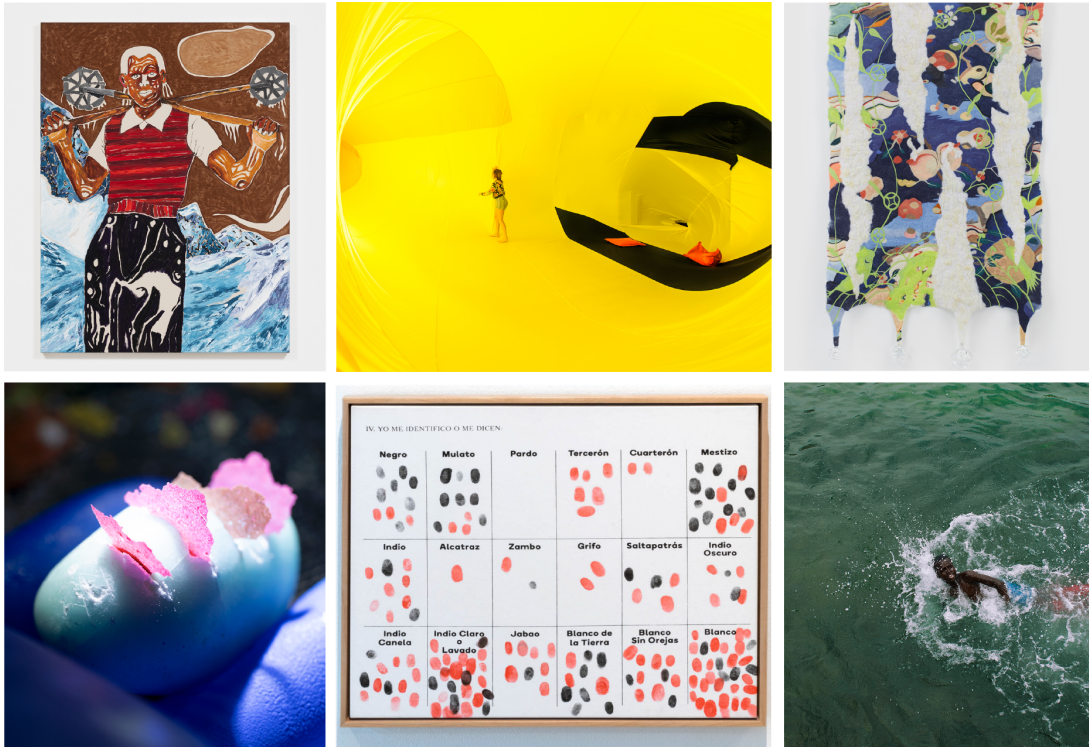


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ARTADIA ANNOUNCES 2023 NEW YORK CITY FINALISTS



Top, left to right: Chase Hall, Tamar Ettun, Pauline Shaw.

Bottom, left to right: Diane Severin Nguyen, Lizania Cruz, Simon Benjamin.

(New York, NY | April 26, 2023)

Artadia, a non-profit grantmaking organization and nationwide community of visual artists, curators, and patrons, is pleased to announce that **Simon Benjamin, Lizania Cruz, Tamar Ettun, Chase Hall, Diane Severin Nguyen**, and **Pauline Shaw** have been selected as the **2023 New York City Artadia Awards Finalists**.

The Finalists will each hold virtual studio visits with second-round jurors, who will ultimately select three artists to receive \$15,000 in unrestricted funds. The 2023 New York City Artadia Awards are supported by the May & Samuel Rudin Family Foundation, Inc., the New York State Council of the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature, the Orentreich Family Foundation, the Pollock-Krasner Foundation, The Willem de Kooning Foundation, the Artadia Board of Directors, Artadia Council Members, and individual donors across the country. The New York Artadia Network is generously supported by the National Endowment for the Arts.

The 2023 New York City Artadia Awards application was open to visual artists working in any visual media, at any stage in their career, who have been living and working within the five boroughs: **the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, and Staten Island** for a minimum of two years.

This year's Round 1 jurors were **Andrea Andersson**, Founding Director and Chief Curator, Rivers Institute for Contemporary Art & Thought; **Manuela Moscoso**, Executive Director, Center for Art, Research and Alliances (CARA); and **TK Smith**, Writer, Critic, and Assistant Curator of Art of the African Diaspora, Barnes Foundation. The Round 2 jurors will be **Manuela Moscoso** joined by **Mia Locks**, Independent Curator.

"I consider it a high privilege to read through the applications and view the portfolios of artists working in every media and at every career level in New York City," said juror **TK Smith**. "The finalists selected represent artists that confidently blend technical skill, material ingenuity, and thoughtfulness within their practices that we hope will reach wider audiences from the exposure of this Award."

"Artadia's is a particular invitation -- to support artists of exceptional merit at an inflection point of career and process -- sensitive to the fact that time and timing shape the possible," remarked fellow juror **Andrea Andersson**. "In our selections, I think we identified artists who give a range of meaning to sensitivity, excellence, and rigor. And they gave us pause-- stopped us in our tracks-- in an affirming pool of talent."

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

About Artadia

Since its founding in 1999, Artadia has awarded over \$6 million in unrestricted funds to over 385 artists nationally. Celebrating visual artists and their foundational role in shaping society, the Artadia Award benefits three artists annually in seven major US cities with high concentrations of creative workers—Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, New York City, and the San Francisco Bay Area.

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About [Simon Benjamin](#) (he/him)

Simon Benjamin is a Jamaican multi-disciplinary artist and filmmaker based in New York, whose practice considers how the past ripples into the present in unexpected ways. Using the sea and coastal space as frameworks, his current body of work explores how lesser-known histories and colonial legacies impact on our present and contribute to an interconnected future. His work has been included in exhibitions and screening internationally including documenta 15, Kassel, Germany (2022); Kingston Biennial, National Gallery of Jamaica, Kingston, Jamaica (2022); Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, Governor's Island, NY; Third Horizon film Festival, Miami, FL (2022); trinidad+tobago film festival, Trinidad and Tobago (2021); NYU Gallatin at Governors Island, New York, NY (2021); The 92nd St. Y, New York, NY (2020); Hunter East Harlem Gallery, New York, NY (2019); the Ghetto Biennial, Port Au Prince, Haiti (2018); Jamaica Biennial, National Gallery of Jamaica, Kingston, Jamaica (2017); New Local Space, (NLS) Kingston (2016); and Columbia University, New York, NY (2016).

Simon Benjamin is a Jamaican artist and filmmaker living in New York, whose work includes experiential installations, film, photography and sculpture. Through research, oral history, and critical fabulation, he calls attention to the contradictions entangled in the enduring myths and images of the Caribbean as tropical paradise—a carefully constructed imaginary that replaced the harsh reality of the exploitative plantation. With the intention of moving beyond critique or pointing to systems and power – he creates open-ended poetic and lyrical moving images and objects which bring together the immaterial and the tactile, which he hopes prompts the imagination of futures that exist in the notion of otherwise.

About [Lizania Cruz](#) (she/her)

Lizania Cruz (she/her) is a Dominican participatory artist, and designer interested in how migration affects ways of being & belonging. Cruz has been part of multiple artist-in-residence and fellowships. Some notable ones are the Laundromat Project Create Change (2017-2019), IdeasCity:New Museum (2019), Robert Blackburn Workshop Studio Immersion Project (SIP) (2019), BRIClab: Contemporary Art (2020-2021), Jerome Hill Artist Fellow, Visual Arts (2021-2022), and International Studio & Curatorial Program, ISCP (2022).

Cruz's practice uses audience participation to investigate notions of being & belonging within the public sphere. The result of this takes the form of objects such as books, zines, installations, happenings, video, and photography. Through research, oral history, and active participants, the projects she develops aim to highlight pluralistic narratives about migration and race.

About [Tamar Ettun](#) (she/they)

Tamar Ettun is a New York-based artist and educator. She has exhibited and performed at The Chinati Foundation, Pioneer Works, The Watermill Center, Art Omi Sculpture Garden, PERFORMA, and Sculpture Center, among others. Ettun is the recipient of awards and fellowships from The Pollock Krasner Foundation, Interlude Artist Residency, BAX (Brooklyn Arts Exchange), Windgate Artist In Residence at SUNY Purchase, California Studio Manetti Shrem artist residence at UC Davis, Moca Tucson, Stoneleaf Retreat, MacDowell Fellowship, Franklin Furnace, Iaspis, Fountainhead, Art Production Fund, and RECESS among others. Ettun is the founder of The Moving Company, an artist collective that creates performances in public spaces, and a social engagement project with Brooklyn teens hosted by The Brooklyn Museum. Amongst other long term projects, Ettun's multidisciplinary work *Lilit the Empathic Demon* has since 2020 explored the insidious side of empathy, empathy fatigue, trauma-healing modalities, and astrology as storytelling through text messages to a growing community of people and most recently in the

solo show *SUMMON* at Dreamsong Gallery, Minneapolis. Currently Ettun is developing a new outdoor sculpture for Shelburne Museum, Vermont. Ettun holds an MFA from Yale University.

Ettun uses textile, sculpture, and performance to reflect on somatic empathy, trauma-healing modalities, and ritual. She creates large inflatables that invite the audience to touch, feel, and play inside. Her recent practice delves into the mythology of Lilit, an aerial spirit demon with origins in Sumerian, Akkadian, and Judaic mythology. Enthralled by ancient images of Lilit, Ettun developed her own language that subverts her misogynistic archetype and revamps her image as an Empathic Demon.

About [Chase Hall](#) (he/him)

Chase Hall (b. 1993, St. Paul, Minnesota) is the subject of a solo exhibition at the SCAD Museum of Art in Savannah, Georgia through August 21st, 2023. In 2022, Hall was commissioned by the Metropolitan Opera to produce a large-scale artwork, the monumental diptych *Medea Act I & II*, for its opera house in New York, on view through June 2023. Hall has been included in group exhibitions including *Together in Time: Selections from the Hammer Contemporary Collection*, Hammer Museum (2023); *Black American Portraits*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art (2021); and *Young, Gifted and Black: The Lumpkin-Boccuzzi Family Collection of Contemporary Art*, University of Illinois Chicago (2021). Hall has been an artist-in-residence at Skowhegan School for Painting and Sculpture, Maine and his work is in the permanent collections of institutions including the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; Baltimore Museum of Art; Brooklyn Museum, New York; Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; High Museum of Art, Atlanta; Montreal Museum of Fine Arts; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York; and Whitney Museum of American Art, New York. Hall lives and works in New York, where he is an adjunct professor at New York University's Steinhardt Department of Art.

Chase Hall's paintings in coffee and acrylic on cotton canvas investigate generational celebrations and traumas encoded throughout American history. Responding to wide-ranging social and visual systems—each intersecting with complex trajectories of race, hybridity, economics, and personal agency—Hall generates images whose materiality is as crucial to their compositional makeup as their indelible approach to representation. The use of brewed coffee carries powerful symbolic weight, evoking fraught histories of the plant's commodification, but in Hall's hands, it also becomes a means of achieving subtle visual textures, a range of brown skin tones, and a mark-making vocabulary precipitated on the closeness of touch.

About Diane Severin Nguyen (she/her)

Diane Severin Nguyen is an artist who works with photography, video, and installation. Nguyen currently lives and works in New York. Nguyen received her BA from Virginia Commonwealth University and an MFA from the Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts at Bard College. Recent selected solo exhibitions include SculptureCenter, New York (2022); Renaissance Society, Chicago (2022); Contemporary Arts Museum Houston (2022); and Maison Européenne de la Photographie (2023). Nguyen's films have been screened at New York Film Festival, New York; IFFR, Rotterdam; Berlinale, Berlin; and Yebisu Festival, Tokyo. Recent group exhibitions have been held at the Schinkel Pavilion, Berlin (2023), the 58th Carnegie International, Pittsburgh (2022–2023); 'GHOST 2565 Triennial', Bangkok (2022); Greater New York 2021 at MoMA PS1, New York (2021); Made in LA at the Hammer Museum and The Huntington (2020–2021); and 'Bodies of Water: 13th Shanghai Biennale', Power Station of Art (2021).

Diane Severin Nguyen's photography hybridizes the organic and the synthetic into amalgam sculptures, held together by the parameters of a photographic moment, and her video work expands that moment into a layered cultural and historical context. Nguyen is particularly

interested in exceeding the image as a document, and rather exploring forms of image-making that speak to desire and transformation.

About Pauline Shaw (she/her)

Pauline Shaw was born in Kirkland, WA and grew up between Asia and the USA. Selected exhibitions include The Shed, New York; Queens Museum, New York; Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore; The Jewish Museum, New York; Chapter NY, New York; Friends Indeed Gallery, San Francisco, CA; Downs & Ross, New York; Spurs, Beijing, China; Half Gallery, New York; Almine Rech, Paris, France; Gagosian, New York; and In Lieu, Los Angeles, CA. She was the recipient of the Lenore Tawney fellowship at ISCP in 2020. Shaw completed her MFA at Columbia University in 2019 and received her BFA from Rhode Island School of Design in 2011.

Pauline Shaw is a multidisciplinary artist working with sculpture and felted wool to explore the nature and limits of the body, science, cultural inheritance, and spirituality. Informed by global genealogies of craft, her abstracted imagery references the erasure of traditions and the fallibility of memory. Through fluid and fragmented compositions, she investigates relationships between embodied memory and its representation – interweaving MRI scans, museum archives, and personal narratives.