VIA ART FUND AWARDS RECORD $1,500,000 IN GRANTS IN 2020

Major support provided to projects by Charles Gaines, Tiona Nekkia McClodden, Richard Mosse, Tuan Andrew Nguyen, Jacolby Satterwhite, and Rose B. Simpson

$200,000 awarded through the VIA | Wagner Incubator Grant Fund

$342,000 awarded through the 2020 VIA Grantee Relief Fund

Wassan Al-Khudhairi named 2021 VIA Curatorial Fellow

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE) VIA Art Fund is pleased to announce its 2020 grant recipients. Through the VIA Partnership’s extraordinary generosity, this year surpassed grantmaking records across four categories: Artistic Production Grant Fund, VIA | Wagner Incubator Grant Fund, 2020 VIA Grantee Relief Fund, and the VIA Curatorial Fellowship.

Bridgitt Evans, President of VIA Art Fund, commented: “In a tumultuous year, VIA has remained a bastion of support for artists, arts organizations, and curators. Our grantees exemplify VIA’s rigorous standards for artistic production, thought leadership, and public engagement. Their ambitious projects—so many of which were paused, retooled, or freshly reconceived during the course of 2020—are now poised to debut with renewed relevance in a changed world. We watch with great anticipation as they chart the course forward, staking out new ground on which we can all convene together in a brighter and more promising near future.”

Over the course of 2020, VIA Art Fund approved $925,000 in Artistic Production grants for the production, exhibition, and accessioning of new works of art. Projects supported included Charles Gaines' most ambitious public art installation to date, comprising two monumental sculptures, Moving Chains and Mound, commissioned by Creative Time; Tiona Nekkia McClodden's Play Me Home, a three-channel film and video piece and series of related sculptural objects commissioned by Prospect.5 New Orleans; Richard Mosse's multi-channel, immersive film and video installation centered on the climate crisis, to be presented at multiple international venues; Tuan Andrew Nguyen's film and live performance installation, Crime(s) of Solidarity/ Crimes de Solidarité, presented at Manifesta 13 Biennial in Marseilles; Ebony G. Patterson's large-scale sculptural tapestry commission for the Liverpool Biennial; Jacoby Satterwhite's exploratory video game Dawn, to be presented at FRONT Triennial in Cleveland; and Rose B. Simpson's performance work in conjunction with her solo exhibition at the Nevada Museum of Art.

In addition to funding the production of new work, VIA Art Fund also gifted Lynn Hershman Leeson's Shadow Stalker (2019) to the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco.
In the second year of its five-year, $1,000,000 VIA | Wagner Incubator Grant Fund, the VIA partnership awarded $200,000 to five geographically diverse visual arts nonprofit organizations with $40,000 each for general operating support: 

**Artspace**, an alternative art space and residency in New Haven, CT; **Disjecta**, an alternative art space in Portland, OR; **The Lab**, an alternative art space in San Francisco, CA; **Locust Projects**, an alternative art space and artist residency in Miami, FL; and **The Luminary**, an alternative art space and publishing platform in St. Louis, MO.

The **2020 VIA Grantee Relief Fund** was organized to provide emergency relief funding for small, independent arts-nonprofit organizations during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic. Twenty-four previous Incubator grantees across the continental US were each awarded $14,250 in unrestricted general operating support from the VIA Grantee Relief Fund, totaling $342,000.

Finally, Wassan Al-Khudhairi was selected as the recipient of the **2021 VIA Curatorial Fellowship** in support of research and travel related to her curatorial practice. She is Chief Curator at the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis.

**VIA Art Fund 2020 Grantees:**

**Artistic Production**
- **Anchorage Museum**, for the production and acquisition of **Nicholas Galanin and Merritt Johnson's Natural Forces**
- **Carolina Caycedo & David de Rozas**, for the production and public accessioning of **The Blessings of the Mystery**
- **Creative Time**, for the production and exhibition of **Charles Gaines' Moving Chains and Mound**
- **Josh Kline**, for the production and public accessioning of **Adaptation**
- **Liverpool Biennial**, for the production and exhibition of a new sculptural installation by **Ebony G. Patterson**
- **Richard Mosse**, for the production and public accessioning of **Vector (working title)**
- **Tuan Andrew Nguyen**, for the production and public accessioning of **Crime(s) of Solidarity / Crimes de Solidarité**
- **Prospect New Orleans**, for the production and public accessioning of **Tiona Nekkia McClodden's Play Me Home**
- **Jacolby Satterwhite**, for the production and public accessioning of **Dawn**
- **Rose B. Simpson**, for the production and exhibition of a new performance work for the Nevada Museum of Art
- **Socrates Sculpture Park**, for performances activating **Jeffrey Gibson's VIA-supported sculpture Because Once You Enter My House, It Becomes Our House**

**VIA Artworks Gifted and Accessioned into Public Collections**

**Shadow Stalker**, Lynn Hershman Leeson, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco
VIA | Wagner Incubator Grant Fund
Artspace, New Haven, CT
Disjecta Contemporary Art Center, Portland, OR
The Lab, San Francisco, CA
Locust Projects, Miami, FL
The Luminary, St. Louis, MO

2020 VIA Grantee Relief Fund
Antenna, New Orleans, LA
ART21, New York, NY
Artpace, San Antonio, TX
Artist's Institute, New York, NY
Artists Space, New York, NY
Burnaway, Atlanta, GA*
CCA Wattis, San Francisco, CA
Coleman Center for the Arts, York, AL*
International Studio & Curatorial Program (ISCP), Brooklyn, NY
Independent Curators International, New York, NY
LAXART, Los Angeles, CA
Midway Contemporary Art, Minneapolis, MN*
Primary Information, New York, NY
PS1–Center for Afrofuturist Studies, Iowa City, IA*
Recess, Brooklyn, NY
Rhizome, New York, NY
SculptureCenter, Queens, NY
SPACE, Portland, ME*
Swiss Institute, New York, NY
The Kitchen, New York, NY
The Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
The Underground Museum, Los Angeles, CA
Triple Canopy, New York, NY
X-TRA, Los Angeles, CA

* VIA | Wagner 2019 Incubator Grant Fund Grantee

2020 VIA Curatorial Fellow
Wassan Al-Khudhairi, Chief Curator, Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis
ABOUT VIA ART FUND:

**VIA Art Fund** is a 501(c)(3) founded by an international coalition of individuals and private foundations who believe in the central role art plays in society. VIA’s activities support innovative, ambitious and rigorous works of art and endeavors with far-reaching public impact realized in various forms including institutional production and acquisition, exhibitions, public installations, curatorial research, publications and symposia. Funding artists, curators and arts organizations around the world, VIA Art Fund awards grants in three categories – Artistic Production Grants, Incubator Grants and an annual Curatorial Fellowship grant – that exemplify VIA’s core values of *Artistic Production*, *Thought Leadership*, and *Public Engagement*.

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