

Images Available Upon Request

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A New Exhibition at Wave Hill Inspired by Light and Water Opens August 19, 2023

Group Show and Solo Installations Showcased on Fall Arts Opening Day Sun, September 17

August 19 – November 26: *Light from Water*: Heidi Howard & Esteban Cabeza de Baca, with Liz Phillips

August 19 – October 1: Jill Cohen-Nuñez: *wait in the garden*

August 19 – October 1: Max Benjamin Sarmiento: *Por El Amor del Circo (For the Love of the Circus)*

Bronx, NY, August 16, 2023 – Wave Hill is pleased to announce the opening of its fall exhibitions in Glyndor Gallery on Saturday, August 19. On Sunday afternoon, September 17, Fall Arts Opening Day will be an opportunity to welcome visitors to view the new shows and meet the artists. *Light from Water* presents collaborative works. These include works by Heidi Howard and Esteban Cabeza de Baca, as well as Cabeza de Baca's layered landscape paintings, Howard's portraits that incorporate plant life and natural settings and a *Wavetable* sculpture by sound-art pioneer Liz Phillips. The exhibition is on view through Sunday, November 26. In the Sunroom Project Space are two solo shows by Jill Cohen-Nuñez and Max Benjamin Sarmiento, Wave Hill's 2023 New York Community Trust Van Lier Fellows. Their exhibitions are on view through Sunday, October 1. Then on October 14, Bel Falleiros' solo exhibition, *Floresta de pulsares (Forest of pulses)*, opens in the Sunroom Project Space.



Left: Heidi Howard, *Collaborative Self*, 2022, acrylic on canvas. Courtesy of the artist.

Right: Esteban Cabeza de Baca, *8 Fold Way*, 2023, acrylic on canvas. Courtesy of the artist and Garth Greenan Gallery. Photos: Charles Benton.

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August 19 – November 26: *Light from Water*, Glyndor Gallery

Light from Water presents new works by **Heidi Howard** and **Esteban Cabeza de Baca** that share a deep-seated connection with the natural world, including collaborative works by both artists. The exhibition also includes portraits, self-portraits and installations by Heidi Howard; landscape paintings and sculptures by Cabeza de Baca; and a multi-media sculpture by **Liz Phillips**. Inspired by the views and vegetation of Wave Hill's Aquatic Garden, several works on display were created at Wave Hill this past summer. The spirit of collaboration is integral to the work of the artists in *Light from Water*, acknowledging the greater communities within which they feel a sense of belonging. Howard's portraits are informed by dialogue with family members and loved ones, and the artist's installations and self-portraits show a holistic embrace of our environmental surroundings. Cabeza de Baca's scenic paintings and sculptures portray the land itself as kin or ancestor, influenced by Indigenous views and cultural ways of knowing.



Heidi Howard and Esteban Cabeza de Baca, *Braiding Sweetgrass*, 2023, acrylic on canvas.
Courtesy of the artists and Garth Greenan Gallery. Photo: Charles Benton.

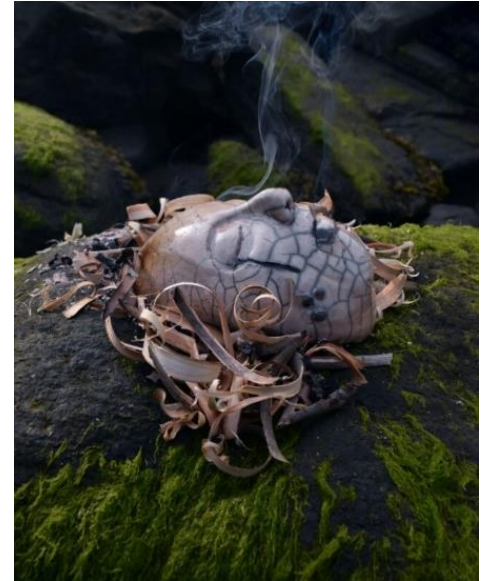


Heidi Howard and Esteban Cabeza de Baca at work at the Aquatic Garden, Wave Hill, New York.
Photo: Dave Sanders.

Of Indigenous Chicano ancestry, Cabeza de Baca was raised in California near the Mexico border, while Howard, the child of two artists, was born and raised in New York City. Howard and Cabeza de Baca live and work together in Long Island City, Queens. Their individual art practices retain distinct approaches and styles. However, they have spent most of their time painting in tandem since meeting in 2012 as graduate students in Columbia University's MFA program. Over the past two to three years, their collaborative work together has begun to shape their individual practices. Howard has incorporated plein air, or outdoor observational painting, in their work, and Cabeza de Baca has introduced more figurative elements into his landscape views and sculptural work. One of Howard and Cabeza de Baca's major influences is Phillips (Howard's mother). Over the past 50 years, she has been making interactive, multi-media installations that explore the body's relationship to the environment. As the exhibition title suggests, *Light from Water* contemplates reflection and refraction, seeing in and through, while casting back. This exhibition asks us to reimagine our relationship to nature—to see ourselves as part of, rather than separate from, the living and non-living elements in the world's collective ecosystem.

August 19 – October 1: Jill Cohen-Nuñez: *wait in the garden*, Sunroom Project Space

Jill Cohen-Nuñez is a Bronx-based artist and 2023 New York Community Trust Van Lier Fellow at Wave Hill. They work in mixed-media sculpture, installation, performance and sound to create works that honor their Dominican and Jewish ancestry and explore the body as a site of offering. Cohen-Nuñez's Sun Porch installation *wait in the garden* is grounded in a desire to investigate memory and the formation of ritual to reflect on ancestral connections to nature and grief and includes objects imbued with the energy of guardians to serve as documentation of personal and traditional practices. Employing ceramic, rock, sound and repetition, the site-responsive exhibition creates a space for meditation.



Jill Cohen Nuñez, *wait in the garden (detail)*, 2023, Raku ceramic, cedar wood, maple wood, glass, concrete, ceramic, stone and clay. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Stephanie Ayala.

August 19 – October 1: Max Benjamin Sarmiento: *Por El Amor del Circo (For the Love of the Circus)*, Sunroom Project Space

Mixed-media artist and 2023 New York Community Trust Van Lier Fellow at Wave Hill **Max Benjamin Sarmiento** creates dioramas that capture the quotidian. Using three-dimensional painting, sculpture and drawing, he merges scenes of the pastoral, urban, magical and lived experience into tableaux informed by Ecuador, where he was raised, and Queens, NY, where he currently resides. During his Wave Hill residency, he experimented with materials and scaled up his work to incorporate architecture, supernatural energy and life-size and interactive dioramas inspired by familial storytelling and Wave Hill's gardens. For his Sunroom Project, Sarmiento developed a room installation titled *Por El Amor al Circo (For the Love of the Circus)*, which tells the story of a circus family struck by tragedy after the mother makes a deal with the devil.



Max Benjamin Sarmiento, *El Circo*, 2023, acrylic and watercolor on paper. Courtesy of the artist.

October 14 – November 26: Bel Falleiros: *Floresta de pulsares (Forest of pulses)*, Sunroom Project Space

Bel Falleiros is a Brazilian artist whose practice focuses on place and belonging. In particular, she is interested in how contemporary constructed landscapes misrepresent the diverse layers that constitute a place and its effect on its inhabitants.

Expanding on her recent project *As Red as Brazil*, which delves into the symbolic, political and chromatic aspects of the brazilwood tree (a colonial commodity that gave Brazil its name), Falleiros' current research turns to the stories of American trees and plants at Wave Hill and how they are used, appropriated and exploited. For her Sunroom Project, she also works with the organic detritus of the gardens, cotton fabric and plant-based paints to develop an immersive, site-specific installation that connects nature, people, stories and place.



Bel Falleiros, *Floresta de pulsares (Forest of pulses) (detail)*, 2023, Brazilwood paint on paper. Courtesy of the artist.

Public Programs

- Saturday, August 19, 2023, 1, 2, 3 and 4 PM
Max Benjamin Sarmiento presents 15-minute performances with figurines, in conjunction with his exhibition *Por El Amor del Circo (For the Love of the Circus)*. Sunroom Project Space.
- Sunday, September 17, 2023, 1-4 PM
Fall Arts Opening Day: *Light from Water*: Heidi Howard & Esteban Cabeza de Baca, with Liz Phillips; Jill Cohen-Nuñez: *wait in the garden* and Max Benjamin Sarmiento: *Por El Amor del Circo (For the Love of the Circus)*.
- Sunday, September 17, 2023, at 1, 2, 3 and 4 PM
Max Benjamin Sarmiento presents 15-minute performances with figurines, in conjunction with his exhibition *Por El Amor del Circo (For the Love of the Circus)*. Sunroom Project Space.
- Saturday, September 30, 2023, 2-4 PM
Meet the Artists: Jill Cohen-Nuñez and Max Benjamin Sarmiento. Sunroom Project Space.
- Sunday, October 1, 2023, at 1, 2, 3 and 4 PM
Max Benjamin Sarmiento presents 15-minute performances with figurines, in conjunction with his exhibition *Por El Amor del Circo (For the Love of the Circus)*. Sunroom Project Space.
- Saturday, October 7, 2023, 2-3:30PM
Meet the Artists: Esteban Cabeza de Baca & Heidi Howard, in conversation with Kaitlin Garcia-Maestas. Glyndor Gallery.
- Saturday, October 14, 2023, 12-1PM
Meet the Artists: LoVid. Wave Hill House.
- Saturday, October 14, 2023, 2-3PM
Meet the Artist: Bel Falleiros. Sunroom Project Space.
- Sunday, November 5, 2023, 1-4 PM
Personal Landscapes Art Workshop, led by exhibiting artists Heidi Howard and Esteban Cabeza de Baca. Glyndor Gallery and Aquatic Garden.

Light From Water is organized by Gabriel de Guzman, Director of Arts and Chief Curator, with Rachel Raphaela Gugelberger, Curator of Visual Arts.

The Sunroom Project Space is organized by Rachel Raphaela Gugelberger.

Support for the Visual Arts Program is provided by the Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation; National Endowment for the Arts; New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; New York Community Trust Edward and Sally Van Lier Fund; New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature; Pollock-Krasner Foundation; Ruth Foundation for the Arts; 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 City of New York owns the buildings and grounds of Wave Hill. 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 National Endowment for the Arts; and New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.



About Wave Hill

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, 10AM–5:30PM. Marco Polo Stufano Conservatory 10AM–Noon; 1–4PM. Glyndor Gallery 10AM–4:30PM

ADMISSION TO THE GROUNDS: \$10 adults, \$6 students and seniors 65+, \$4 children 6-18. Free Thursdays.

Free to Wave Hill Members, children under 6.

DIRECTIONS at wavehill.org.

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