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**Art in General Announces Exhibitions & Public Programs for 2017 Winter-Spring Season,
Including New Commissions by
Johannesburg-based Artist Dineo Seshee Bopape,
Artist Collective Postcommodity,
And New York Artists Juanli Carrion, Freya Powell, Among Others**

**Annual *What Now?* Symposium, Presented in Partnership with the Vera List Center,
To Explore the Politics of Land**

New York—December 15, 2016—Art in General today announced its exhibition and public programs schedule for winter-spring 2017. For this season, the Brooklyn-based nonprofit has commissioned artists and invited speakers whose work addresses broadly the politics of land, offering a range of dynamic perspectives on such important social issues as geographic identity, border relations, immigration, environmentalism, statelessness, and the relationship between gender and the land. Among the highlights are exhibitions of new work by Johannesburg-based artist Dineo Seshee Bopape, New Mexico and Arizona-based artist collective Postcommodity, performances by New York artist Juanli Carrion, and a film project by New York-based artist Freya Powell.

Art in General's overarching curatorial program is grounded in its New Commissions and International Collaborations initiatives, through which the 35-year old organization selects artists from the U.S. and abroad to develop and complete new works that might not otherwise be possible. In addition to commissioning new work, Art in General also offers a dynamic array of film screenings, talks, and workshops. Each April, in partnership with the Vera List Center, it hosts the *What Now?* symposium, which explores timely topics at the cross-section of art and current events, providing opportunity for in-depth discussion on themes and concepts explored through its curatorial program.

All exhibitions, performances, and events are presented at Art in General's gallery at 145 Plymouth Street in Brooklyn, unless otherwise noted.

WINTER – SPRING 2017:

Exhibitions:

**Dineo Seshee Bopape: *sa ____ ke lerole, (sa lerole ke ____)*
Through January 14, 2017**

For her new commission *sa ____ ke lerole, (sa lerole ke ____)* for Art in General, currently on view, South African artist Dineo Seshee Bopape created a series of large-scale, immersive installation using soil, clay, brass uterus forms, charcoal, flowers and ash. Curated by Anne Barlow, Art In General's Director, the project is Bopape's first solo exhibition in the United States. Bopape is known for a practice that combines a digital and analog aesthetic, as well as natural and synthetic elements such as plants, wood, mirrors, and

video monitors. The sePedi title of this work can be translated literally as *that which is of ___ is dust, (that which is of dust is ___)*. In this work, which is partly inspired by her recent presentation at the 32nd Bienal de São Paulo, Bopape explores the complex sets of relationships and tensions that arise when considering land from the varied perspectives of gender and maternity, history and the politics of place, memory and the metaphysics of self and presence.

Postcommodity: Coyotaje

March 24 – May 6, 2017

Postcommodity is a collective comprised of Indigenous artists Raven Chacon, Cristóbal Martinez, and Kade Twist. The artists will create an installation, commissioned by Art in General, that investigates the military and economic life of the US-Mexico borderlands. As part of the project, Postcommodity will engage the US Border Patrol to examine the role of decoys in offensive and defensive operations, and realize imaginative and possibly useful decoys specific to the Douglas/Agua Prieta landscape and the broader San Pedro River Valley region. For the exhibition, Postcommodity will present large-scale inflatable sculptures along with didactic material on their conversations and findings.

Performances and projects:

Juanli Carrion: *Zea*

February 1-11, 2017

In a new project commissioned by Art in General, New York-based artist Juanli Carrion will present a series of participatory workshops that explore culinary appropriation as a part of colonization. Part cooking class, performance, and artist talk, the workshops will examine individual and collective processes for the dissolution, alteration, and creation of identity, as cultural traditions, histories, and actions are appropriated and reinvented through a new lens. Narratives related to exclusion, domination, and separation, collected through Carrion's research, will be shared and explored as part of the events. Carrion will host four workshops during February 1-11 that are free and open to the public.

Freya Powell: *The Silence of the Unsaid*

February-March 2017 (Exact Date will be available in January)

Art in General will premiere Freya Powell's new video, *The Silence of the Unsaid*, which tells the story of a little-known military incident. In July 1970, the U.S. military launched a test missile from a base in Green River, Utah. The missile, which was carrying two containers of Colbalt-57, a radioactive material, lost control and crashed 400 miles off course in northern Mexico, in a desert area known locally as the "Zone of Silence." In March 2016, Powell traveled to the area to find out more about the event, the silence surrounding the cleanup, and the myth that has grown from it.

Events:

***What Now? The Politics of Listening* Book and Website Launch**

January 24-28, 2017 (Exact date is currently being finalized)

Art in General celebrates the publication of a book and launch of a website on the 2015 *What Now?* symposium, which explored the act of listening as a political act, a pedagogical process, and a protocol for engagement. The book, published by Black Dog Publishing in London, will include transcripts from talks given during the symposium and essays by Christoph Cox, Lauren van Haften-Schick, and Seeta Pena Gangadharan. The website will feature video documentation of the conference and a curated presentation of artists' sound projects. The event will include performances and opportunities to connect with artists and speakers that participated in the symposium.

Dispatch: Artist Talk on International Collaborations

March 2017 (Exact date will be available in January)

Four emerging New York-based artists will reflect on their experiences with Art in General's International Collaborations program, which allowed each of them to present their work in Eastern Europe. David Kennedy Cutler and Juntae TeeJay Hwang presented new work in partnership with the CCA Tallinn in Estonia during fall 2016, and Sara Magenheimer and Rachel Rossin are currently showing newly

commissioned projects at the *kim?* Contemporary Art Centre in Riga during December 2016-January 2017. All of the artists will discuss their creative processes, and how the cultural exchange has influenced their practices. The event is free and open to the public.

What Now? Symposium

April 28 – 29, 2017

The two-day event, which invites speakers from a diversity of fields and backgrounds, will for the 2017 edition explore present-day politics of land. Topics will range from discussions on identity as it relates to geography, immigration, and the refugee crisis, to border relations and notions of statelessness. The conference will also address environmental issues and public health concerns such as access to and preservation of natural resources and indigenous territories. Finally, gendered aspects of landscape and a renewed sense of consciousness about the earth will be explored by artists from around the world. Panels will be augmented by artist interventions. The symposium will be held at the Vera List Center for Art and Politics. A list of speakers and participants will be available on Art in General's website nearer the date. The events are free and open to the public.

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Art in General was founded in 1981 and supports the production of new work by local and international artists primarily through its New Commissions Program and its International Collaborations program. Art in General also produces an annual symposium *What Now?* on critical and timely issues in artistic and curatorial practice. In spring 2016, Art in General relocated to the DUMBO neighborhood in Brooklyn. Information for visiting the gallery is as follows:

Located: on the ground floor at 145 Plymouth Street, Dumbo, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Open: Tuesday-Saturday, 12-6pm

Admission: Free

General Support of Art in General is provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services; the New York State Council on the Arts with support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; the Toby D. Lewis Donor Advised Fund of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland; the Cowles Foundation, and by individuals. This program is also supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

The New Commissions Program is made possible by the Trust for Mutual Understanding; National Endowment for the Arts; Jerome Foundation; Ruth Ivor Foundation; and the Milton and Sally Avery Foundation. Support has also been provided by: Commissioners' Circle leaders Elaine Goldman, Jeffery Larsen and Joseph Bolduc; Commissioners' Circle supporters Richard Massey, and David Solo; and Commissioners' Circle members Nader Ansary, Rob Colangelo, Don Erenberg, Taymour Grahne, Roya Khadjavi-Heidari, Mary Lapidés, Leslie Ruff, Steve Shane, and Diana Wege.

The *What Now?* Symposium, and accompanying book series from 2015-2017, is generously supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (MA-10-14-0304-14).

For additional information, please contact:

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