

THE SHED Press Release

West 30th Street between
10th and 11th Avenues
New York, NY

52 Emerging New York City Artists Selected for The Shed's Inaugural "Open Call" Program to Create and Present New Work in 2019 and Beyond

For more information, please contact:

Sommer Hixson

Director of Communications
The Shed
(646) 876-6933
sommer.hixson@theshed.org

Christina Riley

Publicist
The Shed
(646) 876-6858
christina.riley@theshed.org

Amanda Domizio

Polskin Arts
(212) 583-2798
amanda.domizio@finnpartners.com

Opening Spring 2019

@theshedNY
theshed.org



Thirty-two Open Call participants, with Shed staff. Top Row, L to R: Avram Finkelstein, Troy Michie, Gabriela María Corretjer-Contreras, Richard Sears, Asif Mian, Phoebe d'Heurle, Onyedika Chuke, Emma Enderby (The Shed), Mohammad (Saint Abdullah), Tamara McCaw (The Shed), Julia Weist, Jesse Bandler Firestone (The Shed), Kyle Marshall, Alessandra Gomez (The Shed), Kiyan Williams, Art Domantay (The Shed), Justin Allen, Hugh Hayden, Rachika Samarth, Maya Lee-Parritz, Tahir Carl Karmali. Middle Row, L to R: Mehdi (Saint Abdullah), Tariq Al-Sabir, Christopher Udemezue (Neon Christina), Farzin Lotfi-Jam, Thanushka Yakupitiyage, Caitlin Blanchfield, Maia Chao, Moko Fukuyama, Nia O. Witherspoon, Analisa Teachworth. Seated On Floor, L to R: nicHi douglas, Fana Fraser, Monstah Black (The Illustrious Blacks), Haley Elizabeth Anderson, Harold "Fyütch" Simmons, Farideh Sakhaeifar. Photo: Scott Rudd Events

NEW YORK, October 9, 2018—**Alex Poots**, Artistic Director and CEO of **The Shed**, today announced that 52 emerging artists and collectives living or working in New York City have been commissioned to create new work as part of The Shed's inaugural **Open Call** program. Developed specifically for New York City artists who have not yet had opportunities to create new work with full support from a large cultural institution, *Open Call* is integral to The Shed's vision: to develop and present the full spectrum of performing arts, visual arts, and pop culture, under one roof, for all audiences. *Open Call* debuts in The Shed's 2019 season, with works continuing to be presented into 2020.

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Working across multiple disciplines, the following artists and collectives have been selected to participate in the inaugural season of *Open Call*, which is co-organized by The Shed's Senior Curator **Emma Enderby** and Chief Civic Program Officer **Tamara McCaw**:

Saint Abdullah	Tahir Carl Karmali
Tariq Al-Sabir	Sam Lavigne
Justin Allen	Maya Lee-Parritz
Troy Anthony	Richard Kennedy
Haley Elizabeth Anderson	Kyle Marshall
Caitlin Blanchfield and Farzin Lotfi-Jam	Asif Mian
Kim Brandt	Troy Michie
Maia Chao	#MIPSTERZ
Daniel Chew and Micaela Durand	Tyler Mitchell
Onyedika Chuke	Neil Padukone
Gabriela María Corretjer-Contreras	Kelsey Pyro
nicHi douglas	daaPo reo
The Extrapolation Factory	Farideh Sakhaeifar
Avram Finkelstein	Rachika Samarth
Fana Fraser	Richard Sears, Clara Cullen, Yael Ginosar, and Ethan Braun
Moko Fukuyama	Alice Sheppard and Kinetic Light
Ebony Noelle Golden	Harold "Fyütch" Simmons
Yulan Grant	Analisa Teachworth
Hugh Hayden	Christopher Udemezue (Neon Christina)
Vicente Hansen and Mat Muntz	Mariana Valencia
Prince Harvey	Jon Wang
Madeline Hollander	Julia Weist
Maryam Hoseini and Phoebe d'Heurle	Kiyan Williams
It's Showtime NYC!	Nia O. Witherspoon
The Illustrious Blacks	Thanushka Yakupitiyage
Ayesha Jordan	Yatta Zoker (YATTA)

More information and artist biographies are available at theshed.org/open-call.

Each artist will receive a stipend between \$7,000 and \$15,000, depending on the scope of the proposed project, in addition to support and resources to develop their work.

Work commissioned for *Open Call* will be presented in The Shed's black-box Theater, the 12,500-square-foot column-free Gallery I, and the 17,000 square-foot open-air plaza in front of the building (configured when The Shed's movable shell is nested over the base building). Three programs will be presented consecutively beginning in late spring 2019, with a fourth program in 2020. All programs will be free and open to the public (ticketing details to be announced).

"Our programs are built on the belief that there is parity across all forms of art and human creativity," said Alex Poots, Artistic Director and CEO of The Shed. "*Open Call* is The Shed's way of offering support and valuable resources to artists in New York City who are working at pivotal stages in their careers."

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“All aspects of producing commissioned work, from financial and organizational resources to personal attention, will be provided to *Open Call* artists,” said Emma Enderby. “We will work closely with all of them over the course of the season to hone their original proposals and realize them at The Shed.”

“We launched *Open Call* with the intent of creating a meaningful opportunity for emerging artists to make new work,” said Tamara McCaw. “A fundamental part of our mission is to engage our local communities and support New York City’s diversity of talent. *Open Call* provides the resources local artists need to fully explore their ideas, as well as the platform for reaching higher levels of visibility with new audiences.”

The Shed’s request for proposals encouraged projects that push the boundaries into multidisciplinary or collaborative realms across six creative disciplines: design, visual arts, music, performing arts, literary arts, and cinema.

More than 900 applications for *Open Call* were received over a three-month period. Through a rigorous selection process, all were vetted by a committee of curatorial and producing staff with a collective eye toward identifying synergies between artists’ projects and The Shed’s mission and core institutional values. The panels specifically sought out inventive, thought-provoking, risk-taking, timely, culturally sensitive work that provides sustained impact and value for diverse audiences and viewers.

To make the final selections, The Shed convened panels of New York-based artists, cultural programmers, producers, and academics, who were selected for their significant contributions to the field of art and culture, including:

Suzanne Anker (School of Visual Arts/SVA), **Anthony Dunne** and **Fiona Raby** (The New School-Parsons, Dunne & Raby), **Lauren Boyle** (artist, DIS), **Joeonna Bellorado-Samuels** (We Buy Gold), **Keri Bronk** (The Shed), **Courtenay Casey** (National Sawdust), **Simon Castets** (Swiss Institute), **Ken Chen** (poet, Asian American Writers Workshop), **Alec Duffy** (JACK), **Andrew Durbin** (frieze magazine, Wonder), **Cornelius Eady** (poet, Cave Canem), **Emma Enderby** (The Shed), **Rhys Ernst** (artist, filmmaker), **Matthew Higgs** (White Columns), **Rasu Jilani** (curator, NEW INC at New Museum), **Jon Key** (The Cooper Union), **Nora N. Khan** (Rhizome), **Nellie Killian** (curator), **James King** (Harlem Stage), **Shannon Matesky** (Queer Abstract, Urban Word NYC), **Tamara McCaw** (The Shed), **Beth Morrison** (artist, producer), **Adrianna Moschides** (Knockdown Center, Loveless Records), **Hans Ulrich Obrist** (The Shed, Serpentine Galleries), **Alex Poots** (The Shed), **Ali Rosa-Salas** (Abrons Arts Center), **George Emilio Sanchez** (College of Staten Island-CUNY, Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics), **Kevin Slavin** (Consultant to The Shed), **Sable Elyse Smith** (artist), **María Fernanda Snellings** (The Shed), **Lisa Strausfeld** (InformationArt), **Jasmine Wahi** (Project for Empty Space), **Xin Wang** (curator, art historian), **Leilah Weinraub** (artist, filmmaker), and **Melodie Yashar** (designer).

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About The Shed

Opening in spring 2019 where the High Line meets Hudson Yards on Manhattan's west side, The Shed is dedicated to commissioning, producing, and presenting the full spectrum of performing arts, visual arts, and pop culture. From hip hop to classical music, painting and sculpture to literature, film to theater and dance, The Shed will bring together leading artists and thinkers from all disciplines under one roof. The building—a remarkable movable structure designed by Diller Scofidio + Renfro in collaboration with Rockwell Group—physically transforms to support artists' most ambitious ideas. Committed to nurturing artistic invention and bringing creative experiences to the broadest possible audiences, The Shed, led by Artistic Director and CEO Alex Poots, will be a 21st-century space of and for New York City.

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