Indira Allegra and K.r.m. Mooney Win 2018 San Francisco Artadia Awards

BY Claire Soto

Artadia has named the winner of its 2018 San Francisco Artadia Awards. The award is given to visual artists who have lived in the Bay Area counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo for more than two years. The winners, Indira Allegra and K.r.m. Mooney, were selected by a jury composed of Will Brown, assistant curator at MOCA Cleveland; Lauren Schell Dickens, curator at the San Jose Museum of Art in California; and Allison Ferris, senior curator at the Des Moines Art Center in Iowa.

The second-round jury—which also included Rachel Jans, assistant curator of painting and sculpture at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art—conducted studio visits with Koak, Allegra, Dana Hemenway, Mooney, and Lava Thomas to select the awardees.

Indira Allegra, Casting it, 2017. LINDSAY TUNKL

Allegra incorporates sculpture, performance, writing, and installation in her practice. She has performed and exhibited at SFMOMA, the de Young Museum, the Arts Incubator in Chicago, and the Mills College Art Museum, among other institutions and organizations. She has contributed written work to publications like Fohfaster Magazine, Cream City Review, and Hysteria Magazine, and she is a Lia Cook Jacquard Artist in Residence at the California College of the Arts in Oakland.

Mooney has recently shown work at Kunstverein Braunschweig in Germany, Andrew Kreps in New York, SFMOMA, the Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts in San Francisco, and other institutions. Mooney also directed Doubt It / Talk Series, a year-long experimental lecture platform and exhibition program that ran from 2013 to 2014. They are currently writing for Flash Art's In Residence column.
Dickens said in a statement, “Indira has uncovered surprisingly fertile ground by investigating connections between weaving and the body, and veering into realms of language, ritual, pleasure, video, and performance. I was impressed by her clarity of vision within such a multifaceted practice. Mooney’s background with jewelry-making informs their knowledge of material properties and processes, which drive their rich conceptual practice. The precision with which they craft and articulate these enigmatic, strangely poetic objects is both demanding and deep.”

Jans added, “I was excited by Indira Allegra’s ability to conjure the past and present through her explorations of material and the body. Her wide-ranging curiosity and ability to connect seemingly disparate phenomena has brought many fresh insights into our time. K.n.m. Mooney’s sculpture is remarkable in the way it builds on deep knowledge of material and process while challenging the viewer to connect it with structures, spaces, and possibilities of the surrounding world.”