

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear RU Community and friends,

We hope this finds you safe and well during these unprecedented times!

Our international residents have returned home safely, and we are working closely with partners and supporters to reschedule postponed international residencies. Like many, RU is currently working remotely and we are moving content and programming online. Please stay tuned! Visit our website and follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter for opportunities, community news, recommendations and more.

Warmly, The RU Team

### **RU Announces 2020 NYC Artists**

In the spirit of hope and optimism, RU is excited to announce the four artists participating in the 2020 NYC Artist Residency Program: Elizabeth Moran, Carlos Rosales-Silva, Christopher Udemezue, and Ziyang Wu. The artists were selected based not only on the caliber of their work, but on the rigor of their engagement with lesser known historical narratives. Their respective practices take on historiography, knowledge making, socioeconomic structures, and the digitization of contemporary society, representing a range of diverse communities traditionally underrepresented in the arts. Scheduled for April 13 - July 12, with a culminating group exhibition the final week of June, the residency will be amended as necessary to adapt to changing circumstances due to the COVID-19



Clockwise from top left: Elizabeth Moran, Carlos Rosales-Silva, Ziyang Wu and Christopher Udemezue.

Please join us in welcoming Elizabeth, Carlos, Christopher and Ziyang! RU is looking forward to working with the 2020 cohort of NYC artists, learning from them and sharing their practices and work with you.

Guided by a preoccupation with the subjectivity of facts, **Elizabeth Moran**'s research-based practice examines the reliability of information. In her multi-year project, *Against the Best Possible Sources*, Moran examines the earliest history of the first professional fact-checkers, a role invented in 1922 by *TIME*, then a fledgling magazine, and held exclusively by women until 1971.

For **Carlos Rosales-Silva**, abstraction serves as a tool for navigating Brownness, in particular the tension between cultural preservation and assimilation. Refusing to cede painting to Eurocentric modes of abstraction, Rosales-Silva's practice considers the political and cultural connections and disparities between the various vernacular cultures of the West.

Christopher Udemezue's practice is informed in large part by his Jamaican heritage and the complexities of human desire for connection. As the founder of the collective RAGGA NYC - a platform that connects a growing network of queer Caribbean artists and allies working across a wide range of disciplines - his personal work is fueled by storytelling that explores family in a broader sense and how race, sexuality, gender, heritage, and history shape both work and life.

**Ziyang Wu** examines how the virtual world, data, and algorithms ubiquitously "micro-alienate" and reconstruct human interaction. His work draws from contemporary technology, digital power structures and popular culture as well as the dynamics between identity and community and the alienation of both body and spirit. As an Experiments on Art and Technology track member at NEW INC - the New Museum's art and technology incubator - he is currently collaborating with computer engineers at Bell Labs to train an unbiased facial recognition program for interaction.

The panel for the 2020 NYC Artist Residency consisted of **Natasha Becker**, independent curator, writer, and co-founder of Assembly Room - an art gallery and curatorial program on the Lower East Side that is dedicated to supporting women in the arts; **Ilk Yasha**, arts administrator, multidisciplinary facilitator, educator and Studio Museum Institute

Coordinator at The Studio Museum in Harlem; and **Rachel Gugelberger**, Residency Program Director and Curator of Programs at Residency Unlimited.

To learn more about the 2020 NYC Artist Residency artists and panelists, click HERE.

### **Food Futures Launches April 3**

Food Futures, RU's second annual thematic artist residency centered around the question of food resilience in urban environments, will launch online on April 3. The crisis affecting us offers a topical opportunity to find

creative ways to explore how to share food when the screen becomes the rallying point to practice social togetherness. Food Futures brings the power of seven creative minds together, presenting a diversity of perspectives and talent to address the urgency of the food challenges that we face. The artists participating in the three-month Food Futures residency program are: Lily Consuelo Saporta Tagiuri, Esra Durukan, Yoko Inoue, Siri Lee, Rosa Nussbaum, Andrew Vigil-Emerson, and Allie Wist.

# Takayuki Matsuo's solo exhibition now online

On Friday, March 6, during the bustling 2020 Armory Show week in NYC, we celebrated the opening of RU alumnus Takayuki Matsuo's solo exhibition *Modernology: Restoration* at Ace Hotel Gallery. In light of current events, the exhibition has moved online. Visit *Modernology: Restoration* HERE.

### **NEW RU Talks Podcast**

Tune into the RU Talks Podcast between resident artist Mashael Alsaie (Bahrain/NY) and Julia Hartmann (Austria) to hear how they are coping with working in isolation while in NYC, and about their practices, geographic trajectories, and individual experiences as women art practitioners from different backgrounds.

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