



For Immediate Release

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A Studio in the Woods Announces 2020-21 Rising Residents

NEW ORLEANS, LA - A Studio in the Woods is pleased to announce the 2020-2021 Rising: Climate in Crisis Residents. These residencies invite artists to examine the severity of the climate crisis and be agents of change to guide our collective understanding, response, and vision as we shape our shared future. In light of COVID-19 Rising Residents will be scheduled over the next 18 months to allow for single-occupancy of all resident spaces.

Claire Alexandre (NC) will create a series of mixed-media, painted portraits of people of color at the community forefront of New Orleans' climate change adaptation actions. The six portraits will be symbolic of modern academic research paper paragraphs (introduction, hypothesis, methods, results, discussion and conclusion) as a way to criticize the rigid exclusivity of institutional research methodology and empower people whose existence within these frameworks has been reduced to data. [Claire Alexandre](#) is an intersectional artist and storyteller who weaves autobiographical reflections with ancestral knowledge while exploring larger themes of environmental, gender and racial justice.

Sidiki Conde (NY) will use his residency to immerse himself in the culture, nature and music of the region and compose a series of songs about the rising crisis of climate change. Within the New Orleans community, he will host a series of traditional African music and dance workshops with both children and adults. [Sidiki Conde's](#) music derives from the traditional rhythms of Guinea, his homeland. His music brought him to America in 1998 and in 2007 he was awarded the National Heritage Fellowship, Lifetime Honors from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Lisa E. Harris' (TX) residency will support the regional development of an international research project, *ONSHORE TRILLING: What to Do When the Earth Sings the Bruise*. This multi-year project will be based on the life cycle of an oil and gas field and informed by the environmental practices of women-led communities near productive drilling communities around the world. [Lisa E. Harris](#) is an independent and interdisciplinary artist, creative soprano, performer, composer, improviser, filmmaker, writer, singer/songwriter, researcher and educator.

LaChaun Moore (SC) will create an agriculturally-based installation, titled *Heirloom*, utilizing heirloom plants as a catalyst to talk about the historical context of the natural environment and how that differs from ancestral and familial ties. [LaChaun Moore](#) is an interdisciplinary artist who engages the public with her ethnographic fiber making and research practice, focusing on plant species that are linked specifically to Black and Indigenous farmers who have been systematically exploited for their agricultural ingenuity.

Lydia Y. Nichols (LA) will continue work on a speculative dark comedy stage play titled *Don't Look Away*, set at the turn of the 22nd century in a post-reparations Gulf South, following a climate event that results in the disappearance of New Orleans. [Lydia Y. Nichols](#) is a writer native to New Orleans. Her work considers the lived experience and historical imaginary of race and the ways in which they impact our ecology as expressed in vernacular culture, the arts, and social justice movements.

J.M. Nimocks (IL), madame joy ma, will produce a public radio show that illuminates the work of QTBIPOC healers/organizers of southern Louisiana who work with the earth. They will also organize a kiki ball centered around the theme of QTBIPOC cultural preservation as related to physical environment and queer apothecaries. [madame joy ma](#) is an anti-disciplinary artist and scholar from Sunflower, Mississippi who is most concerned with building utopias for Black, trans, gender variant, disabled communities across the globe through installation art, performance, scholarship, and sounds.

Andrina Turenne (Canada) will use her residency to explore Indigenous and local perspectives on water, language and land through music past and present as it relates to climate and landscape. In doing research, exploring geographic and cultural through lines, and speaking with people on the land, her goal is to produce recordings and performances of music and stories related to these themes. [Andrina Turenne](#) is a bilingual singer, songwriter, and musician from Winnipeg, Manitoba. She grew up along the banks of the Red River in the historic Francophone-Métis settlement of Saint-Boniface and is a proud member of the Métis Nation.

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About A Studio in The Woods:

A Studio in the Woods, a program of Tulane University's ByWater Institute, is one of the leading artistic and academic residency programs in the Gulf South region. The Studio fosters creative responses to the challenges of our time by providing retreat to artists, scholars, and the public in our protected forest on the Mississippi River. We focus on interrelated areas of programming, including residencies for artists and scholars, forest restoration, and science-inspired art engagement for children and adults. For more information visit: www.astudiointhewoods.org.