



Wave Hill A public garden & cultural center

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Exploring Illusionary Nature in Wave Hill's Sunroom Project Space

Two New Shows Open Tuesday, July 12

Meet the Artists, Saturday, July 30, 2PM

Bronx, NY, June 30, 2016—Wave Hill welcomes two artists to the Sunroom Project Space this summer. Drawing upon hunting themes, **Amie Cunat's** installation, *Hideout*, features a wall painting and sculptures that create a kind of anti-camouflage, highlighting how people attempt to distinguish themselves from their natural surroundings. **Joiri Minaya**, conjures images of gardens in a different fashion. *#dominicanwomengooglesearch* features pixelated images of Dominican women juxtaposed with tropical patterns, playing on the sexist connotations in popular media that associate lush nature with the female form.



Amie Cunat, *Octopi Kōen*, 2014, dimensions variable, flat latex paint on wall (objects: cardboard, paper and acrylic). Courtesy of the artist.

About the Artists

Amie Cunat

Amie Cunat's work investigates the parallel between abstraction and perception. In her installations, she transforms a space by painting on the walls and ceiling in brilliant hues and bold patterns. Sculptural objects placed directly on the floor create a skewed sense of scale and perspective caused by the interplay between two-dimensional shapes and three-dimensional forms.

In the Sunroom, Cunat explores the protective aspect of this space, a natural yet urban environment typically used as a place of leisure, where the landscape can be enjoyed safely from inside. Similarly, Cunat is interested in using the high-visibility colors of game hunting as a kind of anti-camouflage, differentiating between the hunter and the natural setting of the hunt. The installation consists of a site-specific wall painting and hanging elements that resemble large nets, relying on and contrasting with the architectural features of the Sunroom. In the wall painting for example, the contours of amorphous shapes play off of the geometric grids of the windows and doors. The artist uses warm colors, including hunter orange and magenta, which contrast with the dominant greens of the summer landscape visible through the windows. For the hanging elements, the artist drew from various sources of inspiration, including camouflage netting used for hunting and the latticework of trellises found in greenhouses and gardens. She was struck by the way these manufactured items are often disguised to look natural and blend in with the surrounding vegetation, masking what they hold. Walking among Cunat's net forms, the viewer becomes a part of her constructed environment.

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Cunat earned a BA from Fordham University, a post-baccalaureate degree from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and an MFA from Cornell University. She has had solo exhibitions at Outside, North Adams, MA; Foley Gallery's Window Installation, New York, NY; Court Tree Collective, Brooklyn, NY; The Cooper Union, New York, NY; and AIRY Gallery, Kofu, Japan. Artist residencies include Artist-Teacher Residency at The Cooper Union, Artist in Residence Yamanashi and Parsons Paris Artist Residency.

Joiri Minaya

In her work, Joiri Minaya challenges romanticized notions of the tropics, especially the sexist connotations in popular media that associate lush nature with the female form. She makes performance photographs, videos, postcard interventions and installations that use re-appropriated tropical decorative patterns to confront stereotypical expectations about the Caribbean. Throughout her practice, the Afro-Latina perspective subverts the male gaze, turning it against itself and dismantling the desire for the "exotic."

A search on Google Images using the term "Dominican women" became the basis for Minaya's current work. The results are a collection of figures, striking poses that are at once obedient to foreign fantasies while also seemingly assertive and self-confident. At Wave Hill, Minaya isolates parts of these figures and prints them to human proportions, pairing them with stylized "tropical" prints that are typically mass-marketed to tourists. At this scale, the imagery becomes pixelated; some have watermarks linking them to their digital point of origin. Suspended from the ceiling, the images blend in with the natural background visible through the windows, mimicking dense layers of foliage inside a greenhouse. Viewers navigate the forest of imagery to move through the Sun Porch space. As they do so, they may take photos of the work and upload them to social media platforms. Anticipating this layer of visitor interaction, Minaya realizes that the images she used to compose her project will be reinserted into the vast and searchable realm of the Internet, but in a hybridized, destabilized form.



Joiri Minaya, Study for #dominicanwomengooglesearch, 2016, digital print, dimensions variable, digital prints and fabric on Sintra. Courtesy of the artist.

Minaya earned a BFA from Parsons School of Design, New York, NY. Minaya's work has been featured in exhibitions at El Museo del Barrio, New York, NY; Rush Arts Gallery, New York, NY; the Museum of African Diasporan Arts, Brooklyn, NY; and Northern Manhattan Arts Alliance, New York, NY. She is currently a resident in Smack Mellon's Artist Studio Program and a participant in the Bronx Museum's Artist in the Marketplace Program. Minaya is the recipient of a 2015 Joan Mitchell Foundation Emerging Artist Award, a Great Prize and the Audience Award in the XXV Concurso de Arte Eduardo León Jimenes at the Centro León in Santiago and the Great Prize of the XXVII National Biennial of the Museum of Modern Art in Santo Domingo.

Organized by Curator of Visual Arts Gabriel de Guzman, the Sunroom Project Space provides an opportunity for New York-area emerging artists to develop a special project or site-specific work to exhibit in a solo show. The artists participating in the 2016 season are, consecutively, **Tai Hwa Goh, Dark Matters, Amie Cunat, Jori Minaya, Doreen Garner, Ariel Jackson and Denise Treizman.**

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THE SUNROOM PROJECT SPACE IS SUPPORTED IN PART BY THE MILTON & SALLY AVERY ARTS FOUNDATION. ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE VISUAL ARTS PROGRAM IS PROVIDED BY LILY AUCHINCLOSS FOUNDATION, INC., THE NEW YORK COMMUNITY TRUST, NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS WITH THE SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR ANDREW M. CUOMO AND THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE, AND BY THE CATHY AND STEPHEN WEINROTH COMMISSIONING FUND FOR THE ARTS. WAVE HILL, INC. IS AN INDEPENDENT, NON-PROFIT CULTURAL INSTITUTION GOVERNED BY A VOLUNTEER BOARD OF DIRECTORS. THE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS OF WAVE HILL ARE OWNED BY THE CITY OF NEW YORK. WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT AND BRONX REPRESENTATIVES IN THE CITY COUNCIL AND STATE LEGISLATURE, WAVE HILL'S OPERATIONS ARE SUPPORTED WITH PUBLIC FUNDS THROUGH THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS; THE ZOOS, BOTANICAL GARDENS AND AQUARIUMS GRANT PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION; THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION; AND NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS WITH THE SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR ANDREW M. CUOMO AND THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE.



A 28-acre public garden and cultural center overlooking the Hudson River and Palisades, Wave Hill's mission is to celebrate the artistry and legacy of its gardens and landscapes, to preserve its magnificent views, and to explore human connections to the natural world through programs in horticulture, education and the arts.

HOURS	Open all year, Tuesday–Sunday and many major holidays: 9AM–5:30PM Closes 4:30PM, Nov. 1–Mar. 14
GALLERY HOURS	10AM–4:30PM, Tuesday–Sunday
ADMISSION TO THE GROUNDS	\$8 adults, \$4 students and senior 65+, \$2 children 6–18 Free Tuesdays and Saturdays until noon. Free to members, children under 6
DIRECTIONS	Getting here is easy! Located only 30 minutes from midtown Manhattan, Wave Hill's free shuttle van transports you to and from our front gate and Metro-North's Riverdale station, the W. 242 St. stop on the #1 subway line, and to and from our free offsite parking lot. Limited onsite parking is available for \$8 per vehicle. Complete directions and shuttle van schedule at wavehill.org .

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