

2020 C3:LETTERPRESS RESIDENCY AWARDS



Portland, OR | August 10, 2020 – We are pleased to announce the 2020 awards for the c3:letterpress residency, a program entering its inaugural year on our sister campus, Camp Colton. To launch the program we invited Demian DinéYazhi’ to participate as a distinguished guest artist. Much gratitude to Demian for accepting our invitation. We then held an open call for submissions to be reviewed by a guest jury - made up of Anna Lena Phillips Bell, Mia Reiko Braverman, Heather Watkins, and Christine Wong Yap. Finalists selected by the jury were interviewed by c3:initiative staff. The jury and interview process was competitive with 51 applicants, 8 interviewed finalists, and 4 awardees.

We are encouraged by the strong interest in this program and are committed to expanding the conversation around printing and publishing as a process of distribution, communication, and community building. The five awardees are at varied points along their creative journeys, and we are eager to see how their artistic practices will evolve through the exploration of a new medium.

Each resident will be immersed in Camp Colton’s forested location, where they will receive two weeks lodging in a cabin in the woods, studio instruction and assistance at Stelo Press, a \$450 honorarium, and a group exhibition in 2021 featuring work developed during the residency. Residents will also receive a \$250 exhibition honorarium to support their work.

It is an honor to celebrate and support this technical residency that focuses on experimentation, risk, research, and collaborative learning via the mediums of letterpress and relief printing. Thank you to everyone who applied to the program and congratulations to the following recipients:

2020 c3:letterpress residency artists

Alejandra Arias Sevilla

May Maylisa Cat

Demian DinéYazhi’

giovanni singleton

Mami Takahashi

ABOUT THE CREATIVES

Alejandra Arias Sevilla (She/her) is an interdisciplinary artist and community printmaker in Portland, Oregon. She deconstructs the intersection of language, domestic spaces, and personal history. These are rooted in the storytelling of her grandmothers, her childhood in Mexico and her experience as a Mexican woman in the United States. She engages in an active process of memory to examine the language that knits her identity.

As part of her ethos, Alejandra collaborates with Portland-based community groups to engender action and empathy through art building. She has participated with Don't Shoot Portland, in printmaking events as a form of sharing knowledge and storytelling. In 2018, she collaborated with artists, translators, and business owners to celebrate the first Dia de Los Muertos in the Portland Art Museum. Her work has been shown with Nat Turner Project, Black Fish Gallery and Converge 45.

May Maylisa Cat is a multidisciplinary artist who grew up in Chicago and graduated from the Cooper Union School of Art in New York, NY. Her projects have received support from multiple grants including the Precipice Fund from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts and the Calligram Foundation, the Career Opportunity Grant from the Oregon Arts Commission, the New Media Fellowship from Open Signal, and grants from the Regional Arts and Culture Council of Portland, OR. May has attended residencies at Chautauqua Visual Arts, Wassaic Project, Santa Fe Art Institute, Caldera Arts, Pittsburgh Glass Center, New Media Gallery Residency at Jack Straw Cultural Center, and Glean Portland. She has spoken as a guest lecturer for Carnegie Mellon University School of Fine Art in Pittsburgh, PA and as a teaching artist for Caldera Arts in Sisters, OR. She is currently based in Portland, OR.

Demian DinéYazhi' is a transdisciplinary Indigenous Diné Non-Binary artist, poet, and curator. Their practice is a regurgitation of purported Decolonial praxis informed by the over accumulation and exploitative supremacist nature of hetero-cis-gendered communities post colonization. They were formed from their mother who is a descendant of sacred beings that came to emerge from this world through the holy act of migration and from a people ceremonially devoted to cosmological harmony and balance. They are a survivor of attempted European genocide, forced assimilation, manipulation, sexual and gender violence, capitalist sabotage, and hypermarginalization in a colonized country that refuses to center their politics and philosophies around the Indigenous Peoples whose Land they occupy and refuse to give back. They live and work in a post-post-apocalyptic world unafraid to fail.
@heterogeneushomosexual

giovanni singleton is the author of *Ascension*, informed by the life and work of Alice Coltrane, which won the California Book Award Gold Medal and *AMERICAN LETTERS: works on paper*, a collection of visual art and poetry. Her writing has been exhibited in the Smithsonian Institute's American Jazz Museum, Oakland's Digital Literature Garden, San Francisco's first Visual Poetry and Performance Festival, and on the building of Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. In 2018, she received the African American Literature and Culture Society's Stephen E. Henderson Award for Outstanding Achievement in Poetry. singleton is founding editor of *nocturnes (re)view of the literary arts*, a journal dedicated to experimental work of the African Diaspora and other contested spaces. She has held visiting professorships in creative writing at CalArts, New Mexico State University, and Sonoma State University. For ten years she coordinated the Lunch Poems reading series directed by Robert Hass at the University of California, Berkeley where she also served as the 2017-18 Holloway Lecturer in Poetry and Poetics. She regularly consults and gives presentations on writing, editing, graphic design, and publishing at high schools, colleges, and conferences.

Mami Takahashi is an artist from Tokyo, currently based in Portland, Oregon. Using photography, performance, installation, and urban intervention, her practice explores the complexities of being Asian and a woman struggling for US citizenship. Being the first member of her family to the U.S. and a non-native English speaker, her visual practice incorporates her awkward experience in this new culture. There is an on-going struggle with the complex meaning of being “American” and “foreigner” with the millions of immigrants that came before. Previous exhibitions and performances have taken place at San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco; DANK Haus, Chicago, IL; The International Museum of Art, El Paso, TX; Portland Institute for Contemporary Art, Portland, OR; Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Alberta, Canada; Gwangju Folk Art Museum, Korea; Instituto Municipal del Arte la Cultura, DG Mexico and Toriizaka Art Gallery, Tokyo, among other venues. She holds an MFA from Portland State University, a BFA from Joshibi University of Art and Design, Kanagawa Tokyo.

ABOUT THE RESIDENCY

The c3:letterpress residency engages artists with little or no experience in letterpress printing, and offers them an opportunity to learn the craft and stretch the limitations of what the medium can do. Provided with instruction and guidance via technical assistance from a professional printer/artist at Stelo Press, and exclusive 24/7 access to the studio, residents create and exhibit new work.

ABOUT STELO PRESS

In late 2017, Portland State University was looking for a new home for their Chandler and Price press, along with eight type cabinets containing approximately 177 cases of type. This came at an opportune moment in c3:initiative’s history while planning some of their first programs at Camp Colton, their sister campus based in Colton, OR. PSU granted a long-term loan of the equipment, which now has a new life at Stelo Press. Over the years, c3 has added a Vandercook press and a Pilot platen press to the shop and is eager to begin offering workshops and residencies that utilize this historic collection.

ABOUT C3:INITIATIVE

c3:initiative is a platform for critical inquiry. We provide a place-based support structure to nurture personal and social introspection to individuals and communities interested in engaging in thoughtful conversations. Through adaptive residencies, exhibitions, and public programs, c3 offers forward-thinking models for collaboration and resource sharing.

For more information about c3:initiative, visit c3initiative.org

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