ARTADIA NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION 501(c)(3) EST 1999

Artadia's 2019 New York Awards Go to Hadi Fallahpisheh and Devin N. Morris





Left to right: Devin N. Morris, All In, 2018, tempera, acrylic, oil pastel, cinnamon bark, fabric collage, photo collage, charcoal on wood panel and Hadi Fallahpisheh, America, 2018, photogram on paper.

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Hadi Fallahpisheh and Devin N. Morris are the recipients of Artadia's 2019 New York awards, which come with 10,000 in unrestricted funds. This year marked the nonprofit's fourth award cycle in New York.

Artadia received more than 500 applications this time around. The first-round jury—which selected finalists Hadi Fallahpisheh, Erick A. Hernandez, Devin N. Morris, Sable Elyse Smith, and Sasha Wortzel—included Kate Fowle, chief curator of the Garage Museum of Contemporary Art in Moscow and director-at-large of Independent Curators International; artist Mickalene Thomas; and Sohrab Mohebbi, curator at SculptureCenter in New York. Fowle and Justine Ludwig, executive director of Creative Time, conducted studio visits in the second round to determine the awardees.

Fallahpisheh's practice spans photography, performance, and installation, and many of his works examine displacement and disparities between experience and perception. He has exhibited at Simone Subal Gallery, Kai Matsumiya, and Callicoon Fine Arts, among other New York venues, as well as Delgosha Gallery, Dastan Gallery, and Maryam Harandi Gallery in Tehran.

Mixed-media paintings, photographs, writings, and videos by Morris are partly informed by the artist's upbringing in Baltimore and experiences as a black queer man. Through his work, Morris addresses the physical and social boundaries that impact marginalized communities.

In a joint statement, Fowle and Ludwig said, "Devin, Erick, Hadi, Sable Elyse, and Sasha were all inspiring and thought provoking in their practices. Each is honing an approach to art-making that is unfamiliar (in the "I haven't seen anything quite like this" way). . . . After trying (and failing) to negotiate for more money so that all five finalists could be awardees . . . we agreed that Devin Morris and Hadi Fallahpisheh were each on the verge of something special that really excited us."

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