



2019

BLACK
SPATIAL
RELIQS

Artists-in-Residence Awardees +
Honorable Mentions

Black Spatial Relics awards two new artists-in-residence!

For immediate release (June 18, 2019) – Today, Black Spatial Relics (BSR) announced two artists– in–residence for the New Performance Residency, totaling \$5,000 in awards with additional programming support. The residency supports the development of two new performance works that address and incorporate the public histories of slavery and contemporary issues of justice. Each artist is awarded 2,500.00 and offered programming and dramaturgical support.

The 2019 selected artists are Julie B. Johnson from Atlanta, GA and muthi reed from Philadelphia, PA.

These artists were selected from a pool of 38 applicants from around the United States developing rigorous work engaging histories of slavery, justice and freedom. Alongside these two artists Black Spatial Relics lifts the work of five applicants whose work is also relentlessly endeavoring toward Black freedom. **The five honorable mentions include Crystal Z. Campbell, Marissa Williamson, Monet Noelle Marshall, Viktor L Ewing-Givens, and Jodie Lyn-Kee-Chow.**

The artists-in-residence pay particular attention to land-based histories of both the slave trade and its legacies on the Eastern seaboard of the United States as well as histories of chattel slavery, fugitivity, and liberation. Black Spatial Relics artists lead performance projects that may traverse or engage dance, theatre, performance installation and/or ritual, spoken word, music/sound, visual arts and or any multidisciplinary constellation of the aforementioned.

To the end of supporting Black artists making work and life in spaces, they call home, this residency endeavors to provide resources to support performance development processes that center dreaming and public/site-responsive performance. This residency is about making space for Black artists to stay in residence where they are and make this work. The residency enables artists in residence to develop works that engage the public history of slavery and bridge or incorporate systemic and inherited connections with contemporary issues of injustice.

In addition to development of their performance works between June 2019–November 2019, artists in residence convene in Philadelphia in mid-November 2019 for three days of workshops, convenings and artist talks. Artists are not expected to complete their performance works in this time frame, but some (however experimental) iteration of the performance work will be publicly shared between May – November 2019.

Black Spatial Relics was juried by a national panel of artists, activists and scholars including, Nicosia Shakes, Angela Davis Johnson, Carlos Sirah and Lela Aisha Jones. Black Spatial Relics is an independent project developed at the Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice at Brown University. BSR was founded is directed by Arielle Julia Brown. BSR is currently supported by individual donors and the 2019 Monument Lab Fellowship.

Press inquiries and requests should be directed to **Arielle Julia Brown** at blackspatialrelics@gmail.com.

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2019 BLACK SPATIAL RELICS: NEW PERFORMANCE RESIDENCY ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE



Julie B. Johnson | The Georgia Incarceration Project

Julie B Johnson will use her award to support her project **"Idle Crimes and Heavy Work."** "Idle Crimes and Heavy Work" is developed in conjunction with her participation as a co- director of The Georgia Incarceration Performance Project — a devised archives-to- performance collaboration exploring the history of incarceration and convict labor in Georgia. "Idle Crimes and Heavy Work," is a choreographic exploration of the often overlooked experiences of black women within this history, embodying narratives of gendered and racial violence, and amplifying modes of resistance and restoration.

Project

"Idle Crimes and Heavy Work"

Partner Institution

The Georgia Incarceration Project and Giwayen Mata

Location

Atlanta, GA

Awarded

\$2,500

Artist Website

juliebjohnson.com

2019 BLACK SPATIAL RELICS: NEW PERFORMANCE RESIDENCY ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE



muthi reed | The Coleman Center for the Arts

muthi reed will use their award to support their work **"HOUSE OF BLACK Infinity// WILDIN."** Working between Philadelphia and York, Alabama, muthi's work is in partnership with Coleman Center for the Arts. HOUSE OF BLACK INFINITY // WILDIN is a community vision for intercultural trans regional society, gathering and contemplating topographic visions for twenty first century living. Organizing the Council, muthi will conduct archival research about local Black and Native life. From research, they are making work to share in community— part holler, porch sit, walk, ritual, libations, roll call, story performance, sing, prayer, drill. WILDIN is a conceptual audio and video performance work.

Project

HOUSE OF BLACK INFINITY//
WILDIN

Partner Institution

The Coleman Center for the
Arts

Location

Philadelphia, PA

Awarded

\$2,500

Artist Website

cargocollective.com/
krewecoumbite

2019 BLACK SPATIAL RELICS: HONORABLE MENTIONS

Crystal Z. Campbell | *SLICK: A Person Who Advises or Shows the Way to Others*

SLICK: A Person Who Advises or Shows the Way to Others is a feature-length experimental documentary video, series of live performances, and a publication centering Oklahoma and its history of black townships, oil, and the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. offering players the opportunity to compete against the clock to solve puzzles using clues, hints, and strategy.

crystalzcampbell.com

Jodie Lyn-Kee-Chow | "Junkanooaacome"

"Junkanooaacome" is a site-specific, interdisciplinary, and interactive project consisting of workshops, performances, and other media intended to decolonize and raise awareness of NYC's historic spaces and monuments still bearing names of slave masters. Lyn-Kee-Chow aims to celebrate decolonization by making this Jamaican Junkanoo (a practice intended to confront slave-masters) relevant during other times of the year and not only during Christmas time as it's traditionally practiced.

secure.squarespace.com/checkout/

Marisa Williamson | *Rooms*

Rooms is an interactive multimedia installation, performance, and speculative retelling of historical narratives inspired by the lives of three women, enslaved in colonial America. The project, developed by Marisa Williamson during her residency at SPACES in Cleveland, OH, is a variation on the pop culture "escape room" phenomenon offering players the opportunity to compete against the clock to solve puzzles using clues, hints, and strategy.

marisawilliamson.com

Monèt Noelle Marshall | *Bring Me My Purse*

Did you know that the average net worth of a Black woman in America is \$0 if she is college educated; \$1100 if she is not. How did we get here? How did enslaved Black women create wealth through their physical and reproductive labor to now passing debt down through generations? How do Black women continue to be the societal "breadlosers" while feeding everyone else? How much do we owe Black women? When will we pay up?

This project will feature interviews, photography, and videography that will culminate in an installation that will house visual art, audio, performances, workshops and digital interventions.

monetnoellemarshall.com

Viktor L Ewing-Givens | *Mo'lasses*

This touring project iterates as visual exhibitions, lectures, public performance rituals, sound compositions, video installations and creative non-fiction publications.

southernandroid.com

ABOUT THE FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR

Arielle Julia Brown is a creative producer, social practice artist, and dramaturg. Emerging from her work and research around U.S. slavery, racial terror and justice, Arielle is committed to supporting and creating Black performance work that commands imaginative and material space for social transformation. She is the founder of The Love Balm Project (2010-2014), a workshop series and performance based on the testimonies of women of color who have lost children to systemic violence. The Love Balm Project was developed and produced at cultural institutions throughout the San Francisco Bay Area and Atlanta. More recently, Arielle developed The DoubleBack, a site-specific performance about three enslaved Black women in Providence RI while in residence at the Center for Reconciliation. Arielle is a co-creative producer on Remember2019, a performance, and residency project based in Phillips County, Arkansas. Arielle's work and writing on Black political performance has been published in the anthology Revolutionary Mothering: Love on the Frontlines, ARTS.BLACK and Public Art Dialogue, among others. Arielle was a 2017-2018 Diversity and Leadership Fellow with the Alliance of Artists Communities. Arielle is a 2019 Monument Lab National Fellow. She serves as both the Public Programs Developer at the Penn Museum and as a cultural planning consultant for the Penn and Slavery Project at the University of Pennsylvania. She received her B.A. from Pomona College and was the 2015-2017 graduate fellow with the Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice at Brown University where she received an M.A. in Public Humanities. To learn more about her work, visit her website: ariellejuliabrown.strikingly.com