

Images Available Upon Request

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Spring, Summer 2022 Exhibitions Reconsider Cultural and Ecological Histories

Bronx, NY, April 26, 2022—A public garden and cultural center in the Bronx overlooking the Hudson River, Wave Hill's landscape serves as a springboard for artists to create new art and reexamine ongoing bodies of work. For the Sunroom Project Space in Glyndor Gallery, Wave Hill's curators have commissioned six emerging, New York City-area artists to create site-specific installations.

Opening May 21, 2022, the windowed Sunroom and Sun Porch provide stimulating settings for artists to contemplate, explore and transform these spaces. This spring and summer feature **Anina Major**, **Kevin Quiles Bonilla**, **Krystal DiFronzo** and **Heidi Norton**, whose shows will examine colonial histories, familial and ancestral connections and cultural heritages in the context of nature. These are the first solo exhibitions in New York City for Major, Quiles Bonilla, and DiFronzo.

In Wave Hill House, 2020 Winter Workspace artist **Maya Ciarrocchi** exhibits recent bodies of work that examine various waterways in New York City, particularly the Bronx, revealing the centuries-long impact of urbanization and providing new perspectives on the past, present and future.



Kevin Quiles Bonilla, While you dried in the sand (palm trees, ocean breeze), 2022, custom print on beach towel. Courtesy of the artist.

Kevin Quiles Bonilla | Anina Major

Sunroom Project Space

May 21–July 4, 2022

Through installation and performance, **Kevin Quiles Bonilla** investigates notions of colonial history and consumption from the perspective of his Latinx cultural heritage, as well as from his lived experience as a queer artist and person with a disability. In the Sunroom, Quiles Bonilla's *A tropic squall blew in, while you dried in the sand* explores the way that Puerto Rican culture and the tropical landscape are commodified and fetishized for the tourist industry and characterized predominately as a site of leisure.

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Blending reality and fantasy, Quiles Bonilla's project comprises custom-printed beach towels, sling chairs, imagery of Puerto Rico from postcards alongside documentation taken after Hurricane Maria, emergency radio announcements and a sand-covered floor. In the context of Wave Hill, this installation examines the beach, as well as the garden, as politically charged spaces. Quiles Bonilla is an interdisciplinary artist born in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Anina Major's exhibition in the gallery's Sun Porch comprises sculptural ceramic works and house plants, representing origins across the African diaspora. Inspired by Alice Walker's *In Search of Our Mother's Gardens*, the works unearth the narratives of Black communities and their contributions to the land, focusing on the garden as a charged site and symbol of resiliency, courage and care. Ceramic sculptures resemble woven containers that reference the weaving practiced by Bahamian women, in particular the artist's grandmother. In *Garden Hills: Reflections in Memory Yard*, Major explores the preservation of culture and stories of migration as they examine the complexities of their cultural heritage. Major is a visual artist originally from the Bahamas.

Meet the Artists: Kevin Quiles Bonilla and Anina Major (onsite), June 11, 2022, 2-4PM



Anina Major, Garden Hills: Reflections in Memory Yard, 2022 (detail of installation in progress). Photo: Felicia Megginson.

Krystal DiFronzo | Heidi Norton
Sunroom Project Space
July 16–August 28, 2022

Krystal DiFronzo's exhibition in the Sunroom examines intergenerational trauma, healing practices, and gendered and stereotypical notions of health, care and emotional labor. Also addressed is the concept of the pharmakon, an ancient Greek term that describes a medicinal substance as both remedy and poison. Imagery on translucent, silk hangings shows figures in states of contortion, along with flora and fauna. Painted with natural dyes, the hangings tie in the medicinal and spiritual histories of the plants' symbology and herbal uses. Depicted on the gallery windows is the toxic plant called angel's trumpet (*Brugmansia*), a flower associated with hallucinogenic properties. DiFronzo creates this installation in response to



Krystal DiFronzo, Messengers and Promises, 2020, natural dyes (madder root, logwood, pomegranate, osage orange, cochineal, clutch, acacia extract, and iron) on three silk panels, dyed muslin banner with appliqué, glass beads and embroidery, paper cutouts. Window installation at Dirt Palace, Providence, RI. Courtesy of the artist. Image courtesy of Dirt Palace.

different familial practices intended to effect feelings of release. DiFronzo is an artist and educator based in Ridgewood, Queens.

In the Sun Porch, **Heidi Norton**'s installation explores the interconnections between humans and the natural world. Inspired by Wave Hill's grounds and the Sun Porch's architecture, her project comprises photography, sculpture and painting and utilizes glass, transparent films, wax, resin, live plants and natural light as mediums. In the space's large-paned windows, flora and other organic material that resemble specimen slides are displayed and continue to change, highlighting the tension between preservation and the liminality of time and space. Norton's work conflates interior and exterior realms, reality and illusion, and the cycles of life and death. Norton is an artist and writer whose 1970s upbringing as a child of New Age, West Virginian homesteaders resulted in a strong connection to the land, plant life and nature.

Meet the Artists: Krystal DiFronzo and Heidi Norton (onsite), July 24, 2022, 2–4PM



Heidi Norton, Undulations, 2021, backlit photographic film, wax and glass sculptures, plants, photographic wall works. Installation at Lubeznik Center for the Arts, Michigan City, IL. Courtesy of the artist. Photo by Jim Printz.

Maya Ciarrocchi

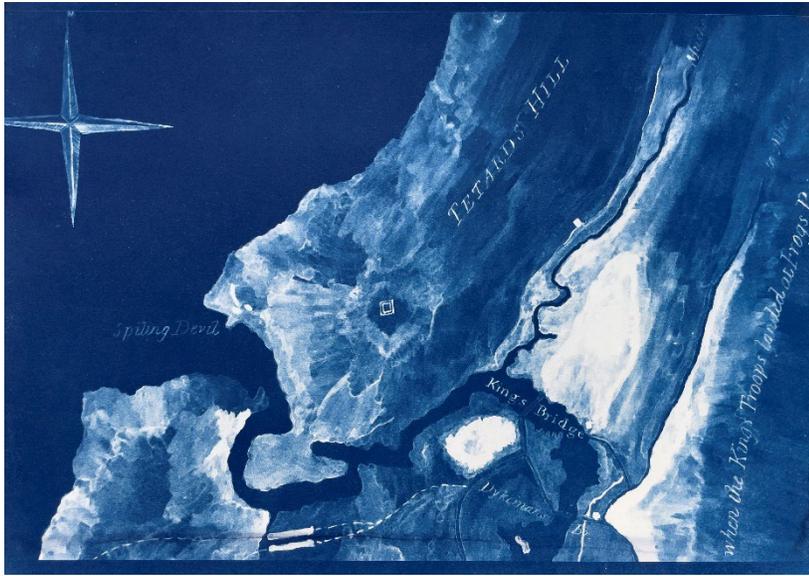
Muscota, Mosholu, Tibbetts Brook

Wave Hill House

July 19–December 11, 2022

Muscota, Mosholu, Tibbetts Brook features Maya Ciarrocchi's recent cyanotype prints on silk and works on paper, which use historical narratives, as well as embodied and locative mapping, to uncover buried pasts while investigating ecological issues due to urban development. Her large-scale prints depict the shifted trajectories of New York City waterways and their lost histories, the shorelines now inaccessible to city residents. During the 2020 Winter Workspace at Wave Hill, Ciarrocchi continued to develop *Mosholu*, an interdisciplinary walk and a series of graphite and ink works on film and paper that document the diversion of Tibbetts Brook into the city's sewage system over a century ago. Formerly a resource for food and navigation, Tibbetts Brook was called Mosholu, or Muscota, by the Munsee-speaking Lenape. The brook's presence is only made evident when there is significant flooding and overflow along the Broadway corridor.

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Maya Ciarrocchi, Tetard Hill, 2022, cyanotype on paper, 12" x 16".
 Courtesy of the artist.

Cyanotype Workshop in collaboration with Rocking the Boat (off-site, Hunts Point Riverside Park), July 16, 2022, 3–5PM

Meet the Artist: Maya Ciarrocchi (onsite, Wave Hill House), October 15, 2022, 1–2PM

These exhibitions are on view concurrently with *Water Scarcity: Perpetual Thirst* in Glyndor Gallery. The Arts team includes Gabriel de Guzman, Director of Arts and Chief Curator, and Eileen Jeng Lynch, Curator of Visual Arts.

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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, currently Tuesday–Sunday, 10AM–4:30PM.

ADMISSION TO THE GROUNDS: \$10 adults, \$6 students and seniors 65+, \$4 children 6-18. Free Thursdays. Free to members, children under 6. For current safety protocols and other information about visiting Wave Hill, please be sure check the website prior to visiting.

DIRECTIONS: Complete directions at wavehill.org.

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