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FINALISTS FOR THE 2022 NEW YORK ARTADIA AWARDS



Top, left to right: Alex Strada and Tali Keren, Kim Dacres, Jeffrey Meris.

Bottom, left to right: Genesis Jerez, Asif Mian, Widline Cadet.

For Immediate Release

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Artadia, a nonprofit grant making organization and nationwide community of visual artists, curators, and patrons, is pleased to announce that **Widline Cadet**, **Kim Dacres**, **Genesis Jerez**, **Jeffrey Meris**, **Asif Mian**, and collaborative duo **Alex Strada** and **Tali Keren** have been selected as the 2022 New York Artadia Awards Finalists.

The Finalists will each receive virtual studio visits with second-round jurors, who will ultimately select three artists to receive \$10,000 in unrestricted funds. The 2022 New York Artadia Awards are generously supported by The Cowles Charitable Trust, the Lily Auchincloss Foundation, the

Pollock-Krasner Foundation, The Willem de Kooning Foundation, the Artadia Board of Directors, Artadia Council Members, and individual donors across the country.

Press-approved images of each artist's work are available [here](#).

The 2022 New York Artadia Award application was open to visual artists working in any visual media, at any stage in their career, who have been living and working throughout the five boroughs—Manhattan, Brooklyn, the Bronx, Queens, and Staten Island—for a minimum of two years.

This year's Finalist jurors were **Nancy Lim**, Associate Curator, Painting and Sculpture, SFMoMA, **Niama Safia Sandy**, Curator, Lecturer, and Multidisciplinary Artist, and **Susanna V. Temkin**, Curator, El Museo del Barrio.

"It has been an awesome privilege to be a juror for Artadia's 2022 New York award. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to bear witness to all of this thoughtful and exciting art at such a crucial time!" stated **Sandy**. Of the artist submissions under consideration, she remarked: "The brilliance and deep rigor of the singular works submitted by this year's artists certainly made our task challenging." Fellow juror, **Lim** added "I was thrilled to see the power and promise of so many applicants and to find our way to this year's six extraordinary finalists, whose practices address the present moment with rigor and endless inspiration."

Since its founding in 1999, Artadia has awarded over \$5 million in unrestricted funds to over 350 artists. Celebrating visual artists and the foundational role they play in shaping society, the Artadia Award benefits three artists annually in each of seven major US cities with high concentrations of creative workers—Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and New York. Beyond the grant, the Award includes lifelong access to a community of fellow artists and patrons. The Artadia Award is designed to provide essential funding and recognition to artists at pivotal points in their careers, strengthen their communities, and spur new levels of career achievement.

Press Contact

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About [Widline Cadet](#) (she/her)

Widline Cadet (b. Pétion-Ville, Ayiti) is a visual artist currently based in the United States. She earned her BA in studio art from the City College of New York and an MFA from Syracuse University. Cadet has exhibited both in the U.S. and internationally. She was a 2018 Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture artist in residence, a 2020-21 Studio Museum artist in residence, and a 2021-22 Fine Arts Work Center Fellow.

Cadet works with photography, video, sound, sculpture, performance, and installation. Her practice centers her family's lived experience of immigrating from Haiti to the United States, in order to examine the complexities of Black diasporic life and survival.

About [Kim Dacres](#) (she/her)

Kim Dacres is a Bronx-born Jamaican American visual artist and sculptor who lives in Harlem. Her work has been exhibited at A.I.R Gallery (NYC), Harlem's Marcus Garvey Park, Galleria Anna Marra (Rome), UTA Artist Space (Beverly Hills), Gavlak, (Los Angeles | Palm Beach), The Armory (NYC), REGULARNORMAL x ArtNoir (NYC), and Art Basel (Miami Beach). She most recently participated in the survey exhibition *Black American Portraits* at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) and will be a part of the 2022 outdoor exhibition *Godhead: Idols in the Time of Crisis*, the 12th edition of Lustwarande in the Netherlands.

Kim uses found tires and rubber from automobiles and bicycles to create sculptures of ideas and significant people in her life and community. In the process of layering the materials, the rubber's experience and journey transform into muscle, bone, skin, hair, and personal style that underscore the embedded value of a person's experience. Each piece works to highlight black people, Blackness, and who is entitled to space and deserving of honorifics and monuments.

About [Genesis Jerez](#) (she/her)

Genesis Jerez (b. 1993, Bronx, NY; lives and works in New York) engages the history of painting, focusing often on expanding and grappling with the tradition of the still-life and the figure as represented within domestic space. Jerez juxtaposes painterly technique with collage practice, as seen in her meditative layering materials onto, and cutting away from, the canvas as a surface.

Genesis Jerez (me) is a human searching for peace within herself. She fulfills her needs through the medium of painting. She wishes the best for all in this world.

This is the artist statement Genesis never learned how to write. What do you see?

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things, there is no law." Galatians 5:22-23 ESV.

About [Jeffrey Meris](#) (they/him)

Jeffrey Meris (b. 1991, Haiti) is an artist who earned an AA in Arts and Crafts from the University of The Bahamas in 2012, a BFA in Sculpture from the Tyler School of Art in 2015, and an MFA in Visual Arts from Columbia University in 2019. Meris is a Skowhegan School of Painting and

Sculpture 2019 alum, a NXTHVN 2020 studio fellow and currently a Sharpe Walentas Studio fellow 2021.

Conjured in the brain, the first images of healing that come to mind are often of light, purity, or the sublime. In my most recent body of work, I transition between the trauma of the colonial project in my sculptures to healing and restoring those wounds in my paintings. What would healing centuries of anti-blackness, xenophobia, homophobia, and other oppressions look like? I use the rust of oxidized steel calloused on my sculptures to reveal the messiness that lays hand in hand with the divinity in the regeneration process.

About [Asif Mian](#) (he/him)

Asif Mian (b. Jersey City, NJ) is a multidisciplinary artist based in Queens, NY. He earned an MFA from Columbia University (2018), attended the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture (2018), and holds a BA in Studio Art and BS in Genetics from Drew University. Awarded the Queens Museum-Jerome Foundation Fellowship for Emerging Artist, Mian's multichapter project, RAF, was recently the focus of a solo exhibition at the Queens Museum. Mian has also exhibited at The Kitchen for the Whitney ISP curatorial fellows, The Shed: Open Call, BRIC, Queens International: Volumes at Queens Museum, and is currently developing a video installation for the Okayama Art Summit 2022.

Working at the intersection of drawing, sculpture, video, and performance, Mian's practice reflects on the perceptions and processings of violence. Drawing on personal and collective experiences, Mian psychologically shifts everyday objects and practices through metabolization, embedding, and hybridization. His varied methods employ the splicing of rugs together as 'event sculptures', modifying intimidation rituals for performance, and subverting drone thermal cameras for video installations.

About [Alex Strada & Tali Keren](#)

Alex Strada (she/hers) and Tali Keren (she/hers) are New York-based artists and educators who have been working together since 2016. Their collaborative work has been shown at the Queens Museum, NY; Anthology Film Archives, NY; Socrates Sculpture Park, NY; Goethe-Institut, NY; MuseumsQuartier, Vienna; Kaunas Biennial, Lithuania; and on the screens of Times Square with Midnight Moment. Their projects have been featured in *The New York Times*, *New Yorker*, *Vice*, *Montez Press Radio*, *New York Magazine*, and on WNYC's *The Brian Lehrer's Show*. They both received an MFA in Visual Arts from Columbia University.

Strada and Keren are transnational collaborators whose socially-engaged process foregrounds experimental pedagogy, transdisciplinary dialogue, and collectivity. Through poetic interventions in cultural sites and legislative documents, they question the construction of hegemonic narratives and open spaces for political imagination and re-telling. Their projects are often iterative and take the form of film/video, performance, multi-media installation, and participatory workshops.