

MEDIA RELEASE

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The Studio Museum in Harlem Announces 2014–15 Artists in Residence and Welcomes New Assistant Curator



Sadie Barnette, *Untitled*, 2012.
Photo: Adam Reich



Lauren Halsey, *Kingdom Splurge* (2.4.6.14), 2014.
Photo credit: Fumikazu Ishino



Eric Mack, *Finding Comfort in Easy Distinction*, 2014. Photo: Adam Reich

New York, NY, August 25, 2014—The Studio Museum in Harlem is proud to announce the artists in residence for 2014–15: **Sadie Barnette**, **Lauren Halsey** and **Eric Mack**, as well as the appointment of **Amanda Hunt** as Assistant Curator. Since its founding in 1968, the Studio Museum has held a strong commitment to nurturing and advancing the careers of both visual artists of African descent and curators and arts professionals committed to these artists. “Through its residency program, the Studio Museum continues its ardent support of emerging artists,” says Director and Chief Curator Thelma Golden. “This year’s artists carry on this long and storied tradition by adding their unique voices and vision to the forty-six-year history of this important program. Similarly, the Museum has always been a home for the curators who advocate for these artists. As such, we are incredibly excited to welcome new Assistant Curator, Amanda Hunt, to our institution.”

The *Artist-in-Residence* program was conceived at the Museum’s founding in 1968 and has supported more than one hundred graduates who have gone on to highly regarded careers. Every year, the Museum offers eleven-month studio residencies for three emerging artists. Each artist is granted a free studio space on the Museum’s third floor, a \$20,000 fellowship and a \$1,000 materials stipend. The program is designed to serve emerging artists of African and Latino descent, working

across all media, locally, nationally and internationally. At the end of the residency, an exhibition of the artists' work is presented in the Museum's galleries.

About the artists

Sadie Barnette was born in Oakland, California in 1984. Barnette is interested in the consumerism, economics and quotidian aspects of West Coast hip hop culture. Her photographs, installations, performance, drawings and zines explore the material culture of California hip hop through the aesthetics of Minimalism. She holds an MFA from University of California, San Diego (2012), where she was the Thurgood Marshall College artist-in-residence, and a BFA from California Institute of the Arts (2006). Barnette has exhibited extensively in California and her work was featured in *Fore* at the Studio Museum in 2012.

Lauren Halsey was born in Los Angeles, California in 1987. She holds an MFA from Yale University (2014) and a BFA from California Institute of the Arts (2012). Halsey recently completed a residency at Skowhegan and is the recipient of an Alice Kimball English Travelling Fellowship (2013) and a Beutner Family Award for Excellence in the Arts (2011). She creates site-specific installations or "kingdoms," built environments inspired by the speculative nature of Funk with materials ranging from crystals and LEDs to lasers, iridescents and more.

Eric Mack was born in Columbia, Maryland in 1987. He holds an MFA from Yale University (2012) and a BFA from The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art (2010). Working with textiles and other utilitarian objects such as pegboard and fans, Mack explores abstraction and gesture in the artistic fields of painting and fashion. He has exhibited nationally and abroad, including at the Studio Museum in the 2012 exhibition *Fore*.

About Amanda Hunt

Amanda Hunt comes to the Studio Museum from LA><ART, where she served as Curator since 2011. Hunt's curatorial practice to date has had a focus on large-scale public and performative works. At LA><ART, Hunt worked to organize the Pacific Standard Time Public Art and Performance Festival with the Getty Research Institute in 2012, which included exhibitions by Bruce Yonemoto and John Outterbridge, and *Made in L.A. 2012*, co-produced with the Hammer Museum. She also curated *Steffani Jemison: Same Time* (2013), the artist's first solo exhibition in LA, as well as public art commissions by Anna Sew Hoy (2014) and Carter Mull (2013), and performance by EJ Hill (2014). In March, Hunt curated *Portland2014*, Oregon's statewide biennial. Hunt received an MA in Curatorial Practice from California College of the Arts and a BA in Art History from Clark University. A Philadelphia native, Hunt says, "I've truly enjoyed being a part of the close-knit West Coast creative community, but I am thrilled to be returning to New York to serve the vital and expanding mission of the Studio Museum under Thelma Golden's leadership."



Photo: Sharon Suh

Currently on View

Charles Gaines: Gridwork 1974–1989 is the first museum survey of the Los Angeles–based conceptual artist’s early work. Highly regarded as both a leading practitioner of conceptualism and an influential educator at the California Institute of the Arts (CalArts), Charles Gaines is celebrated primarily for his photographs, drawings and works on paper that investigate systems, cognition and language. The exhibition features seventy-five works from the beginning of a singular career that now spans four decades. **Material Histories: Artists in Residence 2013–14** is the latest in the longstanding, highly anticipated series of annual exhibitions showcasing work by the Museum’s artists in residence: **Kevin Beasley**, **Bethany Collins** and **Abigail DeVille**. Selections from the Museum’s permanent collection are highlighted in **Under Another Name**, an exhibition considering work in multiple media, focusing on how one artistic medium informs another, and how ideas are given new meaning in the process. Also on view is **Vantage Point: Expanding the Walls 2014**, which features participants from *Expanding the Walls: Making Connections Between Photography, History and Community*. The exhibition culminates the eight-month residency in which New York–area high school students explore the history and techniques of photography. This season’s installment of **Harlem Postcards** offers free, limited edition mailable perspectives of Harlem from artists **Delphine Diallo**, **Kelvin De Leon**, **Heather Hart** and **Albert Vecerka**.

About The Studio Museum in Harlem

Founded in 1968, The Studio Museum in Harlem is a contemporary art museum that focuses on the work of artists of African descent locally, nationally and globally, as well as work that has been inspired and influenced by African-American culture. The Museum is committed to serving as a unique resource in the local community, as well as in national and international arenas, by making artworks and exhibitions concrete and personal for each viewer.

Hours and Admission

The Studio Museum is open Thursday and Friday, noon–9pm; Saturday, 10am–6pm; Sunday, noon–6pm. The museum is closed to the public but available for school and group tours on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Museum admission is by suggested donation: \$7 for adults, \$3 for students (with valid ID) and seniors. Free for children 12 and under. Sundays are free at the Studio Museum, thanks to generous support from Target. For more information visit studiomuseum.org.

The *Artist-in-Residence* program is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts; New York State Council for the Arts, a state agency; Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation; Jerome Foundation; Robert Lehman Foundation; New York Community Trust; and by endowments established by the Jacob and Gwendolyn Lawrence Trust and Andrea Frank Foundation.