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VISUAL STUDIES WORKSHOP ANNOUNCES 2024/2025 PROJECT SPACE RESIDENCY ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE



Row 1: Melissa Ferrari, photo by Angel Origgi; Myah Asha Jeffers, photo by Libby Mai; Yanbin Zhao, photo by Luc Yikai Wu; Sydney Mieko King, photo by Sophie Schwartz. Row 2: Tetsuya Maruyama, photo by Beatriz Lima Santos; Jessica Chappe, photo by Melinie Metz; Allie Tsubota, photo by Andria Lo; William D. Caballero, photo by Sheldon Botler. Row 3: Carmen Lizardo, photo by Viktorsha Uliyanova; Valentina Alvarado, photo by Lucia del Valle Ramirez. Row 4: Jamie Ho, photo by Lorena Molina; Jackie Liu, photo by Isaiah Winters.

Rochester, NY (July 8, 2024) Visual Studies Workshop (VSW), the nationally-known nonprofit arts organization dedicated to experimental and expansive approaches to photography and media arts, announces its 2024/2025 Project Space Residency Artists-in-Residence. The twelve resident artists were selected from a pool of 312 international applicants by a jury of artists and curators.

The new Project Space Residency Artists are (bios linked & below):

[Valentina Alvarado](#) (Spain)

[William D. Caballero](#) (CA)

[Jessica Chappe](#) (NY)

[Melissa Ferrari](#) (CA)

[Jamie Ho](#) (TX)
[Myah Asha Jeffers](#) (UK)
[Jackie Liu](#) (NY)
[Sydney Mieko King](#) (CT)
[Carmen Lizardo](#) (NY)
[Tetsuya Maruyama](#) (Brazil)
[Allie Tsubota](#) (NY)
[Yanbin Zhao](#) (CA)

“We are excited to welcome and support a dynamic range of artists who are pushing their mediums in important ways,” shares Hernease Davis, Visual Studies Workshop Assistant Curator. “This was a very competitive group of applicants, which made the jury process particularly challenging. We are grateful that we were able to review the works of so many incredible artists from all over the world.”

For more than 50 years VSW has provided time, space and resources for artists from all over the world to expand their practice and continue ongoing projects. VSW supports artists in any stage of their career who are working in photography, film, or media art by offering four-week Project Space Residencies at VSW in Rochester, NY. Project Space Residency alumni include Crystal Z Campbell, Ahndraya Parlato, Joshua Rashaad McFadden, Samantha Box, Anna Kipervaser, Ephraim Asili, Aspen Mays, Sarah Friedland, and Le’Andra LeSeur among others.

Project Space Residents receive 24/7 access to a private studio, digital printing equipment, and an analog darkroom. They also receive a stipend of \$1,000, plus \$250 for supplies, a \$500 travel budget for those traveling from outside the Rochester region, and accessible housing. All Residents receive the support of VSW’s digital printing technician, program assistants, consultations with curators on staff, and research support in VSW’s collections. The Project Space Residency also provides opportunities for artists to engage with the public through public lectures and Open Studios.

The program is open to U.S. based and international artists working in photography, film or media art. This year, the jury panelists included Aaron Turner, Almudena Escobar López, and Asha Iman Veal, Nilson Carroll and Hernease Davis.



Guest Jurors for the 2024 Project Space Residency program: Aaron Turner (photo Kay Wilson), Almudena Escobar López (photo Rachel Liz), and Asha Iman Veal (photo Benita Nnenna Nnachortam)

About Visual Studies Workshop: Visual Studies Workshop nurtures experimental and expansive approaches to photography and media arts, and builds community among artists and the public through exhibitions, publications and residencies. VSW was founded in 1969 in Rochester, NY by artist and curator Nathan Lyons (1930–2016), and became one of the earliest independent, not-for-profit, artist-run spaces in the country. More than 50 years later, the organization’s mission is reflected in its core programs: VSW Salon screenings and exhibitions, Project Space Artist Residencies, and VSW Press. In support of VSW programs, the organization holds substantial photography and moving image research collections and an art library for artists, critics and the general public to explore, research and reuse. vsw.org

VSW programs are currently supported by The New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the New York State Legislature, The National Endowment for the Arts, Joy of Giving Something, The Max and Marian Farash Foundation, Monroe County NY, The Phillip and Edith Leonian Foundation, and all our members and individual supporters.

Project Space Residency Artist-in-Residence Bios

Valentina Alvarado is an artist whose work has been exhibited at the Pesaro Film Festival, Viennale, International Film Festival Rotterdam, Oberhausen, Punto de Vista, Ambulante, XCentric, SFCinematèque, S8 Mostra Cine Periférico, Loop Festival, Cinemateca Madrid, Filmoteca de Cataluña, Microscope Gallery, Los Angeles Film Forum, Salzburger Kunstverein, Fabra i Coats, Arts Santa Mònica. She has been an artist in residence at Hangar, La Escocesa, Cultura. Resident - Museu Bellas Artes Castellón, Fora de Camp, LIFT Toronto and Matadero. Her work is part of the catalog of Light Cone and the XCèntric Archive. In early 2024 she had a solo exhibition with Carlos Vásquez Méndez in La Capella and La Virreina Centre de la Imatge. She has taught at Master LAV, Eina Barcelona, Can Felipa Ars Visuals, Centre Cultural Albareda, La Universidad del Zulia, Universitat de Barcelona, and EICTV Escuela Internacional de Cine y TV de San Antonio de los Baños in Cuba.

William D. Caballero is a multimedia filmmaker, animator, and video artist. His autobiographical animated shorts have debuted at the 2017 and 2022 Sundance Film Festivals. He is a 2018 Guggenheim Fellow, 2021 Creative Capital Awardee, 2022 Sundance Documentary Humanities Fellow, and 2024 Webby Award winner for Best Art Direction.

Jessica Chappe is a mixed media storyteller who focuses on how people find belonging through community, place and self. Her work is a social practice; conducting oral histories, using photography, videography, archives, and journalism to help expand our understanding of humanity and what keeps us connected. A Bard graduate twice shortlisted for the 2020 Sony World Photography Awards she has published photo essays in *New York Magazine*, the *Times Union* and has featured photos in the *Los Angeles Times*. She recently curated a show at CREATE Council for the Arts in 2023 and spoke at CPW about her practice in 2024.

Melissa Ferrari is an experimental nonfiction animator, magic lanternist and educator. Originally from Virginia, Melissa is now based in L.A. where she received an Experimental Animation MFA at CalArts. Her films and magic lantern performances have been shown internationally in venues such as Hot Docs, The Exploratorium, UnionDocs, Hauser & Wirth LA, Ottawa International Animation Festival, and Ann Arbor Film Festival. Recent awards include the 2023 Dick Balzer Award and the 2020 Science Sandbox Symbiosis Award. As an educator, Melissa specializes in teaching nonfiction and experimental animation. She has lectured at CalArts, Whittier College, Queens College, & Cal State LA.

Jamie Ho is an interdisciplinary artist and educator from Fort Myers, FL. Her art practice engages with GIFs, photography, new media, and sculpture to investigate the long-term impact of assimilation and cultural bereavement through references to ancestral Chinese traditions and artifacts. She received her MFA at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and her BFA from the University of New Mexico. She was included in the 2023 Silver List and was a 2021 Critical Mass Finalist. She was awarded residencies at ACRE Residency and Vermont Studio Center. She recently had solo exhibitions at Houston Center for Photography, and Winona State University.

Myah Asha Jeffers is a London-based, Barbados-raised, award winning artist whose practice spans photography, performance and film. Her work focuses on witnessing and documenting the nuances of daily life within diasporic communities. Myah's photographs have been featured in a host of publications including *VOGUE*, *The Guardian*, *ELLE* and *The Sunday Times Magazine*. She is a recipient of The Photography Foundation Awards (2024), two-time winner of the Portrait of Britain Award (2019/21), Future High Streets Artist-in-Residence at KWMC and has an upcoming Darkroom Residency at Art Hub Studios. Myah has facilitated workshops / engaged in artist panels for the likes of The Photographers' Gallery, TATE Modern, Autograph ABP and Whitechapel Gallery. Myah's directorial debut 'BATHSHEBA' world premiered at Toronto's Inside Out Film Festival (TIFF Lightbox) and will have its UK premiere in August 2024.

Jackie Liu is a New York-based new media artist and digital designer who makes playful, narrative work that blends websites, interface design, comics, and games. She received a B.S. in Computer Science and Engineering from MIT and a Master's from NYU's Interactive Telecommunications Program. Previously, she was a Year 9 member of NEW INC's Art and Code Track and a resident at CultureHub NYC. Her work has been shared at Public Works Administration, New York, NY; Dunkunsthalle, New York, NY; Iridian Gallery, Richmond, VA; and on the internet at <https://jackieis.online/>.

Sydney Mieko King is an artist from San Francisco, California. Her work has been shown at the ICP Museum, Huxley-Parlour Gallery, François Ghebaly Gallery, Lewis Center for the Arts, and others. She has been in-residence at Yale Norfolk, VCCA, Recess Art, BRIC, and the Schneider

Museum of Art. King received an MFA from the Yale School of Art and graduated magna cum laude from Princeton University with a degree in Art & Archaeology. She is a 2021 Creator Labs Photo Fund Awardee, 2021 En Foco Fellow, and received the John Ferguson Weir Prize from Yale University in 2023. She currently lives in New Haven.

Carmen Lizardo is a mixed-media artist using photography, alternative photographic processes, printmaking, and drawing. She has received a NYFA and Enfoco Fellowship, the Hudson Valley Empowering Artist award, a Sustainable Arts Foundation award, ArtsBridge, and Department of Cultural Affairs. She's exhibited at Alfred University, Samuel Dorsky Museum, BRIC, African Diaspora Art Museum of Atlanta, and Oregon Center for Photographic Arts. Her work extends to public arts commissioned by the Metropolitan Transit Authority in NYC. Lizardo's work is published in *Gum Printing: A Step-by-Step Manual Highlighting Artists and Their Creative Practice* (Focal Press) and *The Book of Alternative Photographic Processes* (Cengage).

Tetsuya Maruyama is an artist whose interdisciplinary practice includes film, text, performance, sound, idea, installation, etc (not necessarily in this order). His work departs from re-contextualization of found banal matters and textures, as a liminal record of quotidian observations. As an independent programmer and researcher, he has presented programs on Brazilian experimental cinema in US, Argentina, Brazil, Japan, and Canada. He is a founder of Megalab, an artist-run film lab in Rio de Janeiro.

Allie Tsubota is an artist exploring intersections of race, visibility, and the formation of historical memory. Her work joins photography, video, photographic and cinematic archives, and text to examine the role of visual spectatorship across racialized space and collapsed historical time. Tsubota has received recognitions from *Aperture*, Google's Creator Lab, The Museum of Contemporary Photography in Chicago, and PhMuseum, among others, and has been an artist-in-residence with Headlands Center for the Arts, the Center for Photography at Woodstock, and ARCUS Project. Her works have been exhibited across the United States and in Japan. Tsubota holds an MFA in Photography from Rhode Island School of Design, and presently teaches photography at Parsons School of Design and The College of New Jersey.

Yanbin Zhao's film and installation works focus on the interpretation of "distance" in the sense of temporality and spatiality, as well as the ruptures and relations it creates on the historical, political, cultural, and personal level. Through a variety of forms including 16mm experimental film, video installation, performance, photography, and mixed media, his reflections on themes such as labour, memory, and diaspora attempt to explore the possibility in translating and materializing the intangible, leading to a kind of conjuring-like art practice. Zhao received an MFA in Film from California Institute of the Arts. He lives in Shanghai and Los Angeles. His works have been shown at Image Forum Festival, Onion City Experimental Film Festival, Beijing International Short Film Festival, Alchemy Film and Moving Image Festival, Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival, among others

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