Emerging Artists Create New Installations for Wave Hill this Fall

Bronx, NY, August 30, 2018—Wave Hill’s gardens and landscape serve as a springboard for emerging artists exhibiting in its Sunroom Project Space. Since 2007, Wave Hill’s curators have commissioned a diverse group of New York City-area artists to create new, site-specific projects for solo exhibitions. Two of the artists this year are recipients of a New York Community Trust Van Lier Fellowship, which provides emerging artists from historically underrepresented populations with mentorship and career development opportunities.

The 2018 Sunroom Project Space exhibitions continue this fall with Van Lier Fellows Ashton Agbomenou and Yelaine Rodriguez and artist Keren Anavy. Drawing upon their experience in the Wave Hill 2018 Winter Workspace residency program, Agbomenou and Rodriguez separately explore the themes of identity and the African diaspora through installations opening September 8. Keren Anavy closes out the 2018 season with work inspired by the garden’s vibrant, multi-chromatic, autumnal landscape. Her installation is on view starting October 27. Each artist participates in a Meet the Artist conversation with Eileen Jeng Lynch, Curator of Visual Arts.

Where:
Glyndor Gallery, West 249th Street and Independence Avenue,
Bronx, NY 10471

Schedule:
Ashton Agbomenou
September 8–October 21
Meet the Artist: Sunday, September 30, 2PM

Yelaine Rodriguez
September 8–October 21
Meet the Artist: Sunday, September 30, 3PM

Keren Anavy
October 27–December 2
Meet the Artist: Saturday, October 27, 2PM
Performance: Saturday, November 17, 2PM

About the artists:

Ashton Agbomenou develops an installation of portraits that incorporate urban and natural imagery, drawing inspiration from his time in Wave Hill’s 2018 Winter Workspace. A first-generation African American whose parents are from Benin, West Africa, Agbomenou was raised in New York City and seeks synchronicity in the African diaspora. Through interviews, photography and research, he distills his findings and constructs collage-like watercolors and an oil painting that depict unique narratives and histories about his community in Harlem and Upper Manhattan in his exhibition African American.
Bronx-born, Afro-Dominican-American artist **Yelaine Rodriguez** sources syncretic religious traditions found in African diasporic communities, such as Voodoo and Santeria, to conceptualize costume design and wearable art, which are activated when worn by people whom she imagines to possess the characteristics of specific deities. Rodriguez creates a unique narrative about Ezili Dantor, a figure associated with the Black Madonna, Infant Jesus and self-liberated African slaves that examines representations of identity and meanings of freedom—celebrating shared experiences of women of color. Her installation of wearable art, photography and video of a performance draws inspiration from the colors and textures in nature—from her experience at Wave Hill during the 2018 Winter Workspace.

**Keren Anavy** responds to the late fall landscape of Wave Hill. Suspended from the ceiling, abstract paintings on translucent Mylar dip into shallow pools of ink and correspond to the changing colors of Wave Hill’s seasonal plants—especially at the Aquatic Garden. The colored light shining in through the cellophane-covered windows marks the space as an insular, imagined landscape, a conservatory created from human-made materials. In a process that incorporates the element of chance, the artist mimics the relationship between accident and deliberation that occurs in human-made gardens. Anavy is also collaborating with Valerie Green/Dance Entropy on **Utopia**, a dance performance, which will be presented in the gallery on November 17.

To learn more about the arts at Wave Hill, please visit [www.wavehill.org/arts](http://www.wavehill.org/arts).

*The Sunroom Project Space*, organized by Curator of Visual Arts **Eileen Jeng Lynch** provides an opportunity for New York-area emerging artists to exhibit a site-specific installation at Wave Hill. The curatorial team includes **Jennifer McGregor**, Director of Arts & Senior Curator, and **Emily Alesandrini**, Curatorial Fellow.
The Sunroom Project Space is supported in part by the Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. Additional support for the Visual Arts Program is provided by Lily Auchincloss Foundation, Inc.; The New York Community Trust Edward and Sally Van Lier Fund; New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; The Pollock-Krasner Foundation; The Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation; and by the Cathy and Stephen Weinroth Commissioning Fund for the Arts. Wave Hill Incorporated 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; and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

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; Nov 1–Mar 14, closes

**GALLERY HOURS:** 10AM-4PM

**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. Please see above release for Sunset Wednesday and Serene Thursday admission.

**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 Street 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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