ARTS IN A CHANGING AMERICA

REMAP:

RICHMOND

APRIL 20 21 2017
Arts in a Changing America (ArtChangeUS) is a five year project based out of the California Institute of the Arts that seeks to explore and understand the dramatic demographic transformation of America and address pressing questions about the future: What is the meaning, in cultural terms, of the demographic shift? What is not on the institutional arts sector’s radar? How do we learn from different models of arts practice and organizing? ArtChangeUS will be exploring these questions through curated performances, discussions, and workshops, catalyzing new collaborative possibilities and bringing unheard voices and fresh thinking to both arts and cross-sector tables.

www.artsinachangingamerica.org
@ArtChangeUS
#REMAPRichmond #ArtChangeUS
AGENDA
Thursday, April 20, 2017

UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND DOWNTOWN
626 E Broad St # 100, Richmond, VA 23219

11:00 AM  REGISTRATION

12:00 PM  COMMUNITY LUNCH

12:50 PM  PERFORMANCE (live streamed)
Keith A. Wallace

1:05 PM   WELCOME (live streamed)
Carlton Turner  Executive Director, Alternate ROOTS
Roberta Uno  Director, Arts In A Changing America

1:20 PM   THE CALL (live streamed)
Tia Oso  National Organizer, Black Alliance For Justice Immigration (BAJI)
1:40 PM  THE RESPONSES (live streamed)
Kondwani Fidel  Poet and Musician
Sonia Guinansaca  Cultural Strategist and Organizer
Ashley Hunt  Artist and Activist
Tani Ikeda  Film Director
Kyle T. Mays  Historian
Paul Rucker  Visual Artist

2:35 PM  PERFORMANCE (live streamed)
Suheir Hammad

2:50 PM  MODERATED DISCUSSION (live streamed)

3:15 PM  BREAKOUT DISCUSSIONS

4:00 PM  CLOSING

7-10 PM  KICKOFF PARTY & GALLERY OPENING
(KickOff Party is free and open to the public.)
ART 180
114 W Marshall St, Richmond, VA 23220
Friday, April 21, 2017

Diversity Center
1407 Sherwood Ave, Richmond, VA 23220

11:00 AM  POLICY AND ADVOCACY
Kai Barrow  A Gallery of the Streets

11:30 AM  ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION
Moderator  Jess Solomon  Art as Praxis
Kai Barrow  A Gallery of the Streets
Danny Cendejas  ICE Out of RVA
Dustina Gill  Nis’to Incorporated
Trey Hartt  Art 180
Ash-Lee Woodard Henderson  Highlander Center

12:30 PM  COMMUNITY LUNCH
Saturday, April 22, 2017

The Hippodrome
528 N 2nd St, Richmond, VA 23219

7-10:00 PM  ROOTS LOUNGE LIVE (live streamed)
(Registration to ROOTS Weekend—Richmond required)
Truthworker Theatre Company
Climbing PoeTree
Teens With A Purpose
The Graduates
PARTICIPANTS

KAI BARROW
Artist and Organizer
Kai Lumumba Barrow (b. 1959, Chicago) is a visual and performance artist who lives and works in New Orleans. Barrow is concerned with notions of Black fugitivity and radical imagination. Her sprawling paintings, installations, and sculptures are formed in traditional and non-traditional spaces to transgress biological, ideological, and carceral borders. Comprised of archaeological and environmental construct. Barrow’s found object sculptural installations and ritualistic environments use materials such as dirt, moss, rocks, machines, coffee beans and chicken bones as a visual and ethnographic language. Together with her four muses: Absurdity, Sarcasm, Myth, and Merriment, the work performs queer, Black, feminist resistance.

KONDWANI FIDEL
Poet and Musician
Kondwani Fidel is a writer, speaker, and spoken word poet who holds a B.A. in English from Virginia State University. His work has been featured in Business Insider, Huffington Post, and elsewhere. He has been published in The Root and The Afro. He has lectured and shared poetry at countless universities, conferences, and literary events around the country. Fidel is the author of Raw Wounds. He is from, and currently lives in, Baltimore, Maryland.

DUSTINA GILL
Nis’to Incorporated
Dustina Gill, Sitomni Sa Yapi Win, Paints Red Around Her, hails from the Wahpekute band of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of South Dakota. A lifelong advocate of native youth, Dustina worked as the legislative aide for her tribe. After nine years of kicking open federal and state doors to expose injustices, demand treaty obligations be upheld and advocate for native youth she realized her efforts would be better spent as a non-profit focusing on native youth and young adults, Dustina established “Nis’to Incorporated” a native youth non-profit organization. Nis’to is a Dakota word that means, concern for others outside of ourselves.
SONIA GUINANSACA  @theSoniaG
Cultural Strategist and Organizer
Queer Migrant Poet, Cultural strategist and organizer. She has been named as 1 of 10 Up and Coming Latinx Poets You Need to Know by Remezcla, as well as one of 13 Coolest Queers on the Internet by Teen Vogue, and was recently announced as the 2017 Artist in Residency at NYU’s Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics. Guiñansaca, a VONA/Voices alumni, has performed at El Museo Del Barrio, The Nuyorican Poets Cafe, NY Poetry Festival, Galleria de La Raza, and featured on NBC, PBS, Latina Magazine, Pen American, and the Poetry Foundation to name a few. She has emerged as a national leader in the undocumented/migrant artistic and political communities. Guiñansaca co-founded and help build some of the largest undocumented organizations in the country, coordinating and participating in groundbreaking civil disobedience actions in the immigrant rights movement. She has also founded some of the first creative artistic projects by and for undocumented writers/artists. For more information: soniaguinansaca.com

TREY HARTT  @FROMTHEHARTT
Director of Art 180
Trey Hartt works at the intersection of art and activism. He received a BFA in Theatre Performance from VCU and in college began working with The Conciliation Project, a Richmond-based social justice theatre company that inspires dialogue on racism and oppression in order to repair its damaging legacy. Trey is the Board President for Alternate ROOTS, a regional organization supporting the creation and presentation of original art to eliminate all forms of oppression, and he currently serves as the Deputy Director of ART 180, helping to lead the juvenile justice project, Performing Statistics.

ASH LEE HENDERSON
Co-Executive Director of the Highlander Center
Ash-Lee Woodard Henderson is a 31 year old, Affrilachian (Black Appalachian), working class woman, born and raised in Southeast Tennessee. She has extensive experience with community organizing and is a former staff member of the Chicago SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee) History Project, and a past member of the United Students Against Sweatshops National Coordinating, Political Education and Collective Liberation Committees. Additionally, she is a long-time activist working around issues of mountaintop removal mining and environmental racism in central and southern Appalachia, and has served on the National Council of the Student Environmental Action Coalition. She is also an active participant in the Movement for Black Lives. Ash-Lee served as a Highlander Research and Education Center board member from 2012 until becoming the Co-Executive Director in 2017. Ash-Lee comes to Highlander from Project South, where she served as a regional organizer and member. She is an active participant on the governance council of the Southern Movement Assembly, and organizer with Concerned Citizens for Justice (Chattanooga, TN).
ASHLEY HUNT
Artist and Activist
Ashley Hunt uses image, object, word and body to engage the ideas of social movements, the writing of history, and the building of new emancipatory spaces. His primary subject has been the U.S. prison system, the aesthetics and language that conceal its politics of race, class, capitalism and power. His current work, Degrees of Visibility, is a growing body of photo and text pieces that examine how prisons, jails and detention centers hide within the landscape, shot across all 50 US states and territories. Ashley lives in Los Angeles, where he directs the Photo and Media Program at CalArts.

DANNY CENDEJAS
ICE Out of RVA
Danny Cendejas is currently an organizer with ICE Out of Richmond. This group was created as an organized community response to the raids, deportations, abuses and criminalization against our community. ICE Out of Richmond is comprised of individuals from different nationalities, race, socio-economic status, religion, sexual orientation and life styles, that have come together to say NOT ONE MORE! ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) Out of Richmond wants local police, schools, and governamental agencies to not collaborate with ICE.

TANI IKEDA  @TANIAPPLESEED
Film Director
Tani Ikeda is an Emmy-nominated director who creates narratives, documentaries, music videos, and commercial films. She was recently selected as one of Film Independent’s 33 Emerging Filmmakers as a Project: Involve Directors Fellow. Tani has directed films in Uganda, India, China and the US. Her work has been recognized in The Hollywood Reporter, Teen Vogue, and Cosmopolitan magazine, and has screened internationally at festivals around the world including the Sundance Film Festival. She is currently executive producing and directing a 6 part docuseries about Black Lives Matter with Pulse Films. At the age of 21, Tani Ikeda co-founded imMEDIAtE Justice, a summer workshop and community outreach program for girls devoted to revolutionizing sex education through filmmaking. She is the current executive director of imMEDIAtE Justice and was named one of the “25 Visionaries Who are Changing Your World,” by the Utne Reader. ImMEDIAtE Justice has received national attention on CNN, NBC, and Univision. Ikeda tours the country speaking at universities and national conferences about her feminist filmmaking. Tani holds a Bachelors Degree in Film Production from the University of Southern California and currently resides in Los Angeles.
**KYLE T. MAYS  @MAYS_KYLE**  
**Historian**

Kyle T. Mays is an historian of modern US, Afro-Indigenous, and Indigenous studies, with a particular focus on how various actors construct indigeneity and other social meanings in modern US cities. During his time as a postdoctoral fellow, he will be working to transform his dissertation into a book. A cultural and social history, the book will tentatively analyze how indigeneity functioned in Detroit’s modern development. An idea central to the project is that we cannot comprehend the development of modern US cities without also understanding how indigeneity was central to their development. Dr. Mays also has an interest in contemporary popular culture, especially how Native artists construct indigeneity within Hip Hop.

**ANSHANTIA ‘TIA’ OSO  @Tia_Oso**  
**National Organizer, Black Alliance For Justice Immigration (BAJI)**

Tia Oso is BAJI’s National Organizer. In her role, Tia coordinates BAJI’s flagship project, the Black Immigration Network (BIN), a national network of over 40 organizations, along with academics, activists and faith leaders in communities serving African-Americans and Black Immigrants from Africa and the Caribbean, where they are building relationships, developing skills and advancing an agenda for immigrant rights and racial justice. Mobilizing thousands of advocates for various issues in the public interest, Ms. Oso is a dynamic social justice leader, organizing campaigns such as “PHX For Trayvon” and African and Black student Diaspora Dialogues with the Lost Boys of Sudan. An experienced community engagement professional specializing in social change initiatives, Ms. Oso is a firm believer in the ability of everyday people to become change-makers in their communities.

**PAUL RUCKER  @BLACKCELLIST**  
**Visual Artist**

Paul Rucker is a visual artist, composer, and musician who often combines media, integrating live performance, sound, original compositions, and visual art. His work is the product of a rich interactive process, through which he investigates community impacts, human rights issues, historical research, and basic human emotions surrounding particular subject matter. Much of his current work focuses on the Prison Industrial Complex and the many issues accompanying incarceration in its relationship to slavery. He has presented performances and visual art exhibitions across the country and has collaborated with educational institutions to address the issue of mass incarceration.
CARLTON TURNER  @solsta999
Executive Director, Alternate ROOTS
Carlton Turner is the executive director of Alternate ROOTS, a regional nonprofit arts organization based in the South. He has been a member of Alternate ROOTS since 2001 and has served on the organization's board as a regional representative and officer, and on staff as regional development director. He is also a co-founder and co-artistic director of M.U.G.A.B.E.E. (Men Under Guidance Action Before Early Extinction), a performing arts group that blends jazz, hip-hop, spoken word poetry, and soul music with nontraditional storytelling. Throughout his career, he has been a lead convener with Voices from the Cultural Battlefront Organizing for Cultural Equity. Carlton was named to the Kennedy Center Honors Artist Advisory Board in 2013.

JESS SOLOMON  @JESSSOLOMON
Cultural Strategist, Art as Praxis
Jess Solomon is a practitioner, cultural worker, and facilitator based in Baltimore, MD. As the Principal at Art in Praxis, an organizational development firm, she's often working nationally; experimenting with the ways art and culture can shift how people and organizations feel, participate in, and respond to social change. Jess has a strong commitment to arts, culture, and equity as essential tools in place-based strategies. She is a proud member of Alternate ROOTS.
PERFORMERS

KEITH A. WALLACE  
@Actorvist_Keith

*Playwright, Actor, and Activist*

Keith A. Wallace is a self-proclaimed 'actorvist.' As an actor he has appeared in JUNK: The Golden Age of Debt, Blueprints to Freedom, Movers + Shakers, Death of a Driver, Venus, In the Crowding Darkness, and more. Select directing credits include The Last Days of Judas Iscariot and The Brothers Size (Theatre Bay Area Award for Outstanding Production). His La Jolla Playhouse commissioned solo play, The Bitter Game, had a workshop premiere in the International WOW Festival in October 2015 and was restaged as a part of the 2016 La Jolla Playhouse season. Since, Keith has toured the show nationally at 2017 Under The Radar Festival at The Public Theater, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, The Skirball Cultural Center LA, among others. Keith’s writing credits have earned him semi-finalist status in the 2016 Sundance Theater Lab, the Eugene O’Neill Playwrights Conference, Powerhouse Theater Playwrights Fellowship and the New Dramatist Van Lier Playwrights Fellowship. Keith is also a recipient of the 2016 Princess Grace Theater Award and a San Diego Critics Award nominee for Outstanding Solo Performance. Education: MFA in Acting, UC San Diego, BA in Drama, Morehouse College.

SUHEIR HAMMAD  
@YosuheirHammad

*Poet, Author, and Activist*

Suheir Hammad is an American poet, author and political activist. She was born in Amman, Jordan. Her parents were Palestinian refugees who immigrated along with their daughter to Brooklyn, New York City when she was five years old. She is the author of "breaking poems," as well as "ZaatarDiva," "Born Palestinian, Born Black," and "Drops of This Story." Her award-winning work has appeared in numerous anthologies and journals. She was an original writer and performer in the Tony Award-winning Russell Simmons Presents Def Poetry Jam on Broadway. Hammad appears in the 2008 Cannes Film Festival Official Selection, Salt of This Sea, and has read her work throughout the world on stage, radio, and screen.
TRUTHWORKER THEATRE COMPANY
PERFORMANCE ARTISTS/ACTIVISTS
Truthworker Theatre Company is a social justice based, hip-hop theatre company for high school and college-aged youth in Brooklyn, NY. Providing youth leadership programming, stipends, and rigorous artistic training, Truthworker raises awareness and catalyzes action for racial, gender, and economic justice. A dozen young visionaries directly impacted by mass incarceration write and perform original productions that interrogate the prison industrial complex, challenge systems of oppression, invite healing dialogue, and foster artistic interventions, inspiring solutions for collective liberation. Weaving rhyme, multimedia, dance, and testimony, their performances, youth-led talk-backs, and workshops open dialogue with diverse audiences on the need for criminal justice transformation.

CLIMBING POETREE  @ClimbingPoeTREE
CULTURAL ARCHITECTS
Climbing PoeTree has infused our movements for justice with award-winning multimedia hip-hop theater, dual-voice spoken word, world music and grassroots organizing. They have toured internationally through South Africa, Cuba, the UK, Mexico, India, Scotland, and throughout the U.S. including 11,000 miles toured on a bus converted to run on recycled vegetable oil. They’ve presented at diverse venues from the United Nations to Harvard University, and have been featured alongside visionaries such as Alice Walker, Alicia Keys, Cornel West, and Angela Davis, who remarked, “Each time I have the pleasure of attending a performance by Climbing PoeTree, I feel enriched, renewed, and inspired.”
ROBERTA UNO

Director

Roberta Uno is a theater director and the Director of Arts in a Changing America, a national project on changing demographics and the arts based at the California Institute of the Arts. She was the Program Officer and then Senior Program Officer for Arts and Culture at the Ford Foundation 2002-2015. From 1979-2002, she was the founder and Artistic Director of the New WORLD Theater, at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and a Professor of directing and dramaturgy. New WORLD Theater worked at the intersection of artistic practice, community engagement, scholarship, and activism toward a vision of a ’new world’—one that broke the confines of multiculturalism and was an artistic harbinger of America’s shifting demographics. A member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, she is currently collaborating on new works with artists including Dahlak Brathwaite and Dionna Daniel. Her publications include The Color Of Theater: Race, Culture, and Contemporary Performance, UK: Continuum Press, 2002; Unbroken Thread: Plays by Asian American Women, Amherst: UMass Press, 1993. She is the editor of new editions in 2015 of Monologues for Actors of Color: Women and Monologues for Actors of Color: Men, UK: Routledge and the forthcoming Contemporary Plays By Women of Color, UK: Routledge.

KAPENA ALAPAI

Project and Development Coordinator

Originally from Pu‘uanahulu Hawai‘i, he graduated from Ka Haka ʻUla O Keʻelikolani Hawaiian Language College at University of Hawaiʻi at Hilo and holds a Master’s degree in Arts and Cultural Management from Pratt Institute. He is a graphic artist, arts administrator, and cultural practitioner whose passions have always been centered around Art and Hawaiian Studies. With a background in arts and culture education, he is always looking for ways to connect these two fields. He works with passion, dedication, and an open mind to new possibilities that a strong collaboration can bring.
KASSANDRA KHALIL
Program Coordinator
Concentrating on Caribbean Communities and the culture of resistance while at NYU’s Gallatin School of Individualized Study, Kassandra channeled this interest into organizing arts programming for the Haitian community. She served as Program Coordinator at Brooklyn-based nonprofit Haiti Cultural Exchange from 2012-2014 and currently works at FiveMyles Gallery as a Media Consultant. Her interests in cultural programming focus on visual arts engagement, cross-cultural, and cross-generational connection building. As an artist, her work follows her Haitian cultural identity while evoking a humorous perspective of life in New York. Raised in Tampa, Florida, Kassandra now lives in Crown Heights, Brooklyn.

DANIELA ALVAREZ
REFRAME Content Curator
Daniela Alvarez received her BA in The History and Theory of Contemporary Art from San Francisco Art Institute and is completing her thesis for her Master’s Degree from the Aesthetics and Politics Master’s Program at CalArts. Her research focuses on performance art and the use of an artist’s body to resist and challenge political and social constructs. Her activities include the staging of public interventions, program production in a pirate radio station, and baking. A native of Los Angeles, Daniela is also an alumni and program representative for the LAUSD Korean/English Dual Language Program that promotes early bilingual education in public schools.

ELIZABETH WEBB
Creative Producer
Elizabeth Webb is the Creative Producer for Arts in a Changing America. An artist and filmmaker, her work is invested in issues surrounding race and identity, often using the lens of her own family history of migration and racial passing to explore larger, systemic constructs. She recently completed a hybrid documentary film that traces the production and construction of racial identities within a family (her own) where members operate on both sides of the “color line.” Elizabeth holds a BA from the University of Virginia and a dual MFA in Film/Video and Photography/Media at California Institute of the Arts. She currently resides in New York and is participating in the Whitney Independent Study Studio Program for the 2016-2017 term.
FREDERICK DOUGLAS RAMSEY JR.
CalArts, Performing Arts Fellow
A native of Baltimore, Maryland, Frederick Douglas Ramsey Jr. attended Frostburg State University where he received his degree in Liberal Studies focused in Sociology and African American History with a minor in Theatre (Acting). Before entering the MFA program in Acting at CalArts, Fred worked in the Pittsburgh Public School system as an educator. There he taught African American History, served as Strength and Conditioning Coach for all athletic teams, and Assistant Basketball Coach. Frederick is dedicated to empowering youth and serving his community through public service along with the utilization of his artistic gifts.

RATRI ANINDYAJATI
CalArts, Producing Fellow
Ratri AnindyaJati is a creative producer and cultural manager from Jakarta, Indonesia, and currently based in Los Angeles. Her background of work included supervising the producing department at the Indonesian Dance Festival (IDF-Jakarta’s biannual international performing arts festival), and leading organizational involvements with the Salihara Theater, a multidisciplinary arts center in Jakarta. Ratri holds a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science and is currently a candidate of MFA in Creative Producing at the California Institute of the Arts. Her main interest is to lead, produce and engage in local and international collaboration as well as multilateral cultural exchange and cooperation for arts and culture projects of sustaining significance.

ABIGAIL SALLING
CalArts, Arts Management Fellow
Originally from Sonoma County, California, Abigail Salling is a BFA in the Creative Producing and Management program at California Institute of the Arts. At CalArts, she is the Chief of Staff of the Students’ Union, sits on Academic Council as a student representative with faculty, and serves as the only student representative on the Presidential Search Committee. She hopes to go into arts policy after graduation.

JAZMIN URREA
CalArts, Media Production Fellow
Raised in Compton for 9 years of her life before residing in Watts, Jazmin Urrea attended CSU Long Beach where she obtained a BFA in Photography with a Minor in Human Resources. Urrea’s work is known for having “her face on everything,” because she turns the camera on herself. Her images are not self-portraits; rather she uses herself as a vessel to challenge cultural pressures Latina women face. These events illuminate themes of identity, race, and gender through the use of exaggerated stereotypes in her work. Urrea is currently working in Los Angeles and pursuing her MFA in Photography and Media at CalArts.
SPECIAL THANKS TO

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR RICHMOND COLLABORATORS:
ART 180, ALTERNATE ROOTS, CARLTON TURNER,
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