

Artadia

New York, NY - Artadia is pleased to announce the five Finalists for the 2018 Atlanta Awards: **Krista Clark, Ariel Dannielle, Danielle Deadwyler, William Downs, and Erin Jane Nelson.**

The Finalists were selected by jurors **Wassan Al-Khudhairi**, Chief Curator, Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis; **Nathaniel Hitchcock**, Independent Curator, Chicago, IL; and **Jonathan Odden**, former Curatorial Assistant, High Museum of Art.

Of the Atlanta applicants, Odden noted: “The finalists this year represent an important fraction—though only a fraction—of the creative, critical work occurring in Atlanta and throughout the Southeast. Each artist we selected, in their respective practices, engages with questions of co-labor and precarity in urban-, artificial- and natural-ecologies—themes we felt to be particularly crucial in the contemporary moment of 2018 and in the context of Atlanta.”

This is Artadia’s sixth time presenting curator-driven, unrestricted Awards to Atlanta artists. The 2018 Atlanta Artadia Awards were open to all visual artists living in Greater Atlanta (the 23 eligible counties of Barrow, Bartow, Butts, Carroll, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Hall, Henry, Morgan, Newton, Paulding, Pickens, Rockdale, Spalding, and Walton) 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. The Finalists will receive studio visits with the second-round jurors, who will ultimately select two artists as Awardees to receive \$10,000 in unrestricted funds. Awardees are invited to participate in Artadia’s ongoing Beneficiary program, connecting them to a network of curators and collectors across the country and advancing their careers.

On the jurying experience, Elms noted, “Artists deserve a range of support far and wide across this country. It is always a pleasure to be exposed to new artists and new scenes beyond locations I regularly visit. It is inspiring. To have invested conversations around art and artists is something I will always make time for.”

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 325 artists in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, and San Francisco.

The 2018 Atlanta Artadia Awards are generously supported by MailChimp, the Tim & Lauren Schragger Family Foundation, Artadia’s Board of Directors, Atlanta Council members, and many generous individual donors in Atlanta.

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Krista Clark

Krista Clark grew up in Burlington, VT and holds a BFA from Atlanta College of Art in printmaking, an MA from New York University and an MFA from Georgia State University. She lives and works in Atlanta, GA. Her work is included in the permanent collection of the High Museum and is part of an ongoing exhibition in Bratislava, Slovakia through Art in Embassies. Clark's work was featured in Fictions at the Studio Museum in Harlem. She is a 2018-19 MOCA GA Working Artist Project recipient. Clark is represented by Sandler Hudson Gallery in Atlanta.

Ariel Dannielle

Ariel Dannielle is an African American painter born and raised in Atlanta, GA. She graduated from the University of West Georgia, where she received a Bachelor of Fine Arts. Drawing directly from her life, Ariel creates large scale paintings that depict the daily experiences of young Black women. She believes in the importance of her artwork to provide new lenses through which Black womanhood can be represented, understood, and related to. Ariel's work has been showcased at ZuCot Gallery, Dalton Gallery, TILA Studios, and Trio Contemporary Art Gallery. She was a semi-finalist in the Bombay Sapphire Artisan Series 2018 and has been featured in Voyage ATL and Sorjo Magazine.

Danielle Deadwyler

Danielle Deadwyler is an Atlanta-based interdisciplinary artist who thrives in live and filmed community engaged performance art and collaborative material making. With filmmaking and performance art as primary media, through experimental and theatrical exhibition structures, Danielle Deadwyler blurs the line on work of the black body, especially bolstering the black female body's work in diverse spaces: public/private, domestic and sexual, individual and with community, in documentary and fictive narratives.

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William Downs

William Downs is a contemporary artist who focuses mainly on painting, drawing and printmaking. Born and raised in Greenville, South Carolina, William lives and works in Atlanta, Georgia. He studied at the Atlanta College of Art and Design where he received his BFA in Painting and Printmaking in 1996. He received his MFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) in 2003. He has had exhibitions in the United States and abroad including the Nexus Biennial at the Nexus Contemporary Art Center in Atlanta, GA; Century Gallery in London, England; and Hammonds House Gallery in Atlanta, GA. He has had solo exhibitions at the Chattahoochee Valley Art Museum in La Grange, Georgia and at Mission Space in Baltimore, MD.

Erin Jane Nelson

Erin Jane Nelson received her BFA from The Cooper Union School of Art, New York in 2011 and has also studied at Malmö Art Academy, Sweden. Recent exhibitions include *Between the Waters* at The Whitney Museum of American Art, *Photography Today: Public and Private Relations* at the Pinakothek der Moderne, and *Psychopompopolis* at DOCUMENT Gallery. Her work typically combines photography with non-traditional substrates like ceramics or textiles to create sculptural collages. Recent bodies of work have used speculative fiction and documentary photography to address the psychological, sociopolitical, and regionally imbalanced effects of climate change.

Image (Clockwise from top-left): **Krista Clark**, *Stopped, Westviews Through Ontario*, 2017. Tarp, wood, insulation, tape, 12 x 15 ft.; **Ariel Danielle**, *Family Sized*, 2018. Acrylic on unstretched canvas, 72 x 90 in.; **Danielle Deadwyler**, *Bustitopen*, 2017. Performance, video; **William Downs**, *Just too tired to cry*, 2018. Ink wash and spray paint on paper, 44.5 x 56.5 in.; **Erin Jane Nelson**, *First Landing Mushrooms*, 2018. Resin, pigment, enamel pin, and pigment print on glazed stoneware, 18 x 13.5 x 2.75 in.