

**JOAN MITCHELL FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES PARTICIPANTS
FOR 2018 ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM AT ITS CENTER IN NEW ORLEANS**

**Program Includes Studio Space, Lodging, and Financial Support
For 28 Artists Throughout 2018**

New York, NY—February 8, 2018—The Joan Mitchell Foundation announced today the artists selected for its 2018 Artist-in-Residence program, which is hosted at the Foundation’s Joan Mitchell Center in New Orleans. Recipients include artists local to New Orleans, as well as national and international artists who have previously received grants from the Foundation. All of the artists are provided with private studio space at the Center, a stipend, and the opportunity to participate in communal dinners five nights a week. Artists coming from other parts of the U.S. are also given lodging at the Center’s two-acre campus in the historic Faubourg Tremé neighborhood, and an additional stipend for travel and shipping work. The Foundation launched the Artist-in-Residence program in 2013 as an extension of its grants programs, offering artists the essential benefits of time and space to experiment, create new work, and build their networks of fellow artists and arts professionals.

“Joan Mitchell often opened her doors to artists at her home in Vetheuil, France. The Artist-in-Residence program was born out of Joan’s spirit of generosity, and her enduring support of artists,” said Christa Blatchford, Chief Executive Officer of the Joan Mitchell Foundation. “In addition to offering artists time and space to develop their practices, the Center emphasizes community-building as an important aspect of fueling artistic endeavor. It’s a chance for artists to connect with each other and with the broader public in New Orleans, in ways that can have lasting impact on their work and careers.”

Residencies typically range from four weeks to five months in length, depending on artist needs, and begin seasonally throughout the year. Artists awarded residencies for 2018, organized by the season in which they will begin residency, include:

Laylah Ali, Williamstown, MA (Spring)

Nicole Awai, Brooklyn (Spring)

Louise Mouton Johnson, New Orleans (Spring)

Jessica Lagunas, Bronx (Spring)

James Luna, La Jolla Indian Reservation, Pauma Valley, CA (Spring)

Gina Phillips, New Orleans (Spring)

John W. Taylor, New Orleans (Spring)

Ashley Teamer, New Orleans (Spring)

John Isiah Walton, New Orleans (Spring)

Valerie Piraino, Esopus, NY (Summer)

Hannah Chalew, New Orleans (Fall)

Cecilia Fernandes, New Orleans (Fall)

Phlegm, New Orleans (Fall)

Heidi Lau, New York (Fall)

Natalie McLaurin, New Orleans (Fall)

Ralph Pugay, Portland, OR (Fall)

Bob Snead, New Orleans (Fall)

Cullen Washington Jr., New York (Fall)

Additionally, through the Alliance of Artists Communities, an international association of artists' residencies, the Center is collaborating with 3Arts, a Chicago-based nonprofit that supports and promotes underrepresented artists, to bring Chicago-based artist **Jo Cattell** and Los Angeles-based artist **David Leggett** to the Center for residency in Fall 2018.

“The City of New Orleans is home to an incredibly diverse array of creative individuals, and its rich history and culture provide fertile ground for experimentation, dialogue, and the exchange of ideas among people of vastly different walks of life. It is among the many reasons the Foundation chose to open the Center here. Embracing this community and fostering engagement that spans the local and national, the historic and contemporary is at the core of the Center’s residency program. We are always so inspired by the achievements of our resident artists, and the ways in which this city influences their work,” said Gia M. Hamilton, Director of the Joan Mitchell Center. “And we are particularly excited to welcome the 2018 residents, as we celebrate the city’s Tricentennial and recognize the incredible vibrancy of New Orleans’ artistic community.”

To provide awardees with the greatest level of flexibility and to accommodate individual needs, artists are able to defer their residencies, allowing them to take advantage of the opportunity when it best supports the ongoing development of their practices. As such, a number of artists who were awarded residencies in 2016 and 2017 will be participating as part of the 2018 cycle. Artists awarded in 2016 who will be in residence in 2018 include: **Gary Kachadourian**, Baltimore (Spring); **Tracey Snelling**, Berlin and Oakland, CA (Spring); and **Travis Somerville**, San Francisco (Spring). Artists awarded in 2017 who will be in residence in 2018, include: **Rema Ghuloum**, Los Angeles (Spring); **David Lozano**, Chicago (Spring); **Adriana Corral**, Texas (Fall); **Paul Rucker**, Baltimore, Seattle, and Richmond, VA (Fall); and **Vincent Valdez**, San Antonio (Fall).

As part of the program, artists-in-residence participate in a range of public programs organized by the Center, including open studios, artist talks, public forums, and networking events like Community Coffee, which take place monthly and invite artists, curators, arts administrators, and the public to connect. Public engagement is a vital component of the Center’s residency program, sparking creative exchange and encouraging relationship-building. Artists also have access to professional training and development support, including studio visits with local, national, and international curators and arts administrators.

Selection Process

There are three selection tracks for residencies at the Joan Mitchell Center. Artists based in New Orleans are chosen through a joint nomination and application process. Center leadership identify local nominators to recommend artists, who are then invited to apply. Applications are reviewed by an anonymous independent panel comprised of artists, curators, art historians, and leaders from a variety of arts organizations. Providing access to residencies for local artists is an important aspect of the Center’s mission, which was opened by the Foundation in 2010

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following years of financial support for the creative community in New Orleans after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. For the 2018 residency cycle, in conjunction with initiatives around New Orleans' Tricentennial, several additional spots were opened to local artists.

All previous recipients of Joan Mitchell Foundation grants, which include the Painters & Sculptors Grants, Emerging Artist Grants, and Emergency Grants, are also eligible to apply as well as those who have served as Artist-Teachers for the Foundation. Applications are likewise reviewed by an anonymous independent jury, which makes final selections. And each year, several residency spots are held for artists selected by partnering organizations, as part of the Center's efforts to reach and support a wide spectrum of artists.

About Joan Mitchell Foundation:

The Joan Mitchell Foundation increases recognition of the work and life of pioneering abstract painter Joan Mitchell. Grounded in Mitchell's desire to support the aspirations of visual artists, the Foundation engages individual artists through grant-making, programming, and collaborations.

In addition to the promotion and preservation of Joan Mitchell's legacy, the Foundation's activities are currently focused on three areas: grants; artist legacy support; and artist residencies. The Foundation's grant programs include Painters & Sculptors Grants, Emerging Artist Grants, and Emergency Grants, which provide support to artists whose work has been affected by natural or man-made disasters. The Foundation's Creating a Living Legacy (CALL) initiative provides support to artists in the areas of studio organization and inventory management, in order to help with the creation of comprehensive and usable documentation of their artworks and careers. The New Orleans-based Joan Mitchell Center offers artist residencies to national and local artists, and also offers public programs such as artist talks and open studio events that encourage dialogue and the active exchange of ideas. Together, all of these programs fulfill Joan Mitchell's goal of having a foundation that actively supports the needs of working artists, while amplifying the essential contributions artists make to the culturally diverse world in which we live.

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For more information, please contact:

Sascha Freudenheim / Alina Sumajin
PAVE Communications & Consulting
917-544-6057 / 646-369-2050
sascha@paveconsult.com / alina@paveconsult.com