As we continue to virtually connect with one another, it is important we practice an active presence. Rather than succumbing to oppressive forces, let us check in with ourselves and our communities, dialogue with truth about what we witness daily from our perspectives, and collectively begin to create a new supportive and nurturing world, a shared future on this planet we call home.

The pandemic exposed deep inequities in our system, unraveling the ways individualism is not sustainable. As a society we’re interdependent, developing partnerships and support systems similar to trees in a forest. Nature rewards cooperation. For this reason, it’s important now more than ever to recognize the benefits of a holistic community and one’s role within it. At 18th Street, we believe the arts can be equity in practice. Through the language of visual, sonic, and tactile symbols, artists can increase the understanding and engagement of what can be at times difficult conversations and subjects. This year, 18th Street artists take on the theme of Recovery Justice: Reimagining the City, which invites our artistic community to envision the our city through the perspective of the arts.

As a creative place-keeping strategy, we are celebrating and utilizing the cultural assets that are already present in our neighborhood. The Recovery Justice: Being Well series of artists’ projects facilitated by Sara Daleiden will highlight artist-led projects that imagine Santa Monica and beyond, Cog-nate Collective’s Market Exchange will have our community vendors imagine and materialize a sustainable marketplace for and by residents, Beatriz Cortez, Kang Seung Lee and Andy Campbell will reflect on the various historical legacies and speculative futures [as well as the vicissitudes of plant care] at play in Cortez and Seung Lee’s Becoming Atmosphere, Susan Suntree’s Sacred Sites Audio Theater will reflect on the riches of both Native knowledge and Western scientific thought. Finally, we will celebrate the life and legacy of Kate Johnson, a hyphenate artist whose 27 year-long full-time career as a professional media artist will be celebrated on the one-year anniversary of her passing.

-Jeny Amaya
Associate Director of Communications and Outreach
VISITING ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE
January - March 2021

WANG SHUI | OCTOBER 1, 2020 - JANUARY 31, 2021
Wang Shui is a New York-based artist & filmmaker that has exhibited and screened work internationally at venues including New York Film Festival, SculptureCenter, The Shed, JULIA STOSCHEK COLLECTION, International Film Festival Rotterdam, EMPAC, Triple Canopy, Images Festival, The Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive, & The Jim Thompson Art Center (Bangkok).
Learn more here.

SARA DALEIDEN | 2020-2021
Sara Daleiden facilitates civic engagement within developing landscapes, exercising arts and cultural exchange strategies. With bases in Los Angeles and Milwaukee through her initiative MKEx-LAX, she encourages local cultures to value neighborhoods, public space, civic art, entrepreneurship and racial and gender equity. Her durational engagement with 18th Street, which includes collaborations with arts workers Nicola Goode, Susannah Laramee Kidd, Dorit Cypius and Kimberli Meyer, has materialized into Recovery Justice: Being Well, an exhibition that will open this Spring.
Learn more here.

SULTAN SHARRIEF | MAY 1, 2020 - JANUARY 31, 2021
Sultan Sharrief is a trans-media activist, filmmaker, educator and social entrepreneur. His interest lies at the intersection of art, business, and community impact. His directorial debut "Bilal's Stand" premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and he has produced four other feature films.
Learn more here.

ALEXANDMUSHI | MARCH 1-31, 2021
ALEXANDMUSHI is a collaboration between Alex Nichols and Mushi Woosong James. They are conceptual artists based in San Francisco examining humanity's central theme: connection. Their work is a testing ground where projects become entry points into the boundaries of ourselves to see the ways in which two people can forge a connection.
Learn more here.

KATHLEEN HENDERSON | JANUARY 1 - 31, 2021
Kathleen Henderson is an artist living and working in California. Her drawings and sculptures have been the subject of numerous solo shows in New York, San Francisco, and Los Angeles, which includes her solo show Watch Me Make You Disappear at Track 16 Gallery, reviewed by Los Angeles Times here.
Learn more here.

COGNATE COLLECTIVE | SEPTEMBER 2020 - JUNE 2021
Cog•nate Collective’s practice seeks to document and theorize markets as important nodes of exchange, facilitating – especially within immigrant, working-class communities – social, cultural and economic transactions that articulate individual and collective relationships to the communities we call home. For their residency and project with 18th Street Arts Center titled Market Exchange, Cog•nate Collective will invite community artisans to undertake a process of envisioning and realizing the role/function of a popular/community-led marketplace in Santa Monica.
Learn more here.

PAUL CORNISH | MAKE JAZZ RESIDENCY | FEBRUARY 1-APRIL 30, 2021
Los Angeles based pianist Paul Cornish is 18th Street Arts Center’s ninth Make Jazz Fellow. Besides being a gifted pianist and composer, Cornish is a dedicated jazz educator and enjoys teaching students of all levels and presenting jazz workshops around the world.
Learn more here.
Exhibition Closing Event
Beatriz Cortez, Kang Seung Lee, and Andy Campbell
Thursday February 4, 2021 | 5 PM
Online | Zoom

Inspired by the future perfect tense, art historian and critic Andy Campbell will reflect on the various historical legacies and speculative futures (as well as the vicissitudes of plant care) at play in Beatriz Cortez and Kang Seung Lee’s Becoming Atmosphere. Both scripted and improvised, this semi-collaborative talk is devised as a companion to the exhibition, and is inspired by the difficulties and pleasures of finding common cause. Q+A to follow.

Register Here.
360 Virtual Tour of their exhibition here.
Join 18th Street Arts Center artist in residence Susan Suntree for an online launch party of Suntree’s Sacred Sites Audio Theater project. This is an audio production of Suntree’s best-selling, award winning book *Sacred Sites: The Secret History of Southern California* (Univ. of Nebraska Press). Audio clips from the Theater Project will be presented, including an audio-visual portrait of the Los Angeles River and the Ballona Wetlands read by Susan Suntree; and an audio clip from Book Two (Indigenous Myths and Songs) read by Native American actor, Kalani Queypo (Blackfeet, Native Hawaiian). The following discussion and Q&A will focus on the process of creating the Audio Theater project, including a panel with Tom Keegan (Director), Tom Zehnder (Composer), and Gopika Sharma (Producer).

Register Here.
EVERYONE WAS INVITED:
THE HYPHENATE ART AND LIFE OF KATE JOHNSON

Presented by 18th Street Arts Center
March 20, 2021
Online I Zoom

Kate Johnson (1969–2020) was a hyphenate artist. At the start of spring on March 20, 2021, for the one-year anniversary of her passing, an online experience of performances, memories and interaction will awaken recognition of the multiplicity of Johnson’s achievements in her 50 years. An artist trained in performance, with a 27 year-long full-time career as a professional media artist. An Emmy-award winning documentary filmmaker. A large-scale site-specific projection artist, creating enormous imagery on such iconic LA landmarks as LA’s City Hall. She was the host of 20 years of in person experiences, she loved to stage parties, melding together the salon with the need for mutual understanding. Everyone was invited. She was, at her core, a uniquely 21st century arts-based practitioner.

Featuring performances by Barbara T. Smith, S. Pearl Sharp, Kate Crash, and Mike Garson, in addition to artwork and films by many of Johnson’s community of collaborators and friends. Technical production by Winn Schwartau. Event conceived and produced by Futurizing Art.

Register Here.

“Core” Transformation of West Hollywood Park into site-specific video installation including aerial balloon projection, for EZTV 35th Anniversary (2014)
ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND STUDIO VISITS

18th Street is excited to continue and expand our Studio Visit and Professional Development programs for our artists in residence. This last year we welcomed Dorit Cypis, Mario Ybarra Jr., Karta Diaz, Max Presneill (Torrance Art Museum), Asha Bukojemsy (Marathon Pictures), Anthony Graham (MCASD), Tina Rivers Ryan (Albright-Knox Art Gallery) and many more.

This quarter we are excited to have Shoghig Halajian, Nick Barlow (Hammer Museum), Melinda Guillen, and Virginia Broersma (The Artist’s Office) join us for Virtual Studio Visits and Professional Development workshops.

To be an artist in residence at 18th Street Arts Center, apply here.

BORDERLESS

For our first BORDERLESS program in late March, join Mella Jaarsma as she virtually guides us through Yogyakarta’s art community through a short film and Q&A discussions with curators and artists from the region. This virtual program is exclusive to BORDERLESS members only. There’s still time to join! Be a part of our community and this exciting new global program and [donate here](#)!
EXHIBITIONS ON VIEW
ENJOY CURRENT AND PAST EXHIBITIONS AT THIS LINK.

*Though we are currently closed to the public, all of the exhibitions currently open are available to experience online. We hope to reopen in Spring to public appointments when it is safe to do so.

October 26, 2020 - February 5, 2021
Beatriz Cortez & Kang Seung Lee
Becoming Atmosphere
Airport Gallery

March 8, 2021 - July 16, 2021
Recovery Justice: Being Well
Projects by 18th Street artists facilitated by Sara Daleiden and Nicola Goode
North, South, Outdoor Galleries

March 29, 2021 - July 2, 2021
Elana Mann
Year of Wonders, redux
Airport Gallery

January 20, 2021 - June 18, 2021
Symbolic Consciousness
Group exhibition curated by Emma Skinner
18th Street Arts Center (Airport Campus)

July 27, 2020 - June 30, 2021
Facing Darkness
Group exhibition
Online show

VIRTUAL EVENTS

Thursday February 4
5 PM
Beatriz Cortez, Kang Seung Lee and Andy Campbell
...we will have been together.
Online | Zoom

Saturday, March 6
5 PM
Susan Suntree
Sacred Sites Audio Theater: Launch Event
Online | Zoom

Saturday, March 20
5 PM
EVERYONE WAS INVITED: The Hyphenate Art and Life of Kate Johnson Presented by 18th Street Arts Center
Online | Zoom