

# WHITNEY

# PRESS RELEASE

Whitney Museum  
of American Art  
Press Office

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## ARTISTS ANNOUNCED FOR WHITNEY BIENNIAL 2026



**New York, NY, December 15, 2025** — The Whitney Museum of American Art announces that 56 artists, duos, and collectives will participate in *Whitney Biennial 2026*. Opening March 8, 2026, this is the 82nd edition of the Museum's landmark exhibition series, the longest-running survey of American art. A presentation of the most relevant art and ideas of our time, the artists featured in the Whitney Biennial showcase work across most of the Museum's gallery space as well as through a robust series of performance and public programs available at the Museum and online. Co-organized by two Whitney curators, Marcela Guerrero and Drew Sawyer, the Biennial presents the work of contemporary artists working across media and disciplines, representing evolving notions of American art.

"Rather than coming to our research for the Biennial with a preconceived container, Marcela and I let our conversations with artists guide us. After more than 300 visits, we found that many of the artists we gravitated toward were exploring various forms of relationality with a particular emphasis on infrastructures," said Drew Sawyer, the Whitney Museum's Sondra Gilman Curator of Photography. "In addition to artists from across 25 states, we also invited artists from Afghanistan, Chile, Iraq, Okinawa, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Vietnam, and elsewhere—places marked by the reach of U.S. power. Together, these artists' work make space for forms of relation that are intimate, improvised, and contested."

"Co-curating the Whitney Biennial offers a unique opportunity to think about the ways artists are entangled—formally and thematically—within this ecosystem we know as contemporary art. With this Biennial, we hope to foreground a network of kinships that gesture toward forms of coexisting in this world," said Marcela Guerrero, the DeMartini Family Curator of the Whitney Museum of American Art.

"I'm especially excited about this Biennial because it will be the first to appear since the launch of all three of our free admissions programs," said Scott Rothkopf, Alice Pratt Brown Director at the Whitney Museum. "This is a show that is always full of emerging talents and new ideas about American art, so I can think of no greater gift to our younger audiences than a Biennial that is entirely free for everyone twenty-five and under from anywhere in the world."

*Whitney Biennial 2026* offers a vivid atmospheric survey of contemporary American art shaped by a moment of profound transition. The work of 56 artists, duos, and collectives reflects the current moment and examines various forms of relationality, including interspecies kinships, familial relations, geopolitical entanglements, technological affinities, shared mythologies, and infrastructural supports. Rather than offering a definitive answer to life today, this Whitney Biennial foregrounds mood and texture, inviting visitors into environments that evoke tension, tenderness, humor, and unease. Together, the works capture the complexity of the present and propose imaginative, unruly, and unexpected forms of coexistence.

*Whitney Biennial 2026* is co-organized by Whitney curators Marcela Guerrero, the DeMartini Family Curator, and Drew Sawyer, the Sondra Gilman Curator of Photography, with Beatriz Cifuentes, Biennial Curatorial Assistant, and Carina Martinez, Rubio Butterfield Family Fellow.

## COMPLETE LIST OF ARTISTS

<b>Basel Abbas &amp; Ruanne Abou-Rahme</b>	<b>Sula Bermudez-Silverman</b> (she/her)	<b>Nani Chacon</b> (she/her) Born 1980 in Gallup, NM Lives in Albuquerque, NM Navajo Nation
Basel Abbas (he/him) Born 1983 in Nicosia, Cyprus Ruanne Abou-Rahme (she/her) Born 1983 in Boston, MA Live in Brooklyn, NY and Palestine	Born 1993 in New York, NY Lives in Los Angeles, CA	
<b>Kelly Akashi</b> (no pronouns; name preferred) Born 1983 in Los Angeles, CA Lives in Altadena, CA	<b>Zach Blas</b> (he/him) Born 1981 in Point Pleasant, WV Lives in Toronto, ON, Canada	<b>Maia Chao</b> (she/her) Born 1991 in Providence, RI Lives in Philadelphia, PA
<b>Kamrooz Aram</b> (he/him) Born 1978 in Shiraz, Iran Lives in New York, NY	<b>Enzo Camacho &amp; Ami Lien</b> Enzo Camacho (they/them) Born 1985 in Manila, Philippines Ami Lien (they/them) Born 1987 in Dallas, TX Live in Berlin, Germany and New York, NY	<b>Joshua Citarella</b> (he/him) Born 1987 in New York, NY Lives in New York, NY
<b>Ash Arder</b> (she/they) Born 1988 in Muscatawing (Flint, MI) Lives in Waawiyatanong (Detroit, MI)	<b>Leo Castañeda</b> (he/him) Born 1988 in Cali, Colombia Lives in Miami, FL	<b>Mo Costello</b> (she/her) Born 1989 in Seattle, WA Lives in Athens, GA
<b>Teresa Baker</b> (she/her) Born 1985 in Mandan/Hidatsa Lives in Los Angeles, CA	<b>CFGNY</b> (Daniel Chew, Ten Izu, Kirsten Kilponen, and Tin Nguyen) Founded 2016 Based in Brooklyn, NY	<b>Taína H. Cruz</b> (she/her) Born 1998 in New York, NY Lives in New Haven, CT
		<b>Carmen de Monteflores</b> (she/they) Born 1933 in San Juan, Puerto Rico Lives in Berkeley, CA

**Ali Eyal** (he/him)  
Born 1994 in Baghdad, Iraq  
Lives in Los Angeles, CA

**Andrea Fraser** (she/her)  
Born 1965 in Billings, MT  
Lives in Los Angeles, CA

**Mariah Garnett** (she/they)  
Born 1980 in Portland, ME  
Lives in Los Angeles, CA

**Ignacio Gatica** (no pronouns;  
name preferred)  
Born 1988 in Santiago, Chile  
Lives in New York, NY and  
Santiago, Chile

**Jonathan González**  
(they/them)  
Born 1991 in Queens, NY  
Lives in New York, NY and  
Philadelphia, PA

**Emilie Louise Gossiaux**  
(they/them)  
Born 1989 in New Orleans, LA  
Lives in New York, NY

**Kainoa Gruspe** (he/him)  
Born 1995 in Louisville, KY  
Lives in Honolulu, HI

**Martine Gutierrez** (she/her)  
Born 1989 in Berkeley, CA  
Lives in New York, NY

**Samia Halaby** (she/her)  
Born 1936 in Palestine  
Lives in New York, NY

**Raven Halfmoon** (she/her)  
Born 1991 in Oklahoma City,  
OK  
Lives in Norman, OK  
Caddo Nation

**Nile Harris with Dyer Rhoads**  
Nile Harris (he/him)  
Born 1995 in Miami, FL

**Dyer Rhoads** (he/him)  
Born 1996 in Portland, ME  
Live in Brooklyn, NY

**Aziz Hazara** (he/him)  
Born 1992 in Wardak,  
Afghanistan  
Lives in Berlin, Germany

**Margaret Honda** (she/her)  
Born 1961 in San Diego, CA  
Lives in Los Angeles, CA

**Akira Ikezoe** (he/him)  
Born 1979 in Kochi, Japan  
Lives in New York, NY

**Mao Ishikawa** (she/her)  
Born 1953 in Okinawa under  
US Administration  
Lives in Okinawa, Japan

**Cooper Jacoby** (he/him)  
Born 1989 in Princeton, NJ  
Lives in Miami, FL and Paris,  
France

**David L. Johnson** (he/him)  
Born 1993 in New York, NY  
Lives in New York, NY

**kekahi wahi** (Sancia Miala  
Shiba Nash and Drew K.  
Broderick)  
Founded 2020  
Based in Honolulu, Kona,  
O'ahu, HI

**Young Joon Kwak** (they/them)  
Born 1984 in Queens, NY  
Lives in Los Angeles, CA

**Michelle Lopez** (she/her)  
Born 1970 in Bridgeport, CT  
Lives in Philadelphia, PA

**José Maceda** (he/him)  
Born 1917 in Manila, Philippines  
Died 2004 in Quezon City,  
Philippines

**Agosto Machado** (he/him)  
Born in New York, NY  
Lives in New York, NY

**Oswaldo Maciá** (he/him)  
Born 1960 in Cartegena de  
Indias, Colombia  
Lives in Santa Fe, NM and  
London, United Kingdom

**Emilio Martínez Poppe**  
(he/him)  
Born 1993 in Baltimore, MD  
Lives in New York, NY

**Isabelle Frances McGuire**  
(she/her)  
Born 1994 in Austin, TX  
Lives in Chicago, IL

**Kimowan Metchewais** (he/him)  
Born 1963 in Oxbow, SK,  
Canada  
Died 2011 in Saint Paul, AB,  
Canada  
Cree, Cold Lake First Nations

**Nour Mobarak** (she/her)  
Born 1985 in Cairo, Egypt  
Lives in Athens, Greece and  
Bainbridge Island, WA

**Erin Jane Nelson** (she/her)  
Born 1989 in Neenah, WI  
Lives in Santa Fe, NM

**Precious Okoyomon**  
(they/them)  
Born 1993 in London, United  
Kingdom  
Lives in Brooklyn, NY

**Aki Onda** (they/them)  
Born 1967 in Tenri, Nara, Japan  
Lives in Mito, Ibaraki, Japan

**Pat Oleszko** (she/her)  
Born 1947 in Detroit, MI  
Lives in New York, NY

**Malcolm Peacock** (no pronouns; name preferred)  
Born 1994 in Raleigh, NC  
Lives in Brooklyn, NY

**Sarah M. Rodriguez** (no pronouns; name preferred)  
Born 1984 in Honolulu, HI  
Lives in Ojo Caliente, NM

**Gabriela Ruiz** (she/her)  
Born 1991 in San Fernando Valley, CA  
Lives in Los Angeles, CA

**Jasmin Sian** (she/her)  
Born 1969 in the Philippines  
Lives in New York, NY

**Jordan Strafer** (she/her)  
Born 1990 in Miami, FL  
Lives in New York, NY and Athens, Greece

**Sung Tieu** (she/her)  
Born 1987 in Hai Duong, Vietnam  
Lives in Berlin, Germany

**Julio Torres** (no pronouns; name preferred)  
Born 1987 in San Salvador, El Salvador  
Lives in New York, NY

**Anna Tsouhlarakis** (she/her)  
Born 1977 in Lawrence, KS  
Lives in Boulder, CO  
Navajo Nation and Creek

**Johanna Unzueta** (no pronouns; name preferred)  
Born 1974 in Santiago, Chile  
Lives in Berlin, Germany and New York, NY

Artist information is also available online. [Full details are available here.](#)

### **Exhibition Tickets on Sale**

Starting January 13, 2026, visitors can purchase timed tickets for *Whitney Biennial 2026*, which opens March 8, 2026. The opening day coincides with one of the Whitney's Free Second Sundays, offering free admission to visitors of all ages. [More ticketing information will be available on the Museum's website.](#)

### **Press Preview**

The Whitney Museum will host a press preview on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, 10 am–1 pm. [RSVP to the press preview by filling out this form](#). A photography and broadcast hour will start at 9 am and requires advance registration. Please reach out to [pressoffice@whitney.org](mailto:pressoffice@whitney.org) with questions about the photography and broadcast hour. Remarks by Scott Rothkopf, the Alice Pratt Brown Director, Marcela Guerrero, the DeMartini Family Curator, and Drew Sawyer, the Sondra Gilman Curator of Photography, will begin at 10:30 am.

### **Catalogue**

The 2026 Whitney Biennial is accompanied by a 500-page catalogue with more than 400 images designed by Mỹ Linh Triệu Nguyễn of Studio LHOOQ, published by the Whitney, and distributed by Yale University Press. Edited by Marcela Guerrero and Drew Sawyer, the book features insightful conversations between each Biennial artist and someone intimately familiar with their work, including fellow artists, critics, writers, curators, mentors, and family members. Copies will be available for purchase in the Whitney Shop, online, and at bookstores (\$50).

### **Free Public Programs**

A series of free virtual and in-person programs is offered in conjunction with *Whitney Biennial 2026*. More information about these programs and how to register will be available on the [Museum's website](#) as details are confirmed.

## ABOUT THE WHITNEY BIENNIAL

A constellation of the most relevant art and ideas of our time, the Whitney Biennial showcases contemporary artists working across media and disciplines, representing evolving notions of American art. Established by the Museum's founder, Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney, in 1932, the Whitney Biennial is the longest-running survey of American art. More than 3,600 artists have participated to date, including Jean-Michel Basquiat, Lynda Benglis, Louise Bourgeois, Frank Bowling, Mark Bradford, Alexander Calder, Theresa Hak Kyung Cha, Raven Chacon, Ellen Gallagher, Nikita Gale, Jeffrey Gibson, Nan Goldin, Renee Green, Wade Guyton, Rachel Harrison, Jenny Holzer, Edward Hopper, Suzanne Jackson, Joan Jonas, Ellsworth Kelly, Mike Kelley, Willem de Kooning, Barbara Kruger, Pope. L, Jacob Lawrence, Carolyn Lazard, Zoe Leonard, Roy Lichtenstein, Glenn Ligon, Agnes Martin, Daniel Joseph Martinez, Julie Mehretu, Sarah Michelson, Joan Mitchell, Tiona Nekkia McClodden, Georgia O'Keeffe, Claes Oldenburg, Laura Owens, Jackson Pollock, Postcommodity, Yvonne Rainer, Robert Rauschenberg, Cindy Sherman, Lorna Simpson, Rose B. Simpson, Martine Syms, Tourmaline, Wu Tsang, Cy Twombly, Kara Walker, Andy Warhol, Kiyan Williams, and David Wojnarowicz.

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## PRESS CONTACT

For press materials and image requests, please visit our press site at [whitney.org/press](http://whitney.org/press) or contact:

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## EXHIBITION SUPPORT

*Whitney Biennial 2026* is presented by



The exhibition is also sponsored by



Leadership support for the 2026 Whitney Biennial is provided by David Cancel, and Stephanie March and Dan Benton.

Major support is provided by the Adam D. Weinberg Artists First Fund, Marcia Dunn and Jonathan Sobel, The Holly Peterson Foundation, the Kapadia Equity Fund, The KHR McNeely Family Foundation | Kevin, Rosemary, and Hannah Rose McNeely, and the Whitney's National Committee.

Significant support is provided by Sotheby's.

2026 Biennial Committee Co-Chairs: Paul Arnhold and Wes Gordon, Suzanne and Bob Cochran, Salvador Espinoza and Jonathan Rozoff, Amanda and Glenn Fuhrman, Further Forward Foundation, Becky Gochman, Christina Hribar, Deepa Kumaraiah and Sean Dempsey, Miyoung Lee and Neil Simpkins, Dawn and David Lenhardt, Sueyun and Gene Locks, the McCallum Family, George Petrocheilos and Diamantis Xylas, Nancy and Fred Poses, Dr. Jan Siegmund and Dr. Benjamin Maddox, Jackson Tang, Teresa Tsai, and Todd White and Cameron Carani.

2026 Biennial Committee: Shelley Fox Aarons and Philip Aarons, Susan and Matthew Blank, Estrellita and Daniel Brodsky, James Keith Brown and Eric Diefenbach, Yolanda Colón-Greenberg and Craig Greenberg, Christy and Bill Gautreaux, Elaine Goldman and John Benis, Grace Gould and Jonathan Goldberg, Michèle Gerber Klein, Bernard I. Lumpkin and Carmine D. Bocuzzi, Marc S. Solomon, Cindy Levine & Interlaken LLC, Jamie Watson in memory of Emmett Watson, George Wells and Manfred Rantner, Casey and Lauren Weyand, and Allison Wiener and Jeffrey Schackner.

Generous support is provided by The Keith Haring Foundation Exhibition Fund and the Trellis Art Fund.

Biennial funding is also provided by endowments created by Emily Fisher Landau, Leonard A. Lauder, and Fern and Lenard Tessler.

Curatorial research and travel for this exhibition were funded by an endowment established by Rosina Lee Yue and Bert A. Lies, Jr., MD.

Support is also provided by the Marshall Weinberg Fund for Performance, endowed in honor of his parents Anna and Harold Weinberg who taught him the meaning of giving.

The Whitney Biennial and Hyundai Terrace Commission are a multiyear partnership with Hyundai Motor. The Hyundai Terrace Commission is an annual site-specific installation on the Whitney Museum's fifth-floor outdoor gallery.

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## ABOUT THE WHITNEY

The Whitney Museum of American Art, founded in 1930 by the artist and philanthropist Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney (1875–1942), houses the foremost collection of American art from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Mrs. Whitney, an early and ardent supporter of modern

American art, nurtured groundbreaking artists when audiences were still largely preoccupied with the Old Masters. From her vision arose the Whitney Museum of American Art, which has been championing the most innovative art of the United States for ninety years. The core of the Whitney's mission is to collect, preserve, interpret, and exhibit American art of our time and serve a wide variety of audiences in celebration of the complexity and diversity of art and culture in the United States. Through this mission and a steadfast commitment to artists, the Whitney has long been a powerful force in support of modern and contemporary art and continues to help define what is innovative and influential in American art today.

### **Whitney Museum Land Acknowledgment**

The Whitney is located in Lenapehoking, the ancestral homeland of the Lenape. The name Manhattan comes from their word Mannahatta, meaning "island of many hills." The Museum's current site is close to land that was a Lenape fishing and planting site called Sapponckanikan ("tobacco field"). The Whitney acknowledges the displacement of this region's original inhabitants and the Lenape diaspora that exists today.

As a museum of American art in a city with vital and diverse communities of Indigenous people, the Whitney recognizes the historical exclusion of Indigenous artists from its collection and program. The Museum is committed to addressing these erasures and honoring the perspectives of Indigenous artists and communities as we work for a more equitable future. To read more about the Museum's Land Acknowledgment, [visit the Museum's website](#).

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## **VISITOR INFORMATION**

The Whitney Museum of American Art is located at 99 Gansevoort Street between Washington and West Streets, New York City. Public hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 10:30 am–6 pm; Friday, 10:30 am–10 pm; and Saturday and Sunday, 10:30 am–6 pm. Closed Tuesday. Visitors twenty-five years and under and Whitney members: FREE. The Museum offers FREE admission and special programming for visitors of all ages every Friday evening from 5–10 pm and on the second Sunday of every month.

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