurmountable differences in the direction of reconciliation and understanding. Refined and excellently crafted, his images, objects, and environments affirm every bit as much as they challenge.”

English added: “Derrick Woods-Morrow makes art that creatively modifies relations of power. His recent work combines elements of sexuality and interracial affinity as well as poetic engagements with questions about how the things and beings of the world change as they move—and are moved.”

This is Artadia’s ninth award cycle in Chicago. Applications for the awards were open to visual artists working in all media who have lived in the city for more than two years. Since 1999, the nonprofit has granted over $3 million to more than 320 artists in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, and San Francisco.