



**WAVE HILL SUNROOMPROJECTSPACE**

**GLENDOR TERRACE GARDEN**

**August 31 - December 1, 2024**

**DARIO MOHR**

*QuadroPod: Seeds of Kenya*

# DARIO MOHR

Lives in Harlem, NY

Proposal sketch for *QuadroPod: Seeds of Kenya*, 2024. Courtesy of the artist.

Multidisciplinary artist Dario Mohr inaugurates the newly renovated Glyndor Terrace Garden with *QuadroPod: Seeds of Kenya*, a site-specific monument to the 42 ethnic groups of Kenya. Working across painting, sculpture, installation, digital art and video, he creates sacred structures that draw from his personal ancestry and our cultural zeitgeist to honor the African Diaspora. A first-generation American of Grenadian, West African and Italian heritage, Mohr's work references a burgeoning reclamation of the spiritual practices of Africa that have been obscured by legacies of colonialism and slavery.

*QuadroPod: Seeds of Kenya* exudes an otherworldly presence, as though it has descended from the sky and is poised to take root. Composed of metal, fabric and paint, the sculpture incorporates replicas of conjoined Acacia seed pods that meet to form a double helix—symbolizing the structure of DNA. The Indigenous Maasai and Kikuyu are represented by seeds in the ceiling of the sculpture and a pot brandishing the flag of Kenya depicts a partially planted seed. The ladder, double helix, and Acacia tree—recurring motifs in Mohr's work—are united here, linking earth and sky, symbolizing life, and carrying genetic heritage into the future.

Mohr's monument draws inspiration from his 2023 residency at Tafari Castle in Kenya, where he created *Ladder of Acacia* and visits to his ancestral homelands. Although Kenya is not directly part of his heritage, he sought to visit the region that many anthropologists consider to be the birthplace of early humanity, to conduct research and develop work. On September 15, as part of Mohr's Meet the Artist program, visitors are invited to *Happy Planting Day*, a ceremony that includes drumming and dedicating messages to deceased African ancestors on greeting cards with African daisy seeds. Cards brought home from Kenya will be planted beneath *QuadroPod: Seeds of Kenya*, and the messages collected at Wave Hill will be planted as part of his next public sculpture in the series, continuing a cycle of cross-cultural exchange and proliferation.

Dario Mohr has had solo exhibitions at Jacob Javits Center as part of Nest Summit Climate Week, Old Stone House, Lewis Latimer House, NYC Bird Alliance on Governor's Island, Flux Factory and Materials for the Arts, all in New York, NY. He has participated in residencies, awarded through apexart, The Bronx Museum AIM Fellowship and ArtBridge, among others. Mohr is also an educator and the founder and director of Ankhlave Arts Alliance, a non-profit organization dedicated to the recognition and representation of BIPOC artists. He earned a BFA in painting from Buffalo State College, an MFA in studio art from The City College of New York and an Advanced Certificate in art education from Queens College.

**PUBLIC PROGRAM:** Meet the Artists: Sun, Sep 15, 11 AM, Dario Mohr; 12 PM, Jordany Genao; 1 PM, Soeun Bae. Fall Exhibitions Reception: Sun, Sep 29, 2:30 – 4:30 PM.

Organized by Curator of Visual Arts Rachel Raphaela Gugelberger, the Sunroom Project Space provides an opportunity for emerging artists in the New York City area to develop and present a site-specific project as a solo exhibition. The 2024 season features Tao Leigh Goffe, Katherine Sepúlveda, Roger Ferney-Cortés, Soeun Bae, Jordany Genao, Dario Mohr, and Stephanie Beck consecutively.

THE SUNROOM PROJECT SPACE IS SUPPORTED BY THE MILTON AND SALLY AVERY ARTS FOUNDATION; NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS; AND POLLOCK-KRASNER FOUNDATION. ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE ARTS PROGRAM IS PROVIDED BY THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS; NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR AND THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE; AND BY THE CATHY AND STEPHEN WEINROTH COMMISSIONING FUND FOR THE ARTS.



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