



**ART EXPLORA**



# Second Edition of the Residency Programme

Art Explora - Cité internationale des arts

12 artists will join the Art Explora - Cité internationale des arts residency programme from March 2022:

- Brook Andrew
- Raphaël Grisey & Bouba Touré
- Evan Ifekoya
- Agnieszka Kurant
- Adam Linder
- Salman Nawati
- Christelle Oyiri
- Fátima Rodrigo Gonzales
- Emilija Škarnulytė
- Charwei Tsai
- Martha Wilson

Press Release

Paris, January 27th 2022



# Art Explora × Cité internationale des arts residencies

The Art Explora Foundation is committed to working with public and private actors to support **creative initiatives and the circulation of culture in society at large**. The aim is to underline the key role of artists in tackling the major challenges and changes of our time.

To this end, Art Explora has joined forces with the Cité internationale des arts and the City of Paris to create **a biannual residency programme** for artists and researchers in Montmartre, just a stone's throw from Sacré-Cœur.

Launched in 2021, the Art Explora - Cité internationale des arts residency programme gives artists and researchers from all over the world the opportunity to engage in research and creative work in the heart of Paris, in collaboration with the French art scene and professionals. It encourages creation in all its forms, disseminating it to the largest possible public. The residents' work focuses on the theme of scientific and technological exploration and confronts the major social and environmental issues of our time.

Some 20 residents are selected each year to participate in two types of programmes:

A six-month **SOLO residency programme** for artists only.

A three-month **DUO programme** for a collaboration between a researcher and an artist.

Both programmes are open to artists and researchers of all nationalities, with no age limit, who can demonstrate a minimum of five years of professional experience. Eligible artistic disciplines include visual arts, performance arts, and digital arts. Eligible research areas include humanities, social sciences, technological innovation, sustainable development, art criticism, and curating.

Each resident will be provided with a **furnished studio flat** of approximately 50sqm, a **living grant** of 1000 euros per month, and a **production grant** of 3000 euros for their project.

Throughout their residency, the artists benefit from tailor-made support and contact with professionals from the French and international scenes, as well as with the other residents of the Cité internationale des arts. Art Explora and the Cité internationale des arts are also developing a **programme of artist encounters** featuring visits to the premises and studios as well as workshops, performances, film screenings etc.

Photo: Matthieu Joffres



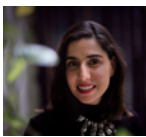
# The 2022 Edition

Photo: Maurine Tric

For the second edition, 12 candidates (50% of women) from **ten different countries** were chosen by a selection committee for the SOLO and DUO programmes. They will arrive at the Montmartre site of the Cité internationale des arts in March 2022 for a residency of three to six months.

The same committee will select the residents for the second session of 2022, which will start in September.

## Selection Committee



### Diana Campbell Betancourt

Artistic Director of the Samdani Art Foundation and Chief Curator of the Dhaka Art Summit (USA & Bangladesh)



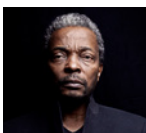
### Vinciane Despret

Philosopher of Science, Professor at the University of Liège and the Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium)



### Christine Macel

General Heritage Curator, Head of the Contemporary Art and Prospective Creation Department at the Pompidou Centre (France)



### Simon Njami

Curator, Essayist, and Art Critic (Cameroon & Switzerland)



### Hans-Ulrich Obrist

Artistic Director of the Serpentine Galleries (Switzerland & United Kingdom)



### Philippe Vergne

Director of the Serralves Foundation (France & Portugal)

**1259**  
applications  
submitted

**+ 27 %**  
compared  
to 2021

**From**  
**103 countries**

We are very pleased with the success of the second call for projects and the quality of the many applications we received. The projects of the chosen residents all address contemporary societal, scientific, or environmental issues, offering unique perspectives on the possibilities of the world of tomorrow. In 2021, the diversity of profiles, the exchange of ideas, and the residents' open-mindedness led to a convergence of views and questions about the world. This year's edition will follow the same direction. We wish to further increase our commitment to the public by developing **encounter programmes** in collaboration with local associations and organizations.

Blanche de Lestrangé,  
Artistic Director of  
the Art Explora Foundation

# Residents of the Solo programme

## Brook Andrew, Australia

### Project: *Guulany*

#### The artist

Brook Andrew was born in 1970 in Sydney. He lives and works in Melbourne, Australia on the lands of the Kulin Nations. He is an artist, curator and scholar who is driven by the collisions of intertwined narratives, often emerging from the mess of the “Colonial Wuba (hole)” and is driven from his perspective as a Wiradjuri and Celtic person: His matrilineal kinship is from the kalar midday (land of the three rivers) Australia. His artworks, research, leadership roles and curatorial projects challenge the limitations imposed by power structures, historical amnesia and complicity to centre and support Indigenous ways of being through systemic change and yindyamarra (respect, honour, go slow and responsibility). Apart from drawing inspiration from vernacular objects and the archives he travels internationally to work with artists, communities and various private and public museum and gallery collections.

#### The project

During his residency, Brook Andrew will create new work based on the collections of the Musée du quai Branly-Jacques Chirac, long inspired by the dendroglyph carvings of guulany/tree of his Wiradjuri Aboriginal Nation in Australia. He will also work on issues of repatriation and restitution of cultural objects in museums as well as on an experimental theatre script called GABAN (which means strange in Wiradjuri).

Photo: Brook Andrew

## Evan Ifekoya, Nigeria

### Project: *A Ripple Reflected, Devotion Divined*

#### The artist

Evan Ifekoya was born in Iperu, Nigeria in 1988 and currently lives and works in London. Evan Ifekoya’s work in sound, text, video and performance is an extension of their calling as a spiritual practitioner. They view art as a site where resources can be both redistributed and renegotiated, whilst challenging the implicit rules and hierarchies of public and social space.

#### The project

Evan Ifekoya is developing research for an artist’s book exploring contemporary mysticism and the transformative potential of sound - from the cellular to the cosmic. The book is part of a larger body of research that includes lectures, performance and workshops investigating the sacredness and healing potential of sound with the elevation of black consciousness in mind.

Evan Ifekoya will hold space for multidimensional being and doing with others, drawing on the elements of water and fire to create ritual instruments within their studio.

Photo: asmin Akim



## Agnieszka Kurant, Poland

### Project: *Singular Plural*

#### The artist

Agnieszka Kurant was born in 1978 in Lodz, Poland. She lives and works in New York. Agnieszka Kurant is a conceptual artist whose work investigates collective intelligence, the future of labour and creativity, and the exploitations in surveillance capitalism. Agnieszka Kurant is currently an *Artist Fellow* at the Berggruen Institute *Transformations of the Human* programme and was an artist in residence at MIT CAST between 2017 and 2019.

#### The project

Agnieszka Kurant's project consists in the production of a short film investigating the direction in which human culture is presently evolving, the various forms of collective subjectivity and the future of labor and creativity. It will explore the role of crowds as assets of late capitalist economy, the «self» as a polyphony of agencies, as well as the human and non-human collective intelligences, from microbes, viruses and animals to social movements and artificial intelligence. *Singular Plural* probes the transformations of the human, and the self-organization of communities to rebuild the commons. The film speculates about the future of cinema and cultural production in general, based on complex, collective forms.



Photo: Rodolfo Quiroz



Photo: Adam Linder

## Adam Linder, Australia

### Project: *Nureyev in Paris*

#### The artist

Adam Linder was born in Sydney, Australia in 1983. He lives and works between Los Angeles and Berlin. Adam Linder is a dancer and choreographer. His works are often presented in theatre and exhibition contexts; in which text, costuming, sound production and film are all considered part of his role as choreographer.

#### The project

The years of Rudolf Nureyev's direction of the Paris Opera Ballet will be the main focus of Adam Linder's residency in Paris. Adam Linder will dig into historical archives, whilst also speaking to former associates of the Opera during this period. Through this field work he will try and understand the spirit that characterized this 80s moment in ballet, when younger choreographers were responding with a playful (post-) modernizing of the form with Nureyev's decline from AIDs in the background of this illuminating era.

With this research, Adam Linder will be inspired to build material for a new ballet that reflects the times we are in today by retaining an umbilical cord to the formal ruptures of the past.



Photo: Salman Nawati

## Salman Nawati, Palestine

### Project: *Imaginary Museum of Gaza*

#### The artist

Salman Nawati was born in 1987 in Palestine. He lives and works in the Gaza Strip. He is an artist and works as well as an administrative coordinator for the Art programme in Qattan Foundation/Gaza center. He has been working as an art teacher at the Fine arts college and at Al-Aqsa University. He has also been art director for several art festivals in Gaza. His practice spans different artistic fields such as drawing, sculpture, installations, design, photography, filmmaking, theater, music, and art therapy. In his artistic project, Salman Nawati focuses on expressing himself as a human.

#### The project

In the absence of a responsible authority for the protection of the antiquity and artistic property in the Gaza Strip, Salman Nawati, along with artist Mohamed Abusall and architect Sondos El Nakhala, will collaborate on an imaginary museum, a museum focusing on the historical and artistic heritage of the Gaza Strip, which would be accessible to all. This museum will not be physically present but will be a digital incubator gathering an assortment of antique objects, cultural relics, and artworks, for some completely imagined, in the format of digital replicas. This project is jointly developed with Mohamed Bourouissa who will also produce a video showing the entire production stages of the museum. The final product of this project will be a virtual reality presentation to be exhibited at the Palais de Tokyo in 2023, where the public will discover the Imaginary Museum of Gaza through this virtual portal.



## Christelle Oyiri, France

### Project: *Gentle Battle*

#### The artist

Born in 1992 in the Paris region, Christelle Oyiri is a Paris-based French producer, DJ (under the pseudonym Crystallmess), writer, and artist of Ivorian and Guadeloupean origin. Combining film, music, performance, and sculpture, her radically interdisciplinary work deals with themes of colonial alienation and alternative temporalities. Faced with the deliberate erasure of narratives outside the dominant canon, Christelle Oyiri looks for information between the lines. Her research is focused on the tonalities, textures, and visual vernacular of the music, art, popular culture, and youth cultures within and outside the African diaspora.

#### The project

Christelle Oyiri's project *Gentle Battle* examines her research on belligerence, defense mechanisms, and trauma responses through her relationship with one of her countries of origin: Ivory Coast.

Her focus is on *Logobi*, a dance from the streets of Abidjan, whose movements are based on the art of bluffing and mimicry. *Logobi* never really existed as an actual dance on the dancefloor, gaining relevance and strength through battles, competitions, and confrontations. At the end of the 2000s, it became a phenomenon amongst black French youth from the Paris banlieues. A tribute to *logobi*'s influence on Parisian urban culture, Christelle Oyiri's project will take the form of a video, featuring dancers as well as interviews with therapists, psychiatrists, and members from the African communities in the Paris region.

Photo: Christelle Oyiri







**Fátima Rodrigo Gonzales, Peru**  
*Project: Vital infrastructures: rethinking the modern through subaltern technologies*

**The artist**

Fátima Rodrigo Gonzales was born in 1987 in Lima, Peru, where she currently lives and works. Using different media, she explores the definition of modernity as opposed to Latin American repressed histories. Her work questions the power regimes naturalized by artistic modernity in a post-colonial context, that continue to organize the world in hierarchical binaries.

**The project**

In the context of a global health crisis that continues to exacerbate social and environmental inequalities, Fátima Rodrigo Gonzales proposes to devote the period of her residency to highlighting indigenous technological developments in the field of construction. Her project aims to disrupt the idea that indigenous practices are primitive and alien to the development of new technologies by creating a three-dimensional artwork and a platform video game. *Vital infrastructures* questions the universal notion of technology and the environmental consequences of excluding indigenous practices in development processes.

Photo: Rodolfo Quiroz

**Emilija Škarnulytė, Lithuania**  
*Project: Fluvial Extents*

**The artist**

Emilija Škarnulytė was born in 1987 in Vilnius, Lithuania. As a visual artist and filmmaker working between documentary and the imaginary, Emilija Škarnulytė makes films and immersive installations exploring deep time and invisible structures, from the cosmic and geologic to the ecological and political. She is a founder and currently co-directs *Polar Film Lab*, a collective for analogue film practice located in Tromsø, Norway and is a member of artist duo *New Mineral Collective*, recently commissioned for a new work by the First Toronto Biennial.

**The project**

Emilija Škarnulytė wants to trace the flow of water, the world beneath the waves, trawling the benthic zones of the riparian and lacustrine for the lasting effects of human intervention. Working with photogrammetry and underwater lidar remote sensing, for *Fluvial Extents* she wants to picture what was already lost beneath the flow of water of the Rhône river, what scars and stains humans are depositing there, and imagine what will appear and disappear in the wash of millenia. Tracing the flux of rivers and lakes in Europe, Emilija Škarnulytė wants to explore both their hydrologies and mythologies, imagining through the depths of time what has already passed and what is yet to come.



Photo: Benoit Muñoz

## Charwei Tsai, Taiwan

### Project: *Touching the Earth*

#### The artist

Charwei Tsai was born in Taiwan in 1980. She lives and works in Taipei.

Charwei Tsai uses a variety of media such as video and calligraphy in a performative and politically engaged practice. Her interest in spirituality manifests itself in the calligraphic writing of mantras on various and often living media: trees, tofu, mushrooms, lotus leaves... Highly personal yet universal concerns spur Charwei Tsai's multi-media practice. Geographical, social, and spiritual motifs inform a body of work, which encourages viewer participation outside the confines of complacent contemplation. Preoccupied with the human/nature relationship, Charwei Tsai meditates on the complexities among cultural beliefs, spirituality, and transience. Since 2005 she has published an independent curatorial journal, *Lovely Daze*, which is included in the library collections of the Tate Modern, Centre Pompidou, MoMA, and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Barcelona.

#### The project

Throughout her residency, Charwei Tsai intends to develop a project, entitled *Touching the Earth* project by producing a sound-based performance with musician Stephen O'Malley to create a ritual with sounds and vibrations from nature. This performance will be accompanied by the release of a new issue of her magazine *Lovely Daze* on the themes of art, ecology, technology and science. Her overall project will explore central questions at the intersection of science, technology and spirituality such as: How do science and technology help us to slow down? How do science and technology help us to touch the earth? How do science and technology help us to deconstruct our habit of identifying ourselves as permanent and independent entities?

Photo: Charwei Tsai



Mona/Marcel/Marge

Photo: Vince Bruns; Kathy Grove

## Martha Wilson, USA

### Project: *Generations of Feminism in France*

#### The artist

Martha Wilson was born in 1947 in Philadelphia, USA. She lives and works in New York. She is a pioneering feminist artist and art space director, who over the past four decades has created innovative photographic and video works that explore her female subjectivity. She has been described by New York Times critic Holland Cotter as one of "the half-dozen most important people for art in downtown Manhattan in the 1970s." In 1976 she founded Franklin Furnace, an artist-run space that champions the exploration, promotion and preservation of artist books, temporary installation, performance art, as well as online works. Martha Wilson is represented by P.P.O.W Gallery in New York.

#### The project

During her residency, Martha Wilson intends to continue her practice and creation of artworks rooted in a feminist, social and political context. As part of her project, she will record the oral histories of French feminist figures of all generations. This project is a continuation of her work started in 1981 on different feminist communities in collaboration with Suzanne Lacy and Susan Hiller. The aim of this experiment is to examine six generations of feminists in France, to compare their work and their feminist, social and political attitudes.



# Residents of the Duo programme



## Raphaël Grisey & Bouba Touré, France and Mali

*Project: Digitalization of the photographic archive of Bouba Touré*

### The artists

Raphaël Grisey was born in 1979 in France, and lives and works between Berlin and Trondheim in Norway. Bouba Touré was born in Mali in 1948 and died in France in January 2022. Raphaël Grisey uses film, editorial and photographic works to address politics of memory, architecture, migration and agriculture. Bouba Touré was a photographic researcher. He studied at Vincennes University and was a projectionist at Cinema 14 Juillet and L'entrepôt, Paris. Photographer since the 1970s, he documented the lives and struggles of migrant workers and peasants in France and Mali. Bouba Touré co-founded the Co-op of Somankidi Coura in 1977. In 2015, he published the book *Notre case est à Saint Denis*. Since the 1980s, Touré has exhibited works and given talks in associative and foyer's circles and more recently in art institutions. Touré and Grisey worked together over fifteen years on collaborative projects under the current name of *Sowing Somankidi Coura, a Generative Archive*. This collaboration led to various workshops, film and theatre production for example with the theatre group *Kaddu Yaraax* in 2017 and 2019, as well as publications and texts, such as *Sowing Somankidi Coura, a Generative Archive* (2017, Archives Book).

### The project

This residency looks back on the long-time collaboration between Raphaël Grisey and Bouba Touré. Raphaël Grisey will digitize and activate the photographic archive of Bouba Touré. A first complementary indexation work of the archive will be produced by the duo which will then be complemented by partners who will be invited to interpret, refine the indexing, and propose research angles and new contributions. The final production will consist in the production of a sound piece, which will accompany the photographs of Bouba Touré.

Photo: Raphaël Grisey & Bouba Touré



# A Look Back at the 2021 Edition

During the programme's first edition, Art Explora and the Cité internationale des arts welcomed **22 artists for two sessions of six months**.

## March to August 2021:

- Dineo Seshee Bopape** (South Africa)
- Mohssin Harraki** (Morocco)
- Hamedine Kane** (Mauritania)
- Maya Minder** (Switzerland)
- Sara Ouhaddou** (France and Morocco)
- Achraf Touloub** (France and Morocco)
- Stéphane Verlet-Bottéro** (France)
- Akram Zaatari** (Lebanon)
- Sophie Houdart & Mélanie Pavy** (DUO, France)
- Oulimata Gueye & Maarten Vanden Eynde** (DUO, France and Netherlands)

## September 2021 to February 2022:

- Chino Amobi** (USA)
- Liz Johnson Artur** (United Kingdom, Russia and Ghana)
- Rina Banerjee** (USA and India)
- Nicholas Grafia** (Germany, USA and Philippines)
- Adriana Lara** (Mexico)
- Monica Narula** (India)
- Anri Sala** (Germany and Albania)
- Tomo Savić-Gecan** (Croatia and Netherlands)
- Ramaya Tegegne** (Switzerland)
- Natsuko Uchino** (France and Japan)

A key element of Art Explora's overall mission is **to share creative work with all types of audiences**, including those with the least access to art, and to promote encounters with artists. This was the aim behind **"Croisements: les rencontres de Montmartre"**, a festival organized in July 2021.

For the duration of the festival, the Cité internationale des arts in Montmartre opened its doors, inviting the public to meet the artists in residence and discover their work through an exhibition, studio visits, conferences, performances, and film projections. The event brought together **1500 people over three days**, aided by 20 volunteers from the Art Explora Foundation.

The next edition of the festival will be held in summer 2022.

Photos: Maurine Tric





Photo: Maurine Tric

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