

**Joan Mitchell Foundation Announces New Group of Artists
For Its Residency Program at the Joan Mitchell Center in New Orleans**

Foundation Will Also Launch Open Call for 2021 Residency Spaces on October 20, 2020

NEW YORK, NY—October 9, 2020—The Joan Mitchell Foundation today announced that it has selected seven artists to join the Artist-in-Residence program at its Joan Mitchell Center in New Orleans. The group, which includes local artists Jourdan Barnes, kai barrow, Kara Crowley, Demond Melancon, Anastasia Pelias, Asante Salaam, and José Torres-Tama, will begin residency at the Center on October 19. The artists were nominated by local arts professionals with a particular eye toward those with substantive artistic portfolios and either an expressed need for studio space for specific projects or a loss of opportunity as a result of the ongoing spread of COVID-19. As part of the program, the artists will receive individual studio space for up to four months, a weekly stipend of \$150, chef-prepared box lunches throughout the week, and virtual professional development in the form of training, consultations, and group discussions with peers and leaders across the field.

In August, in response to the ongoing pandemic, the Foundation announced that it was shifting its Artist-in-Residence program to focus exclusively on New Orleans-based artists for the remainder of 2020 and through 2021. The decision allows the Foundation to continue its commitment to support artists by offering essential resources, while also stemming the potential health risks of having artists travel to the Center's campus from across the U.S. The seven artists announced today join local artists Amanda Cassingham-Bardwell, AnnieLaurie Erickson, Cherice Harrison-Nelson, Daniela Leal, Deborah Luster, Kaori Maeyama, and Ruth Owens, who were previously announced as participating in the program and who began their residencies in September 2020. Since August, the Center has converted a number of the living spaces typically used by visiting artists into private studios, which will be utilized by the new group of arrivals. Artists living outside of New Orleans who were chosen for 2020 residencies will have their placements deferred until 2022.

To encourage a wide range of participation and draw a diverse spectrum of artists from the New Orleans community for its 2021 spring and fall seasons, the Foundation will launch an open call for applications on October 20. Applications will be reviewed and residency selections will be made by a jury of artists and arts professionals. Information about requirements will be available on the Foundation website at <https://www.joanmitchellfoundation.org/>.

The Joan Mitchell Center was established by the Foundation in 2015. The Artist-in-Residence program was created to provide artists with the essentials needed to advance their careers: space, time, financial support, and access to professional development resources. For participating artists, the residency often serves as a critical juncture in their career trajectories and provides opportunities to engage with peers in a city rich with artistic and cultural heritage. Since its inception, the Center has hosted more than 200 artists from New Orleans and across the United States.

About the Joan Mitchell Foundation

The Joan Mitchell Foundation expands awareness of abstract artist Joan Mitchell's life and pioneering work and fulfills her wish to support and provide opportunities for visual artists. Through its work, the Foundation affirms and amplifies artists' essential contributions to society.

As the chief steward of Joan Mitchell's legacy, the Foundation manages a collection of Mitchell's artwork and archives containing her personal papers, photographs, and ephemera. The Foundation provides loans of Mitchell artworks from its collection to museums, academic institutions, and other non-profit arts spaces. Foundation staff are dedicated to assisting researchers and sharing information about the Foundation's artwork and archival collections in order to further scholarship and broad appreciation for Mitchell's life and work. The Foundation is also supporting the Joan Mitchell Catalogue Raisonné, established in 2015, which is currently researching Mitchell's paintings in order to produce a scholarly, multi-volume book documenting all of the artist's known painted work.

Fulfilling Mitchell's mandate to "aid and assist" living artists, over the past 27 years the Foundation has evolved a range of initiatives that directly support visual artists at varying stages of their careers. The Foundation's grant programs include the annual Painters & Sculptors Grants, which provide 25 artists with unrestricted funds of \$25,000, and Emergency Grants for disaster recovery, currently committed for 2020 to the national Artist Relief initiative and Creative Response New Orleans, both responses to the COVID-19 crisis. The New Orleans-based Joan Mitchell Center traditionally hosts residencies for national and local artists, as well as artist talks, open studio events, and other public programs that encourage dialogue and exchange with the local community. The Creating a Living Legacy (CALL) initiative provides free and essential resources to help artists of all ages organize, document, and manage their artworks and careers. Together, these programs, along with additional professional support services, actively engage with working artists as they develop and expand their practices. For more information, visit joanmitchellfoundation.org.

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For more information, please contact:

Alina E. Sumajin

PAVE Communications & Consulting

alina@paveconsult.com / 646-369-2050