



SHOWCASING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE
FELLOWSHIP AWARDS IN VISUAL ARTS

2016, 2017 & 2018
NEW JERSEY
STATE COUNCIL
ON THE ARTS
FELLOWSHIP
AWARDS IN
VISUAL ARTS
EXHIBITION

NJ STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

The New Jersey State Council on the Arts is pleased to support this wonderful exhibition of work by visual artists who received Arts Council Fellowship awards in painting, works on paper, media, interdisciplinary performance, crafts, photography and sculpture in 2016, 2017 and 2018. These works are compelling evidence of the wealth of outstanding artistic talent in New Jersey, and we are delighted to collaborate with Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center and their Gallery of Fine Craft in bringing the work to the attention and appreciation of a wider audience.

The Arts Council created the Artists' Fellowship Program in 1971, and to this day it continues to acknowledge and assist artists working at the highest levels of excellence as determined by their peers. The Council understands both the critical differences that providing this kind of support can make, as well as the importance of helping artists gain further public exposure for their work and advance their careers. Because of the program's high standards, a Council Fellowship brings much-deserved recognition and distinction that can help in even greater ways than the modest funds themselves.

We want to express our appreciation to Susan Gogan, the Director of Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center, and Noele Alampi, the Manager of The Gallery of Fine Craft at Wheaton Arts. WheatonArts has a long and distinguished history of supporting the arts as an integral part of New Jersey communities, and for providing residents and visitors alike with a range of high quality, engaging art experiences.

We also extend our warmest congratulations to all of the exhibiting artists. It is a privilege to participate in the support of these artists and in the work of encouraging the continued vitality of the state's arts industry for the benefit of all New Jerseyans.

Elizabeth Mattson, *Chair*
Allison Tratner, *Interim Executive Director*
Danielle Bursk, *Director of Artist Services*



WHEATONARTS

For close to five decades, Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center has been a vital community, national and international cultural resource in southern New Jersey. Within its beautiful pineland setting, WheatonArts remains the region's primary tourist destination and serves as a dynamic center for the arts with ever-expanding programs, workshops, and events that capture the imagination of all ages.

WheatonArts, an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit institution, was founded as "Wheaton Village" in 1968 by the late Frank Wheaton, Jr., President of Wheaton Industries, which at one time was the largest privately-owned glass manufacturer in the world. The *Museum of American Glass* is at the heart of the Center, housing the most comprehensive collection of glass produced in America. Located in Millville, the *Museum* is one of only a handful of museums in New Jersey to hold an American Alliance of Museums (AAM) accreditation. *The Creative Glass Center of America*, a well-established artist residency program, has hosted over 355+ fellowships in one of the nation's first public-access, amphitheater-style hot glass studios. Regionally, the *Down Jersey Folklife Center* has provided multicultural, multigenerational programs and educational resources since 1995, engaging and serving more than 55 ethnic and cultural groups throughout South Jersey. Studio programs, including the renowned *Glass Studio*, reflect a dynamic community of resident and guest artists from around the world, who help demystify the creative process, share skills and vision, and provide unique programming for both children and adults.

The Gallery of Fine Craft at WheatonArts is honored to host the New Jersey State Council on the Arts Fellowship Awards in Visual Arts Exhibition. We extend a special thanks to the New Jersey State Council on the Arts for providing this important opportunity to New Jersey's artists and for their partnership with us on this exhibition.

Susan Gogan, *Executive Director*
Noele Alampi, *The Gallery of Fine Craft Manager*

The Gallery of Fine Craft
WHEATONARTS

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MELANIE STEWART

Philadelphia, PA

2016 FELLOWSHIP, Interdisciplinary Performance

Melanie Stewart creates darkly absurd movement-driven theatre focusing on the nuanced, weird and vulnerable side of American culture. She holds two degrees in dance; a B.A. in dance at Webster College and an M.F.A. in Choreography/Performance from Temple University. From 1983 to 2015 she was the Artistic Director of Melanie Stewart Dance Theatre, producing over 40 original works of dance and theatre both nationally and abroad. Through the integration of movement, text, and image, she reveals the emotional undercurrents that drive the body to action, resulting in compelling dance theatre that is often ironic and intensely human.

A critically acclaimed choreographer and director, Stewart's awards include numerous fellowships and grants from The National Endowment for the Arts, Dance Advance/Pew Charitable Trusts, and The PA Council on the Arts. She is a Leigh Gerding Distinguished Alumna Award winner from Webster University, a recent nominee for USA Artist's Fellowship and a 2016 New Jersey State Council on the Arts Interdisciplinary Arts Fellow.

An active member of the cultural community in South Jersey, Stewart is the Chair of Creative Glassboro Advisory Board in Glassboro, NJ and serves on the Advisory Board of the National Consortium for Creative Placemaking and the Board of the South Jersey Cultural Alliance. Stewart is a Professor of Theatre and Dance and Associate Dean of Performing Arts at Rowan University.



Sticky 2, Series of Printed Photographs from the Performance of *Sticky*, 2016
Photo Credit: David Cimetta Performers: Guillermo Ortega Tanus and Eun Jung Choi



Sticky 4, Series of Printed Photographs from the Performance of *Sticky*, 2016
Photo Credit: David Cimetta Performers: Guillermo Ortega Tanus and Eun Jung Choi

MELANIE STEWART

LAURA QUATTROCCHI

Detroit, MI

2016 FELLOWSHIP, Interdisciplinary Performance

Laura Quattrocchi is a movement and visual artist born in Padova, Italy. She landed in New York City in 1995 to study contemporary dance. Central to her dance development was meeting and working with Daniel Lepkoff, Elaine Summers, Karl Anderson and Joshua Bisset. She discovered her interest in visual arts and fabrication after collaborating with visual artists Diego Britt, Sylvestre Gobart and Agata Oleksiak. In 2000 she joined Shua Group. Her current practice includes concepts, costuming, set design, performance and visual art. Her individual visual and performance works have been presented at venues including The Newark Museum, The Queens Museum, The American Visionary Arts Museum, The Jersey City Museum, Rochester Contemporary Art Center, Detroit Contemporary, The Harn Museum of Art, ShuaSpace, and The Gateway Project in Newark. Laura has performed as a dancer with David Parker and The Bang Group, Mary Anthony Dance Theatre, Tam Le, Kun-Yang Lin, Andrea Haenggi, Elaine Summers and Jody Oberfelder.

She was awarded an Individual Artist Fellowship in 2016 by New Jersey State Council on the Arts in the category of interdisciplinary performance for her work "Spring Rain." She is also one of the chosen artists representing New Jersey in the 2014 Newark Museum Arts Biennial with her work, "Snacklandia." She recently relocated to Detroit, MI.



Surprise Performance for the Recycling Collectors, Performance, Video Documentation, 2015
Photo Credit: Mauro Clerici



Spring Rain, Performance still, Video Documentation, 2013
Photo Credit: Mauro Clerici

LAURA QUATTROCCHI

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THERESA PFARR

Ewing, NJ

2016 FELLOWSHIP, Painting

Theresa Pfarr is an artist and Adjunct Professor of Art at The College of New Jersey. Her work has recently been included in exhibitions at the Ada Gallery in Richmond, VA, the McGlothlin Center for the Arts in Emory, Virginia, Angela Meleca Gallery in Columbus, OH, and Modern Arts Midtown in Omaha, NE. Grants and awards include a New Jersey State Council on the Arts Fellowship, a Pollock-Krasner Grant, a Roswell A-I-R Grant, a Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts Residency, a Virginia Center for the Arts Fellowship, a Jentel Residency and a Puffin Foundation Grant. Her work resides in the Anderson Museum of Contemporary Art and many private collections.



Untitled (red dress), Detail, Oil on canvas, 2016



Untitled (red dress), Oil on canvas, 2016

THERESA PFARR

2016 FELLOWSHIP, Painting

juliacks is an artist, filmmaker, performer-choreographer, cartoonist, and playwright who splits her time between New Jersey, where she recently received a 2016 Fellowship from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, and the Netherlands. She creates fictions across mediums - exhibiting, performing, screening and existing - in museums, galleries, projects and alternative spaces. She's been published and has performed in various cities across North America and throughout Europe. She is currently working on developing new stories and frameworks, with her most recently completed project being the trans-media story "Architecture of an Atom," a comix art book published by 2dcloud.



Architecture of an Atom - Border Crossing Boundaries Open, Detail
Oil, acrylic, graphite, watercolor, ink and screen painted monotype prints, Paper collage on canvas, 2015



Architecture of an Atom - Border Crossing Boundaries Open
Oil, acrylic, graphite, watercolor, ink and screen painted monotype prints, Paper collage on canvas, 2015

JULIACKS

KEN WEATHERSBY

Montclair, NJ

2016 FELLOWSHIP, Painting

Ken Weathersby characteristically plays with and against conventions of paintings' structure, by cutting out and inverting parts, and most recently by embedding photographic images. He has exhibited his work nationally and internationally, with notable solo shows at MINUS SPACE (New York), Pierogi Gallery (New York), One River Gallery (Englewood, NJ), NIAD Art Center Gallery (Richmond, CA), Some Walls (Oakland, CA), and the John Cotton Dana Gallery at Rutgers University (Newark). His work has been included in group exhibitions at the National Academy of Art Museum (New York), Honey Ramka (Brooklyn), Odetta Gallery (Brooklyn), 57w57Arts (New York), Parallel Art Space (Ridgewood, NY), Mixed Greens (New York), Aljira Art Center (Newark), the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation Gallery (Morristown, NJ), Barbara Walters Gallery at Sarah Lawrence College (Bronxville, New York), the Visual Art Center of NJ (Summit, NJ), Seven (Miami), Toomey Tourell (San Francisco), and I.S. Projects (Leiden, Netherlands), among many others.

Weathersby has received numerous awards and residencies, most recently the Individual Artist Painting Fellowship by the Mid-Atlantic Arts Council/New Jersey State Council on the Arts (2016). His work has been written about in Hyperallergic, the Huffington Post, Brooklyn Magazine, the New American Paintings blog, Two Coats of Paint, Painter's Bread, and elsewhere. Weathersby holds an MFA in Painting from Cranbrook Academy of Art. He was born in Mississippi and has lived in the New York City area since 1990.



"232", canvas, wood, inset collage, 2014



"222", canvas, wood, inset collage, 2014

KEN WEATHERSBY

WORKS O

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ON PAPER

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ANONDA BELL

Montclair, NJ

2016 FELLOWSHIP, Works on Paper

This series of artworks explore the human tendency to separate and elevate ourselves from the rest of the natural world. "Biophobia" is defined as a sense of dis-ease in nature, and a derisive regard for climates and environments which are not man made or at least modified significantly by people. It is thought to be an acquired urge to affiliate with technology, human artifacts, to the exclusion of experiencing the natural world outside a constructed environment. This condition is a seemingly inevitable consequence of growing up in an urban environment where our interactions with nature may be limited to incidental encounters, strictly mediated and moderated by the perspective of urban planners, or those who generate media content (and sometimes benefit from propagating a fear of nature). Each of the works in this series attempts to convey a sense of dread, even to those people who do not experience fear or repulsion.

Through this work she interrogates the precise demarcation of humans from the natural world. She is interested in exploring how human remains become part of the larger ecosystem. For flies, human flesh can be a source of nourishment, a place to rest or to incubate offspring. The activities of flies at various stages in their life cycle become markers of time and process, in forensic terms they are witnesses to a crime. Their presence or absence can be used to provide data about what has transpired when no person was around to see. The general thought of maggots breeding in decaying flesh and flies eating putrefying remains is for most people stomach churning. The flies who are part of the process consequently evoke a sense of disgust, and yet they are an inevitable part of life.



Biophobia (Entomophobia), Detail, Acrylic & spray paint, shellac on paper, 2018



Biophobia (Entomophobia), Acrylic & spray paint, shellac on paper, 2018

ANONDA BELL

KAREN GUANCIONE

Belleville, NJ

2016 FELLOWSHIP, Works on Paper

Karen Guancione has been awarded a Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation Artists and Communities Grant, four New Jersey State Council on the Arts Fellowships, a Ford Foundation Grant, a Puffin Foundation Grant and an Arts and Culture Exhibition Grant from the Nathan Cummings Foundation. Her work has been exhibited worldwide and is in numerous collections, both public and private. Her interdisciplinary art includes large scale installations, public art projects, performance, sculpture, printmaking, papermaking, bookarts and video. She has curated many exhibitions, is an adjunct professor of art at Middlesex County College and has been a visiting artist and lecturer at the State University of New York (SUNY Purchase), Montclair State University, Pratt Institute, Rutgers University and numerous schools and institutions in the United States and abroad.

For over a decade she has served as artistic director / guest curator of the annual New Jersey Book Arts Symposium and Exhibition. She is the first time recipient of the Erena Rae Award for Art and Social Justice. With Grammy award winning soprano Susan Narucki she collaborated on the critically acclaimed production of Cuatro Corridos, a multidisciplinary chamber opera about human trafficking that has been continually traveling throughout the USA and Mexico together with community forums about human trafficking and advocacy. She received a 2016 Fellowship from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts for Works on Paper and the 2017 Montclair State University Adjunct Union Teaching Award.



Livre de l'ete, Aout 2009, (Nice, France), Mixed media, 2009



Trash (accordion plastic bag book), Mixed media, 2005

KAREN GUANCIONE

KAY KENNY

South Orange, NJ

2016 FELLOWSHIP, Works on Paper

Kay received a BFA from Syracuse University, MA from Rutgers University, and MFA from Syracuse University, all in Visual Arts. She is a painter and photographer. She writes art criticism and articles on the visual arts for art magazines. She was a photography teacher for over twenty-five years at New York University and the International Center of Photography in New York City.

She was awarded the 2016 New Jersey State Council on the Arts Artist Fellowship for Works on Paper. She also received the 2015 Arthur Griffin Legacy Award from the Griffin Museum and in 2009 the Honorable Mention in Fine Arts Photography Lucie Awards. She is a three-time recipient of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts fellowship award. She has had numerous one-person shows, most recently in Medellin, Columbia, Taipei, Taiwan, Lubbock, Texas and New York City. She has curated several exhibits, including "Memory & Loss", a five-person photo-based exhibit at the Mary Anthony Gallery in New York City. Her work is in several notable corporate, museum and private collections. Recent publications about her work include "Photography's Antiquarian Avant-Garde" by Lyle Rexer, *Abrams Publishing*, "Light & Lens: Photography in the Digital Age" and "Photographic Possibilities" by Robert Hirsch, *Focal Press*, as well as several other photography books. *Photo Insider Magazine* featured an interview with her about her work in their June issue in 2001. Her co-curated exhibit (with Orville Robertson) "Manifestations: Photographs of Men", opened at the Southeast Museum of Photography in 2004.



The Stone Goddesses II, Digital montage print from photographic images, Archival inkjet print, 2018



The Stone Goddesses III, Digital montage print from photographic images, Archival inkjet print, 2018

KAY KENNY

HARRY NAAR

Seattle, WA

2016 FELLOWSHIP, Works on Paper

Harry I. Naar was born in New Brunswick, New Jersey in 1946. He received his BFA from the Philadelphia College of Art (now University of the Arts) and his MFA from Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana where he was a fellowship student and also a teaching assistant.

Since 1980, Naar has been a professor of art at Rider University and also Director of the Rider University Art Gallery, and curator of the Rider Fine Arts Collection. Naar has exhibited in over 30 one-person exhibitions and over 100 group exhibitions throughout the country in such venues as The Corcoran Gallery of Art, The Canton Art Institute, the High Museum of Art (Atlanta, GA), Indianapolis Museum of Art, the Boca Raton Museum of Art, The New Jersey State Museum, and the USSR Artists Union Gallery (Moscow).

His work is included in numerous public and private collections, including the Francis Lehman Loeb Art Museum (Vassar College), The New Jersey State Museum, The Newark Art Museum, The Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum (Rutgers University), The Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts, Johnson and Johnson Corporation, Bristol Myers Squibb Company, The American Council on Education, and Capital Health Systems to name just a few. In 2009, he was one of 30 artists selected by the American Academy of Arts and Letters (New York City) for inclusion in "The Invitational Exhibition of Visual Arts." The Academy also awarded him the Hassam, Speicher, Betts and Symons Fund Purchase award. Naar also received a Rutgers University Center for Innovative Print and Paper, Printmaking Grant.



Trees and Branches, Detail, Felt tip pen on canvas, 2017



Trees and Branches, Felt tip pen on canvas, 2017

HARRY NAAR

ELLEN SINGER

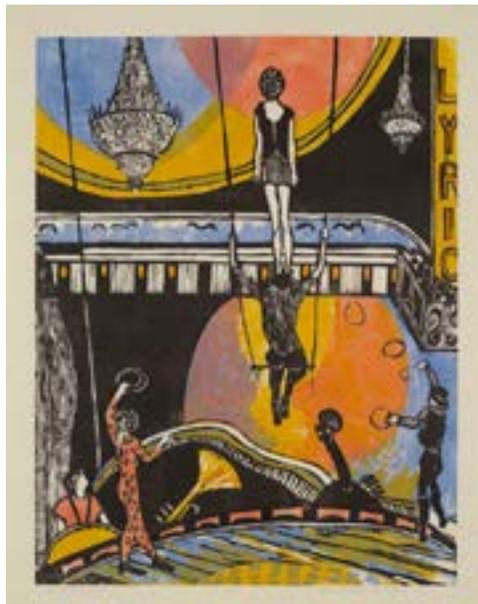
Tenafly, NJ

2016 FELLOWSHIP, Works on Paper

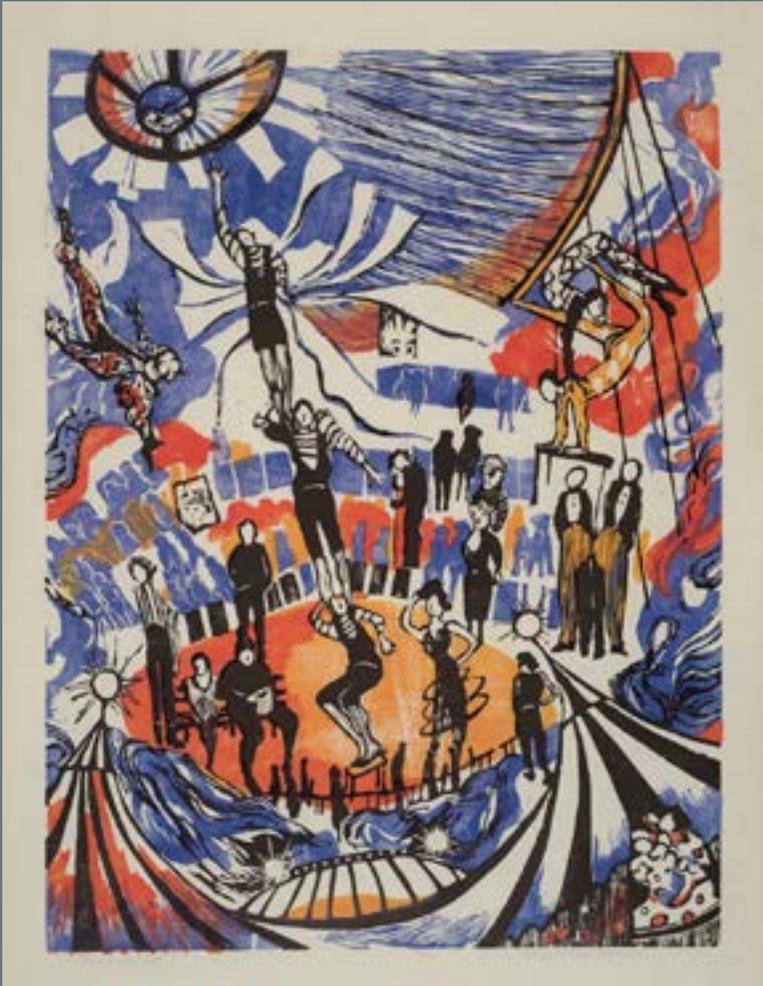
Ellen Nathan Singer received a BFA in acting from Columbia University in 1957. Soon after, she enrolled at the Art Students League where she was introduced to the art of woodcut. Drawn to “colors that build like gels on theatre lights” and the simplicity inherent in graphic design, Singer found her craft. Etching and aquatint came next where Singer found challenge and satisfaction in working with metal plates.

Ellen Nathan Singer is Vice President of the Society of American Graphic Artists (SAGA). In 2014 she was awarded ‘Medal of Honor in Graphics’ from Audubon Artists. Ellen Nathan Singer received a 2016 Fellowship from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. Her work is in the collections of The Butler Art Institute, OH; Bergen Community Museum, NJ; Howell Road School, NY; and The Library of Congress, Washington, DC.

“Architectural forms feel so at home to me. Observation, emotion, the ordering of what I see into reality engrosses me. I love that I work alone. . . I am my own ‘playwright, director, and cast.’ A submerged desire to run away with the circus would account for part of my fascination with making images of it. Standing on my head and playing the harmonica [I really did that on the stage] wasn't enough of an act, but I thrill to the glitter, the glamour, the acrobatic control and the potential danger. The drama of the circus - excitement versus the dark unknown - is a metaphor for me.”



Circles of Light, Woodblock print, 2016



The Great Tent, Woodblock print, 2017

ELLEN SINGER

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OLIVER DIAZ

Jackson, NJ

2017 FELLOWSHIP, Sculpture

Born in 1972, Oliver Diaz is a graduate of the "Mason Gross School of the Arts" at Rutgers University. He has exhibited at "City Without Walls" and the "Aferro Gallery" in Newark, NJ, "Nurture Art" in Brooklyn, NY and "Artists Space" in Manhattan, NY. Oliver is a sculptor and painter who makes "reference-able objects," that are visual reminders of the past. He is interested in the potential and exclusive nature of these objects. "They act as artifacts and proof of past events but only elude to it and to their present circumstance." Oliver lives and works from his hometown of Jackson, NJ.



AAAAAA, Detail, Laminated plywood, 2018



AAAAAA, Laminated plywood, 2018

OLIVER DIAZ

LAURA PETROVICH-CHENEY

Marblehead, MA

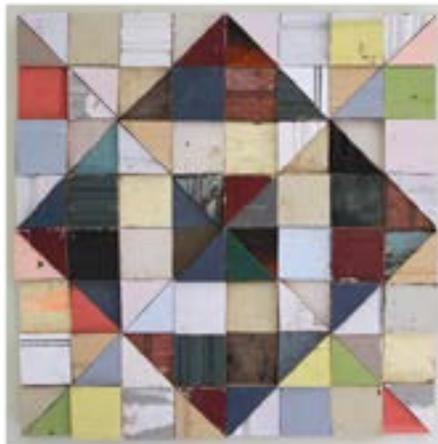
2017 FELLOWSHIP, Sculpture

For artist, Laura Petrovich-Cheney, material has memory. The objects that surround us offer comfort and identity and become carriers of our stories. It is this profound sense of embedded meaning that propels the artist.

Laura Petrovich-Cheney was born in Philadelphia in 1967 and currently resides in Marblehead, Massachusetts. She earned her BA in Fine Arts and English Literature at Dickinson College, an MS degree in Fashion Design from Drexel University and graduated Summa Cum Laude with an MFA in Studio Arts from Moore College of Art and Design. In 2017, she was awarded New Jersey State Council on the Arts Fellowship in Sculpture.

Her hometown, the Quaker village of Haddonfield, New Jersey, has had a strong influence on the artist with the town's quilting tradition dating back to its founding days in the late 1600's to the American Civil War as a stop on the Underground Railroad to the present day. Petrovich-Cheney, a former fashion designer and textile artist, incorporates traditional and contemporary quilt patterns in her sculptures, and much like fiber quilt-makers, she creates objects with visual appeal using discarded scraps of material that once had different purposes.

Her works are in many private and public collections, including the new PNC Tower (Pittsburgh, PA), Temple University Hospital (Philadelphia, PA), MD Anderson Cooper Hospital Cancer Care Center (Camden, NJ), The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs/Sandy Recovery (Trenton, NJ), Fuller Craft Museum (Brockton, MA), Abington Art Center Sculpture Park (Jenkintown, PA) and James Michener Museum (Doylestown, PA).



Lucy in the Sky, Salvaged wood from Hurricane Sandy and the Gatlinburg, TN fires, 2016



On Track, Salvaged wood from Hurricane Sandy, 2016

LAURA PETROVICH-CHENEY

DIANA JEAN PUGLISI

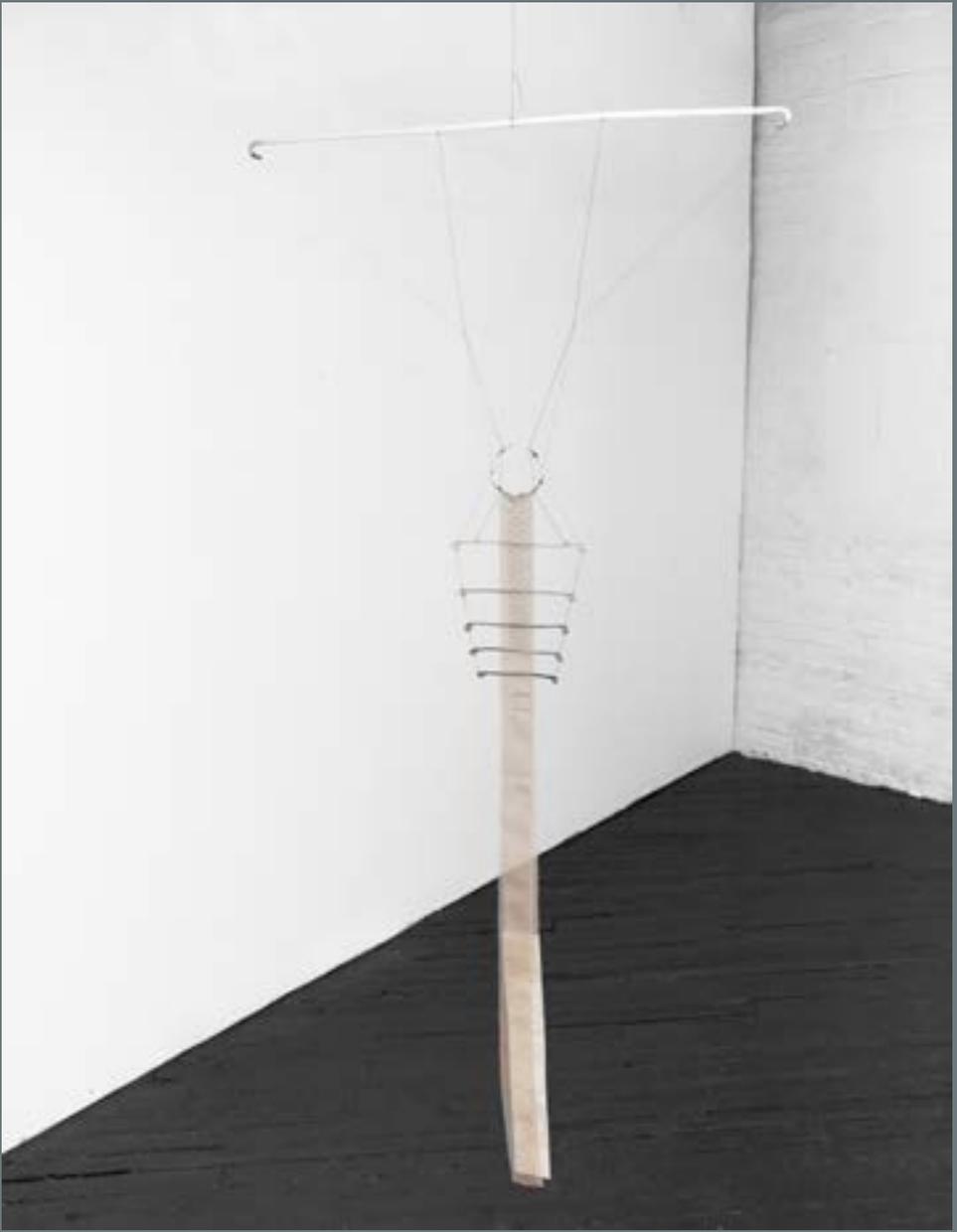
Bloomfield, NJ

2017 FELLOWSHIP, Sculpture

Diana Jean Puglisi was born in Brooklyn, NY. She received an MFA in Visual Art from Massachusetts College of Art and Design (Beker Family Scholar) in 2016 and a BFA in Painting and Drawing from William Paterson University in 2011. She holds a certificate from Virginia Commonwealth University's Post-Baccalaureate Program. Diana participated in residencies at Vermont Studio Center (August 2016, Artist Grant), Big Red & Shiny (2016) and Gallery 263 (2015). In 2017, she received a Fellowship in Sculpture from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. She has exhibited in the US at venues including SOIL Gallery in Seattle, WA; subSamson in Boston, MA; Mills Gallery at Boston Center for the Arts; Bakalar and Paine Galleries in Boston, MA; and the Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston. She currently resides and creates in New Jersey.



A-line, Detail, Resin, chiffon, spandex, thread, dressmaker pins, paper and acrylic, 2018



A-line, Resin, chiffon, spandex, thread, dressmaker pins, paper and acrylic, 2018

DIANA JEAN PUGLISI

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JAMES JANSMA

Hopewell, NJ

2018 FELLOWSHIP, Crafts

James Jansma earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in 1986 from the Kansas City Art Institute. He went on to be awarded his Masters of Fine Arts in 1988 from the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University. James was Artist-in-Residence in Ceramics at Peters Valley Craft Center in Layton, New Jersey from 1988-1998. He was a Lecturer at Princeton University where he taught the Ceramics Program from 1992-2003. He has exhibited work as a Visiting Artist in South Korea in 2003 and 2006, and Japan in 2008. James Jansma received a 2018 Fellowship from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and a previous recipient in 2007, 1998 and 1990. He is currently Ceramic Arts Instructor at Fort Dix Military Installation in New Jersey. James is represented by Morpeth Contemporary Fine Arts in Hopewell, New Jersey.



Sakura, Glazed ceramic, 2017



Hakurei, Glazed ceramic, 2017

JAMES JANSMA

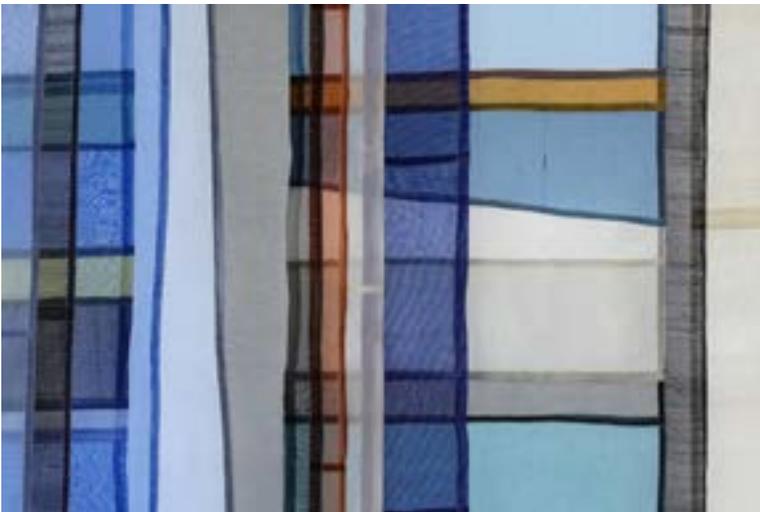
WONJU SEO

Englewood Cliffs, NJ

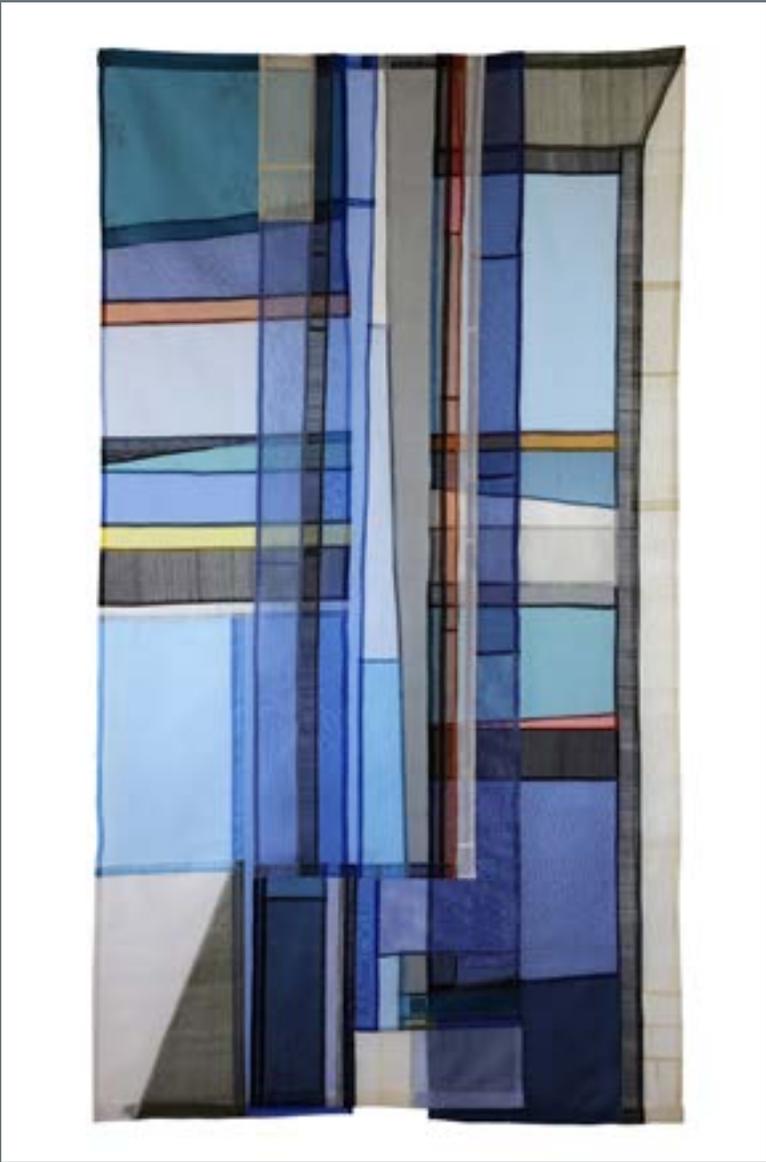
2016 FELLOWSHIP, Crafts

Wonju Seo was born and raised in Seoul, Korea, where she received her B.F.A. in Fine Arts Painting from Hongik University. Currently, she is working and living in New Jersey. Her artworks have been selected by juries for many art competitions and have exhibited in galleries and museums both nationally and internationally. Seo has received several awards including Individual Artist Fellowships from The New Jersey State Council on the Arts in 2018 and 2012; QBL Fiber Artist Fellowship from Schweinfurth Art Center at Onondaga Community College, NY in 2018; Thomas Contemporary Quilt Recognition Award (Collector's Choice) from Visions Art Museum, CA in 2012; and Honorable Mention from Smithtown Township Arts Council, Long Island in 2011.

Her work has also been reviewed in two New York Times articles titled "Origami Heaven Unfolds" in 2015, "Seeing Asian Cultures Through An Indigo Lens" in 2014 and through group exhibitions. Seo has taught Bojagi at The Korea Society in NY, Fashion Institute of Technology in NY, Korean Cultural Center of NY, Lee Young Hee Museum of Korean Culture in NY, Charles B. Wang Center at Stony Brook University in Long Island, Newark Museum in NJ, and at the Kentucky Museum of West Kentucky University in KY. Seo's works are in the permanent collections of the Newark Museum and the Charles B. Wang Center at Stony Brook University, NY.



Through My Window : Seas of Blue, Detail, Nobang, silk thread, 2017



Through My Window : Seas of Blue, Nobang, silk thread, 2017

WONJU SEO

KATHERINE WILT

Spring Lake, NJ

2018 FELLOWSHIP, Crafts

Kate Wilt is a fiber artist living in Monmouth County, New Jersey. While working as a visual merchandiser and women's buyer, Kate was inspired to pursue a more sustainable and holistic approach to fashion and the arts. She honed her weaving and natural dyeing technique as an apprentice at the Textile Arts Center in Brooklyn, NY.

With a belief that working with your hands brings personal growth and healing, Kate continues to explore the gift that fiber has been to her so far. Her greatest hope is to create an approachable and safe environment for her community to learn and experience those gifts for themselves.

Kate Wilt received a 2018 Fellowship from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. She currently works as an adjunct weaving instructor and animal care provider on a therapeutic farm for young adults with Autism. Kate also teaches independent weaving classes for her local community and maintains a personal art practice under the working title, *Golden Fibers*.



My Life is But a Weaving

Linen, organic cotton, wool, Icelandic Moss, found quartz, gold thread, paper, 2017



Glory Be-linen, Linen, cotton, madder root, gold thread, 2016

KATHERINE WILT

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GRAPHY

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ADAM BELL

Verona, NJ

2018 FELLOWSHIP, Photography

Adam Bell is a photographer, writer, and educator. He received his MFA from the School of Visual Arts in 2004, and his work has been exhibited and published internationally. His books included *Vision Anew: The Lens and Screen Arts* (2015) and *The Education of a Photographer* (2006). His writings and reviews have appeared in numerous publications including *Afterimage*, *Aperture*, *FOAM Magazine*, *Paper Journal*, *photo-eye*, *The Photobook Review*, and *The Brooklyn Rail*. He recently received a 2018 Individual Artist Fellowship from the New Jersey Council of the Arts and is on staff and faculty at the MFA Photography, Video, and Related Media Department at the School of Visual Arts in NYC.



Untitled (from the Series), lacuna, Inkjet print, 2016



Untitled (from the Series), lacuna, Inkjet print, 2015

ADAM BELL

HAGIT DROR

Jersey City, NJ

2018 FELLOWSHIP, Photography

Born in Jerusalem in 1976, Hagit Dror began using a camera and darkroom at an early age. She continued as a military photographer for the IDF where she was trained in the highest technical standards of photography. In 1996, she moved to NYC to pursue photography professionally and continued her studies independently through the New School. Working with many photographers to support herself in NY broadened her photographic knowledge and deeply refined her skill. In 2004, she helped launch a creative photography studio that caters to the advertising industry where she is still a thriving partner. She has more than 20 years of experience in darkroom, film, and digital photography and currently prints all the silver gelatin work she exhibits. She recently won a 2018 New Jersey State Council on the Arts Fellowship Award. She was in a group show in 2005 at the Parrish Art Museum in South Hampton, NY, and had solo exhibits in 1999, 2000, and 2003 at the Soho Photo Gallery in NYC.

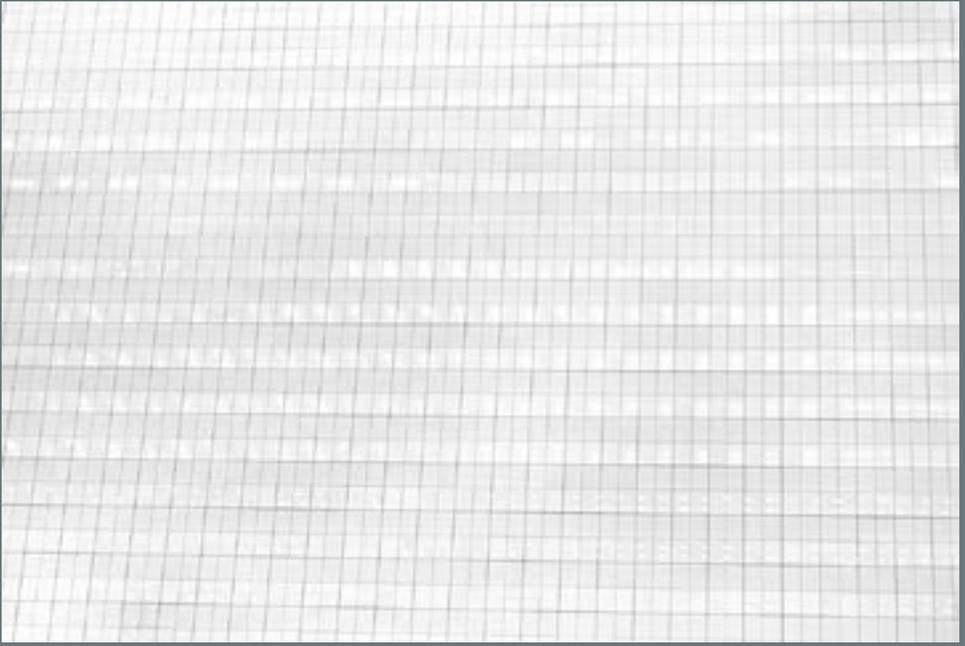
Artist Statement

Fragile

In the last few years, I had traveled extensively, photographing both rural and urban landscapes. My photographs seek to convey my sense that the physical world – both natural and manmade – is fragile and transient.

Both the object and the subject in each photograph are part of an existing countryside, an urban landscape or a massive structure. My specific observation developed a personal dialogue and meaning between the surroundings and myself - what was part of a massive glass or marble building is now a fragile, minimal line floating in space.

The subject in the photograph is removed from its original context. The abstracted shapes are undefinable and can no longer be connected to their natural habitat. Thus, these photographs are not an accurate representation of their environment, but rather a fragment that stimulated my creative expression towards fragility and vulnerability. It is through these unchangeable landscapes and rigid structures where I reinvented an anonymous place, conveying the idea that even the most immense, detailed and infinite creations can vanish. Ultimately, however, everything solid melts into air.



Untitled, Photograph, 2017

HAGIT DROR

MARK LUDAK

Lambertville, NJ

2018 FELLOWSHIP, Photography

Artist Statement

I have always tried to reveal the beauty of everyday life; the complexity inherent in overlooked scenes we pass by in our urgency to get anywhere other than where we find ourselves in the present moment. This is a time of post-industrial landscape, a time of transience, rootlessness, uncertainty and disbelief in systems which seemed to serve us so well in the past, but no longer seem to possess meaning. Photographing places particularly hard hit by the transition from the industrial and agrarian age, to the information age, and on the margins of society is the story I feel compelled to tell.

This work references the photography of the Farm Security Administration most directly and its effort bear witness to the social and physical landscape in a straightforward manner. The working method is to observe, record and comment through the selection of subject matter, framing, and the moment in time to make an exposure; fundamental photographic practice. For the past 15 years, I have worked with medium format digital capture with the intention of printing the work on paper. It is a combination of traditional analog photography and contemporary digital photographic processes which seems to mirror the time we live in its desire to embrace new technology and find root in the past. The resulting prints are not manipulated digitally. They are as faithful a rendition to the inspiration of the scene photographed as I can make.



Sunsweet - 2036, Detail, Pigment print, 2017



Sunsweet - 2036, Pigment print, 2017

MARK LUDAK

IRENA PEJOVIC

Cranford, NJ

2018 FELLOWSHIP, Photography

Born in 1981 in Gevgelija, Macedonia, Irena is an interdisciplinary artist based in NJ. She received her BFA and MFA from Montclair State University. Pejovic makes events that go beyond the visual realm, choreographing movements that turn the audience into an explorer of a world that is active and becoming—as a set of unfolding relationships—in a way that they have not before. In her work, the audience is moving-sensing, using vision, sound, navigation, feeling texture, color, scale, being both mobile and immobile.

Irena Pejovic was part of *SWIM*, a theatre piece by Robert Whitman, presented at the Alexander Kasser Theatre in Montclair (2015) and at Fridman Gallery in New York City, in cooperation with Dia Art Foundation and Julie Martin, Director of Experiments in Art and Technology (2016). She was awarded the 2018 Individual Artist Fellowship Award by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and has received exhibition and publishing grants by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Macedonia (2018), Croatian Ministry of Culture (2014) and the City of Gevgelija, Macedonia (2018, 2015, 2014), UMD John L. N. Bitove, C.M. Macedonian Heritage Scholarship Award (2014) and Step Beyond Travel Grant (2013) by the European Cultural Foundation. In 2012, she served as a member of the Board of Directors at the Printmaking Center of New Jersey. Her work is included in the Contemporary Print Collection of the Museum of Arts and Crafts in Zagreb, Croatia. She has taught at Montclair State University, Kean University and has appeared as a visiting artist at New Jersey City University.



With Floor, Detail, Photograph, 2015



With Floor, Photograph, 2015

IRENA PEJOVIC

IRA WAGNER

Montclair, NJ

2018 FELLOWSHIP, Photography

After 27 years working on Wall Street, Wagner decided to leave in 2008 to pursue other interests. He began studying photography at ICP in New York, leading him to obtain an MFA degree from the University of Hartford's limited residency program in photography in 2013. Since graduating, he has been teaching photography at Monmouth University in New Jersey. Wagner's work focuses on urban and built environments; in addition to Houseraising, he has a number of projects completed and continuing, including a photographic survey of the Bronx, New York City apartment lobbies, the industrial landscape of New Jersey, the landscape along the Northeast Corridor train line, and Native American ruins in New Mexico.



Houseraising, Brick, NJ, Detail, Photograph, 2016



Houseraising, Brick, NJ, Photograph, 2016

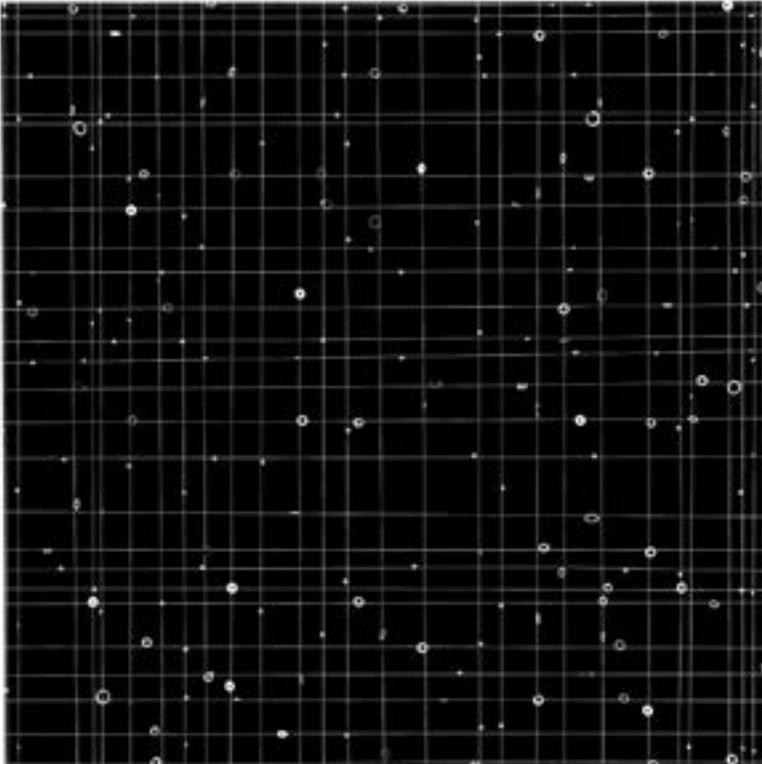
IRA WAGNER

TENESH WEBBER

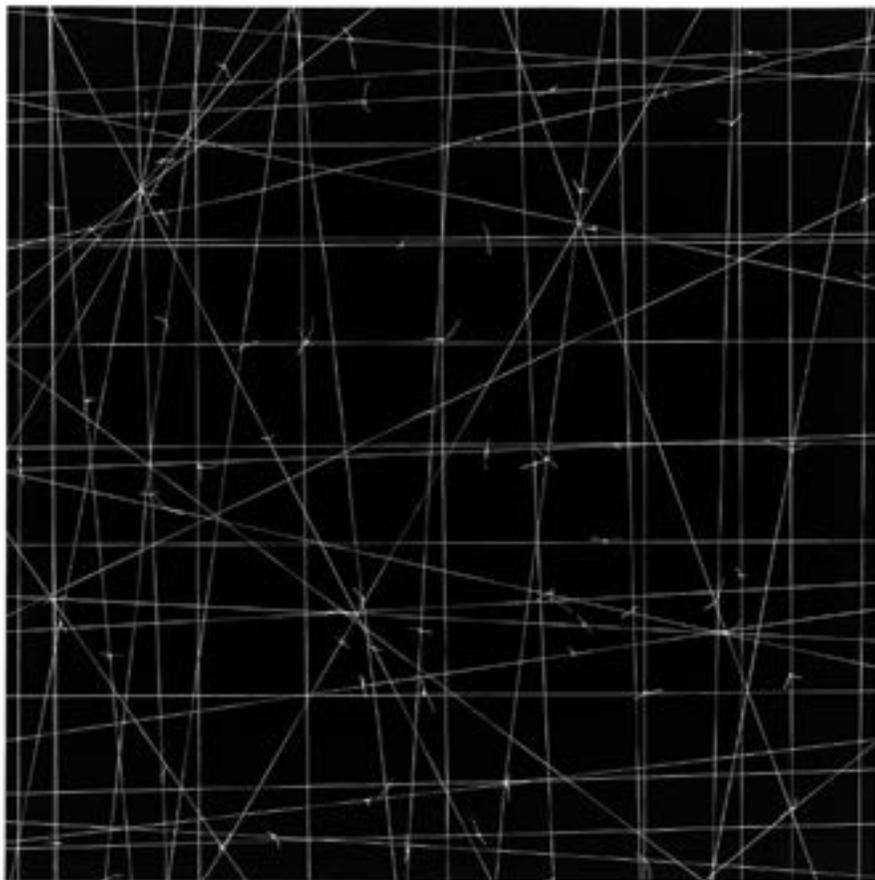
Jersey City, NJ

2018 FELLOWSHIP, Photography

Tenesh Webber is a Canadian artist living in Jersey City, New Jersey. She studied at the Emily Carr University of Art + Design in Vancouver, and at OCAD University in Toronto, where she received an AOCA Degree. Webber works in black and white abstract photography, currently focusing on medium scale photograms. Webber has exhibited her work nationally and internationally; including solo exhibits at Margaret Thatcher Projects, Yossi Milo Gallery, along with Art Resources Transfer in New York City, and Howard Yezerski Gallery in Boston, Ma. She has received many grants and awards for her work, notably two Canada Council Grants, a grant from Art Matters Inc., and several grants from Artist's Space. Webber's studio is located in Bushwick, Brooklyn.



Crossing 1, Black and white silver gelatin print, 2016



Twelve Note, Black and white silver gelatin print, 2015

TENESH WEBBER

FELLOWSHIP ARTISTS

NEW JERSEY STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS FOR THE VISUAL ARTS IN 2016, 2017 & 2018

2016, Interdisciplinary Performance

Laura Quattrocchi
Melanie Stewart

2016, Painting

Theresa Pfarr
Juliacks
Ken Weathersby

2016, Works on Paper

Anonda Bell
Karen Guancione
Kay Kenny
Harry Naar
Ellen Singer

2017, Sculpture

Oliver Diaz
Laura Petrovich-Cheney
Diana Jean Puglisi

2018, Crafts

James Jansma
Wonju Seo
Katherine Wilt

2018, Photography

Adam Bell
Hagit Dror
Mark Ludak
Irena Pejovic
Ira Wagner
Tenesh Webber

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The New Jersey State Council on the Arts Fellowship Awards in Visual Arts Exhibition is a co-sponsored project of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center.

This exhibit showcases the visual artists who received Fellowships in 2016, 2017 and 2018 from The New Jersey State Council on the Arts in the areas of crafts, interdisciplinary performance, painting, photography, sculpture, and works on paper. State Arts Council Fellowships are highly competitive awards made to New Jersey artists in twelve different arts disciplines awarded based on independent panel assessment of work samples submitted. The anonymous process is focused solely on artistic quality, and awards may be used to help artists produce new work and advance their careers. The State Arts Council carries out the Fellowship program annually in partnership with the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation.

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