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Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator International Cultural Exchange 2017 Guadeloupe

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Artists and their images are grouped.
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The mission of Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator, Inc. is to promote, nurture and cultivate the vision and diverse talents of emerging artists from the Caribbean and Latin Diaspora through our exhibition programs, artist-in-residence programs, international exchange programs and educational and outreach activities that celebrate Miami-Dade's rich cultural and social fabric.

Transnational Diasporan Art

Alex Pierre PhD

After the successful 2015 *Alternate Currents* international cultural exchange (ICE) in Guadeloupe, in spring 2017, DVCAI returned to the island to expand on the experience, as is their custom. Titled *Transculture*, the ICE translated an intentional pursuit of intra Diasporan engagement. The Miami-based collective set four measurable goals; 1) reconnect with the ARTOCARPE artists; 2) better acquaint themselves with the Guadeloupean landscape at the intersection of history and culture; 3) engage other local artists and art stakeholders; and 4) increase the dialogue with the public.

The conversations with ARTOCARPE were designed as a midterm assessment of the overall project. Kelly Sinnapah Mary reported on her participation in the “Field Notes: Extracts” exhibit held at the Museum of Contemporary African Diaspora Arts (MoCADA), in 2015. Joëlle Ferly discussed her presence at the “Tilting Axis 2: Caribbean Strategies” conference held at the Perez Art Museum Miami (PAMM) in 2016. She was on a panel addressing artists’ movement and mobility with Surinamese Marcel Pinas, founder of Tembe Art Studio. François Piquet presented on his “Carte Blanche An VI: Réparations” exhibit held in December 2016 by the Musée Schoelcher at the Fonds d’Art Contemporain, in St-Claude. He also discussed his latest series entitled “Les Archipels du Moi.”

DVCAI members visited several sites of historical and cultural relevance. They comprise the Petit Canal Marches des esclaves, the Sainte-Marguerite, Moule, slave burial ground, and the Boulevard des héros in Abymes. All three honor the resilience of the enslaved Africans, their contribution to the economic development of the island and France, as well their heroic resistance to slavery and the slave trade.

New artists were invited in the conversation including plastician and graffiti artist Ronald Cyrille, Minia Biabiany who lives between Mexico and Guadeloupe, as well as painter, curator and founder of the Art Bémao fair Jean-Marc Hunt.

The Caribbean Center of Expressions and Memory of Slavery and the Slave Trade (MACTe) was the institutional partner of choice this year. In addition to the permanent collection, DVCAI artists viewed the temporary exhibit entitled “Échos Imprévus-Turning Tides” showcasing twenty-six local and international artists. Many of the Guadeloupeans who participated in the DVCAI-ARTOCARPE 2015 ICE Joëlle Ferly, Kelly Sinnapah Mary, François Piquet, Joël Nankin, Guy Gabon, and the 2017 participant Jean-Marc Hunt, had their work on display.

The show stressed further the flows and counterflows that characterize Diasporan relations, and brought DVCAI’s goals full circle. “Échos” took its inspiration from the key ideas in Édouard Glissant’s concept of archipelago-thinking. It is significant that in 2015, the PAMM organized an exhibit titled *Poetics of Relation*, the very title of the Martiniquan essayist’s influential book. The communication and circulation of native paradigms in the Caribbean Basin was brought to bear.

Conclusion

The 2017 exchange is an example of transnational diaspora in the making. Here is an archetype of interconnection between communities on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea that supplements the movement between Africa and its diasporas. DVCAI continues to daringly break new ground and forge ahead.



Le Moule, Guadeloupe.
Welcoming dinner with host Artists



Studios/Artists visits
and exhibitions

Minia Biabiany



Ronald Cyrille



Luceon and studio visit hosted by
Kelly Sinnapah-Mary

Photos. Roy Wallace



Photos. Roy Wallace





Presentations from members of The ICE 2017 group. Hosted by The Guadeloupe Chamber of Commerce. Topics ranging from art collaborations to trademarking, copyrighting and branding.

Top Left. Rosie Gordon-Wallace
Lower left. Vincent Scatliffe
Top Right. Onajide Shabaka

Opposite page: Memorial ACTe Museum.

Onsite installation.
Artist, Guy Gabon
Photos. Roy Wallace





Memorial ACTe

Femme artiste (une Révolution du regard) MACTe

Kelly Sinnapah-Mary, Jacquenette Arnette, Minia Biabiany, Aisha Tandiwe-Bell, Guy Gabon, Alex Pierre, Rosie Gordon-Wallace, Rosa Naday-Gramendia, Stephanie Melyon-Reinette, Anna Meier.

Photo. Roy Wallace



Photos. Roy Wallace

Archeological Museum of Guadeloupe



Photos. Roy Wallace





ARTISTS

MOISES ARAGON

GUY GABON

JACQUENETTE ARNETTE

ANNA MEIER

RONALD CYRIL

ROSA NADAY-GARMENDIA

IZIA LINDSAY

KURT NAHAR

ONAJIDE SHABAKA

AISHA TANDIWE-BELL

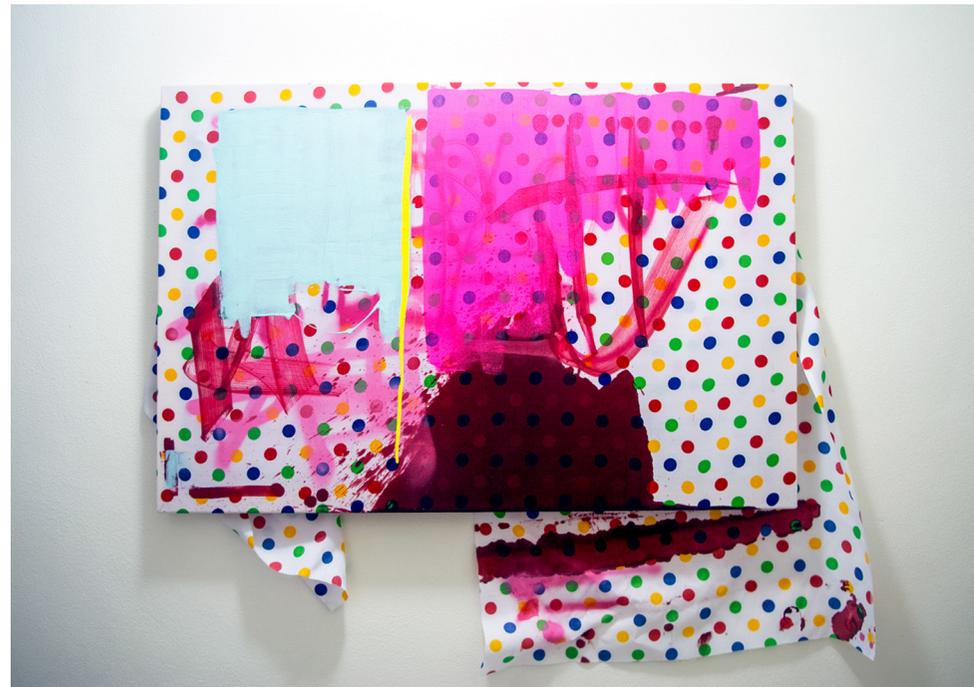
MINIA BIABIANY

Moisés Aragón



Moisés Aragón is a self-taught interdisciplinary artist whose work explores the role of self-identity. In 1984 he was born in "exile" to émigrés who joined the exodus of the 124,779 Cuban nationals that departed from the Mariel port in Artemisa, Cuba in 1980. Growing up in a community that never relented the possibility of "going back home" strongly influenced the foundation that structured his art practice. Early series in his art career concentrated on the self in relation to the physical surroundings as a means to understand "how he fit in." Later projects concentrated on the theme of being a specter as a minority in society. This was examined through thesis-based work that included performances and "direct actions" intended to rectify an imposition of being a statistic.

Top right: Maceta handkerchiefs
11 x 11 Embroidery on dotted swiss fabric
Bottom right: Yellow Between
24 x 36 Acrylic, ink on cotton fabric



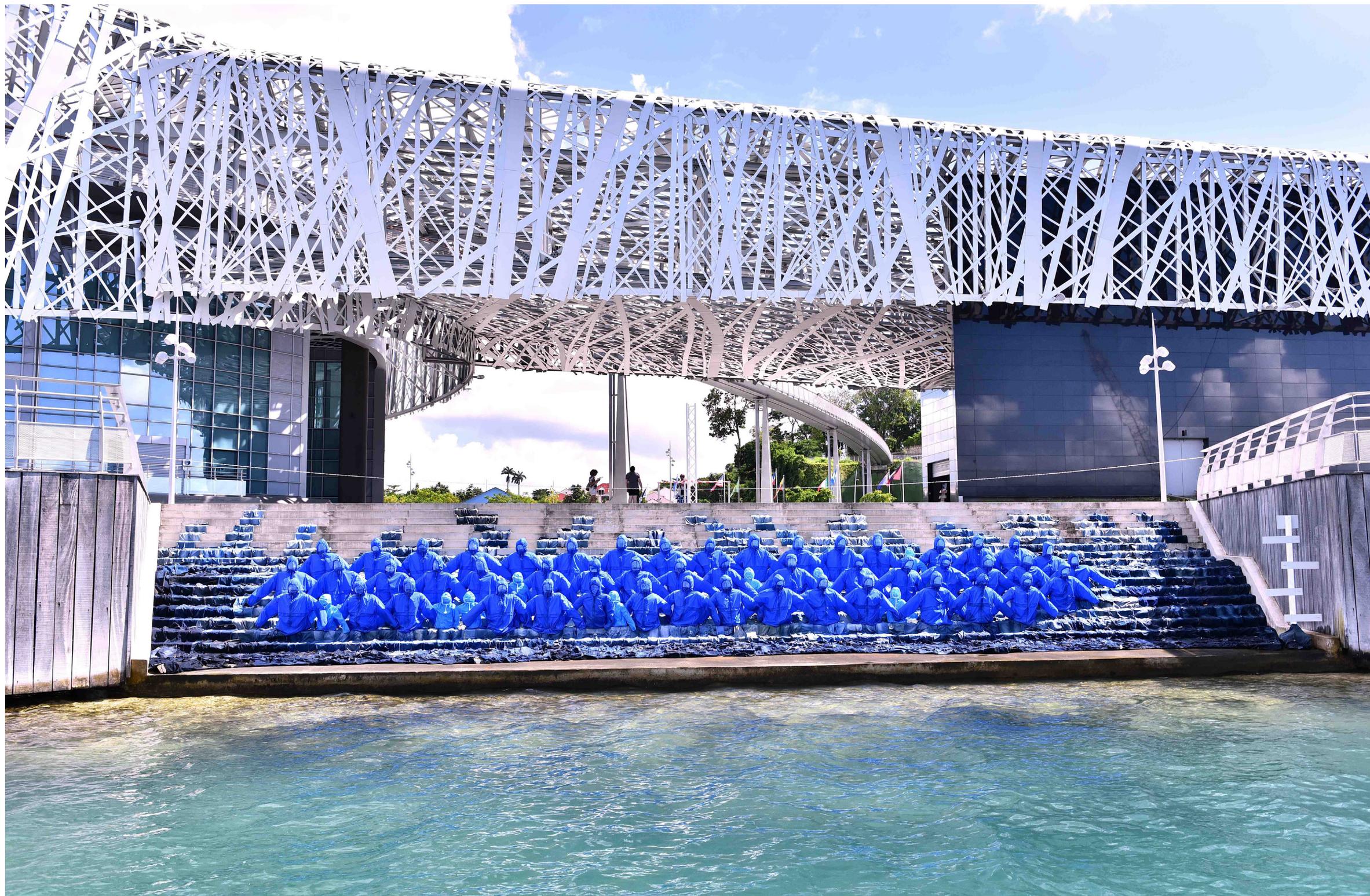


Guy Gabon

My work of creation is an individual poetic and political act that I have chosen to focus on the issues - political, social and ecological - of today's society by appealing to emotion to engage audiences.

My work is resolutely multi-disciplinary and trans disciplinary. It leads me to imagine and implement multiform artistic and environmental experiments based on land art, design, animated image, still image, graffiti, inverted graffiti.

I chose **Land Art** to establish a dialogue with nature beautiful, strange, threatening, threatened. When I walk, I go to the source, I re [source], she speaks to me, I borrowed her elements to create. I just leave a footprint for a conversation with nature. The public becomes the attentive audience of a dialogue without words, just the poetry of the elements is felt.



Le réchauffement climatique en art concret. Installation at Le Mémorial ACTe Guadeloupe

Jacqueline Arnette



Jacqueline Arnette has made it her artistic pursuit to live, work and observe different areas of the world. Born in San Antonio, Texas she has studied and taught in Australia, Germany, Japan, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Miami Beach. Moving to her represents a challenge of communication and allows her to explore ideas surrounding difference in each new community. She states, "It is imperative to think of each new city, neighborhood or community as its own unique experience". As an artist and observer each new place has its own singularity imbued with visual culture.

Ms. Arnette was the Director of Exhibitions and Artist Liaison at the ArtCenter of South/ Florida for three years, and currently teaches at the Art Institutes of San Antonio and Northwest Vista College. She was involved in the first Ghetto Biennial in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, in December of 2009, and has completed residencies at both the Miami Children's Museum in Miami, Florida and the Red Cinder Residency in Kona, Hawaii. Additionally she participated in DVCAI's International Cultural Exchanges in Kingston, Jamaica and San Juan, Puerto Rico, Barbados and Antigua.

Queen of the savages
Mixed media



Anna Meier



Anna Meier is an artist living and working in Miami FL. Originally from California, She moved to Portland, Oregon to earn her BFA from the Oregon College of Art and Craft. During this time she fell in love with stop-motion animation and began to work on her own short films. Her interest in animation transitioned into a puppet fabrication internship at LAIKA studios where she worked on the production of the *Boxtrolls*. After years of animating in the dark Meier decided to move back to California and pursue an artistic practice that did not isolate her from the world. After discovering the joys of volunteer work, and working with communities Meier now focuses on blurring the lines between art and life to create beneficial and eye opening experiences. She is currently pursuing her MFA in sculpture at the University of Miami. Each of her projects utilizes different community groups in an attempt to understand how art and storytelling can make a positive impact on society.

La Vultura
Mixed media/performance





Ronald Cyrille

Young Guadeloupe artist, it is at the Caribbean Campus of the Arts of Martinique that I obtain my Master II in 2012. Born of a Dominican mother and a Guadeloupean father, it is on my mother's native island I grew up from my eight months until I was nine.

Surreality is one of the key concepts that I propose in my works in a form of free figuration, which is itself worked by my views on contemporary society, but also by questioning what seems to undermine me or even animate me. I then question the place of remembrance, the place of my childhood. These places of memory then become matter to nourish my imagination and leave me a freedom of speculation on my own obsessions.



Freedom

Warning this may trigger debate. Humberto Ochoa

Rosa Naday Garmendia



As a socially engaged artist, I address local and global issues through my creative practice. My art making process is fed by my interest in the human condition. This is due to my own experience of otherness, of resilience and conflict. I was born in La Habana, Cuba and immigrated to the United States with my family at the age of 8.

While in high school I won many local and statewide art awards, including the prestigious Scholastic Art Award and more recently in 2014 the Artist Access Grant among others. I pursued my artistic career studying at various universities and art institutes. I am a Graduate of the University of Miami, with study experiences and full scholarships from Parsons School of Design, in New York, the Vermont Studio Center, University of South Florida and the Fort Lauderdale Art Institute.

Rituals of Commeration
Photo by Humberto Ochoa



Izia Lindsay is a Graduate Student and Teaching Assistant at the University of Miami. Currently he is pursuing an MFA in Multimedia. Over the past few years he has worked with a number of communities both in the Caribbean and in the United States as a muralist and has led several mural projects. These murals are located in the Wynwood Arts District Miami, the University of the West Indies Trinidad and Tobago, and South Miami.

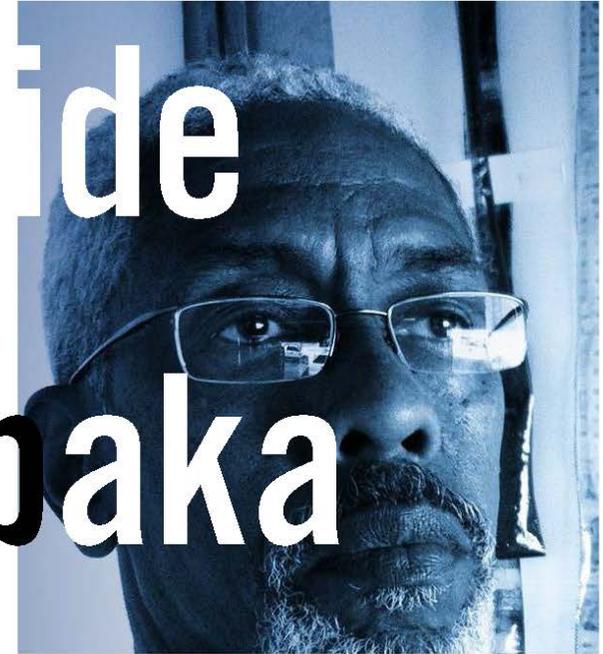


Top: "Reach"
Opposite Page: UWI Mural





Onajide Shabaka



Onajide Shabaka's art form is a short journey made by walking in the landscape. The evolution of this may be developed as follows: the artist goes for a walk, in the New Mexico desert, the tall trees of Oregon, the lakes of Minnesota, in a Florida swamp, for a day, or several days. During the course of the walk he may take one or more photographs, make a drawing, pick up some stones, seeds or twigs. These may be brought back to the studio and photographed, and may be published or exhibited as evidence of the performative artwork. These objects and the experience also provide germination for further research and knowledge.

I have forged a path for my artistic interests that challenges the status quo, especially the exclusivity, hermeticism and austerity of the white cubic gallery space. At the same time, my work, in its engagement with nature, history, technology, and ritual allows the viewers to experience a more holistic view of the world.



Top left. The discovery of the Akurijo n. !
Bottom left. The discovery of the Akurijo n. 2

Aisha Tandiwe-Bell



Aisha Tandiwe Bell is an interdisciplinary artist. Her studio practice is a commitment to creating myth and ritual through the use of narrative performance art, video, sound, drawing and installation. She is interested in the fragmentation of our multiple identities. Bell received a BFA in Painting and a MS in Art Education from Pratt in 1999. As a performance spoken word artist she released 2 CD's with the group second2last between 1995-2005. She received a 2005 NYFA in Performance Art/ Multidisciplinary Work and was a 2006 Skowhegan Fellow. In 2008 she completed her MFA at Hunter College. Bell was a 2009 artist in residence at Corridor Gallery, a 2009-2010 artist in resident at Abrons Art Center and she was an artist in residence with LMCC Swing space 2011. In 2012 she was The Laundromat Project's Create Change commissioned artist. She is a ceramic artist in residence at Hunter College for 2013-2014 and the 2014-2015 Curator for the Thomas Hunter Project Room. The Rosa Parks Museum, The National Museum of Catholic Art, MOCADA, CCCADI, Columbia College, Edna Manely College in Kingston Jamaica and the Rush Arts gallery in Chelsea are a few of the spaces which have exhibited her work.

Images:
"Stripes, scars, bars and bullseye"
Oppsite page
Fragments and artifacts







Minia Biabiany

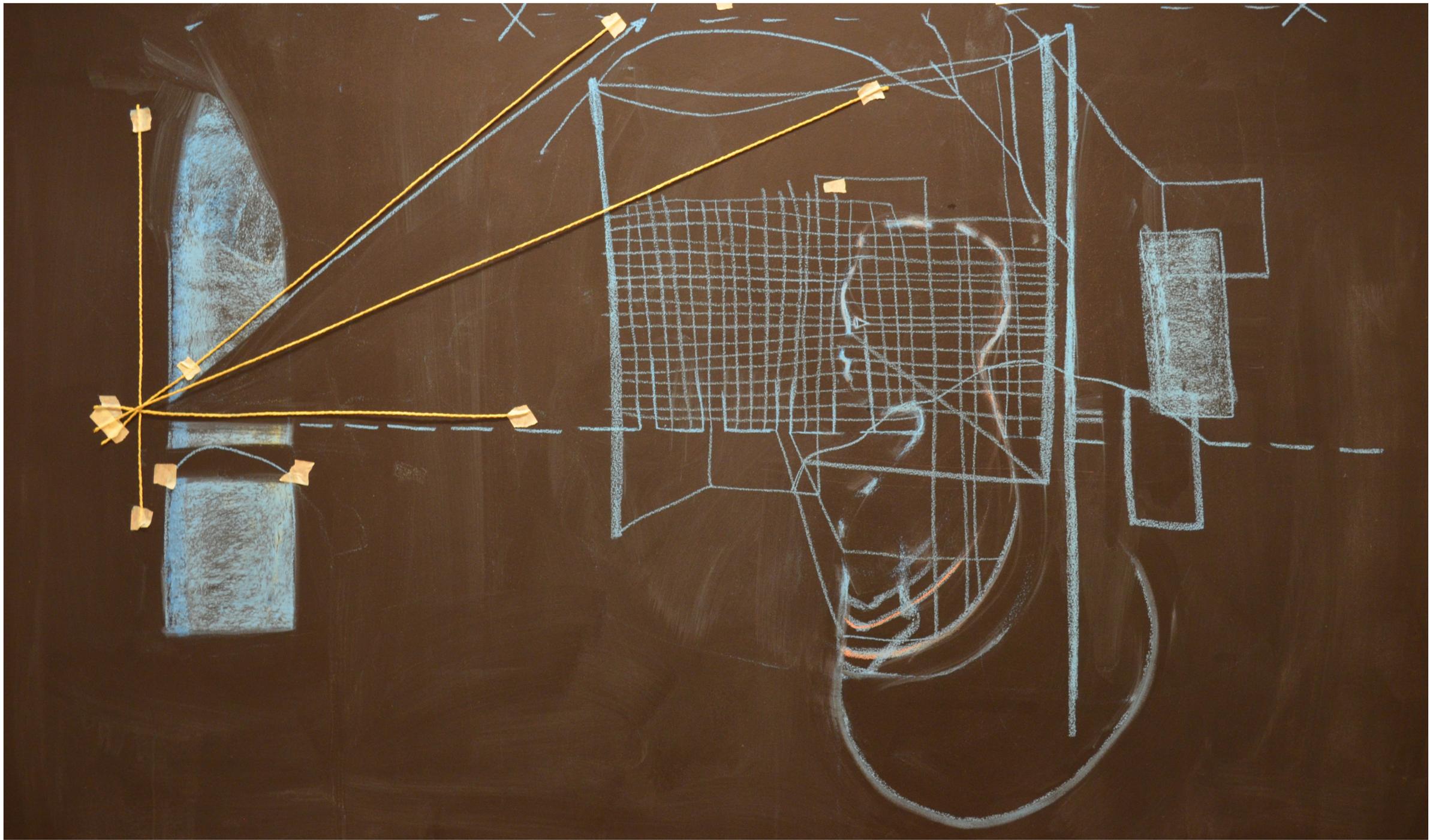
Born in 1988, Basse Terre, Guadeloupe (French West Indies)

Works and lives in Mexico

Place, in the meaning of a space with its own identity, is a receptacle. During the five last years I have slowly seen my work coming to question place using drawing and my vocabulary of forms with thread, weft and fabric. I have been questioning precise gestures or actions such as enveloping, covering, protecting, and containing which led me to fields of architecture, structure and mapping territories. The passage between notions of “interior” and “exterior” is also a recurrent issue in my practice.

Some of my installations are made up of site specific wall drawings and clay sculptures. The specificity of the site is determinant: the parameters of the space, its form, its materials and all different scale components, its composition.





Top: blue spelling

Top left: the unity is submarine

Bottom left: 'doubout'





Opposite Page.
Hotmilk: Color Photography and Infography. 2017
Top.
Cahier Dún mon-retour au pays macal.



Kelly Sinnapah Mary

Born in 1981 in Guadeloupe, Sinnapah Mary Kelly is a graduate of the Faculty of visual Arts in Toulouse. In 2011, she exhibited a surprising series of painting on bed sheets entitled "Substitute" for the exhibition "Oeuvres récentes" at Atelier Cilaos Guadeloupe. The same year, she makes an installation as part of the "Carte Blanche II" exhibition to the Schoelcher Museum of Guadeloupe. It is with the installation "Vagina", on the theme of violence against women, that she produces, in 2012, her first solo exhibition at T&T gallery Guadeloupe that brings her successively to Martinique, New York, Miami, Washington and Paris



Photo. Roy Wallace



Photo. Roy Wallace

Rosie Gordon- Wallace

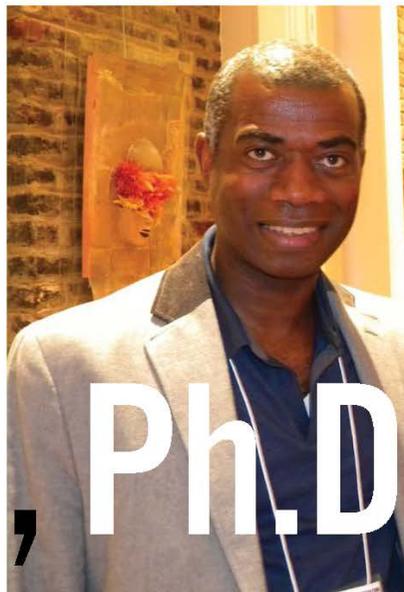


Rosie Gordon-Wallace is Founder, Curator, and Director of Diaspora Vibe Gallery and Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator. Since 1996, Gordon-Wallace has initiated and produced transnational creative programs that redefine concepts of "diaspora" including the International Cultural Exchange program, the Caribbean Crossroads Series, the Artist-In-Residence program, an ongoing contemporary exhibitions program, and numerous community-based outreach projects. One might never have guessed that this licensed Medical Microbiologist and former Senior Consultant for Searle Pharmaceuticals from 1981-1999 is now the founder and senior curator of Diaspora Vibe, one of the most talked about Caribbean art incubators in Miami and on the east coast. Gordon-Wallace, always a passionate lover of art, made up her mind in 1999 to devote herself full time to the gallery she created and developed. Diaspora Vibe Gallery and Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator specializes in Caribbean and Latin American Art with an emphasis on emerging artists. The gallery supports the development of new work by resident artists by offering exhibitions opportunities, artist talks, workshops and other skill-building core values for emerging artists. She is Dynamic and unstoppable and continues to create international cultural experiences for Miami artists that add value to our cultural aesthetic and economy with activities that bind us to "Here and There".

Photo. Roy Wallace



Alix Pierre, Ph.D



Alix Pierre, Ph.D, teaches at Spelman College in the departments of African Diaspora and the World and World Languages and Literature. His research interest is in the artistic response of people of African descent to the state of diglossia in a (neo) colonial context. He is on the editorial board of Caribbean Vistas Journal: Critiques of Caribbean Arts and Cultures and Negritud: Journal of Afro Caribbean Studies. His publications have appeared in several journals and he is the author of *L'image de la femme résistante chez quatre romancières noires : vision diasporique de la femme en résistance chez Maryse Condé, Simone Schwarz-Bart, Toni Morrison et Alice Walker* (PAF : 2014).

Photo. Roy Wallace



Vincent Scatliffe



Vincent Scatliffe is a multi-disciplinary designer with more than 10 years of experience in the areas of UX design, visual design, industrial design, and branding. He's a visionary with a keen ability for assessing an idea's potential and bringing its possibilities to life. An intuitive leader with a proven background in championing large scale strategies that refocuses and uplifts people, culture, policies, and systems of an organization.

A disruptive social entrepreneur who is effective in global and multicultural settings. He has collaborated with entrepreneurs, educators, business leaders, and grassroots advocates to transform communications in the USA, Caribbean and Europe.

An author, educator, philanthropist, speaker, designer, mentor, brother, friend, and son. His mission is to build bridges between cultures and unite people by their common thread. He is driven by three core principals, Faith, Authenticity, and Integrity. Vincent is founder of the social enterprise Continuous Good, and he tours the nation teaching his popular workshop titled Branding While Broke.

Photo. Roy Wallace



Roy Wallace



Roy travels with the DVCAI team as Photographer and Logistics Manager. He is detailed and enjoys the mechanics of preparation and documentation. The DVCAI artists depend on Roy to bring equipment to enhance and support their presentations. His technical ability provides our team with practical "can do support" and building infrastructure for our exhibitions.

"I produce my image in response to the demand to be an image. And yet it is a decentering act: there is no transparent, total subject; there is full knowledge of self." Roy loves photography and is a committed student of the craft. Born in Jamaica, he is an avid tennis player and coach. Educated at The University of Florida and Florida International University he is a core working member to the DVCAI Team.



Photo. Roy Wallace



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