

MEDIA RELEASE

## Penumbra Workspace Program

2021 Selected Artists & Finalists

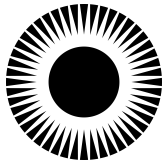
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Penumbra Foundation today announced its selections for the Penumbra 2021 Workspace Program, which supports outstanding emerging artists working in the photographic arts. The artists are ***Sophie Barbasch*** (New York), ***Daveed Baptiste*** (New York), ***Dylan Hausthor*** (Portland, Maine), ***Alyssa Minahan*** (Boston), ***Rehan Miskci*** (New York), and ***Christie Neptune*** (New York). The Jury also recognised as finalists two US-based artists, ***Odette England*** (Rhode Island) and ***Dawn Kim*** (Texas), and two NYC-based artists, ***Debora Francis*** and ***Marc Ohrem-Leclef***.

The Penumbra Workspace Program facilitates artists with invaluable time, resources and workspace in the global art hub that is New York City. For one month, the artists have access to Penumbra's darkrooms, digital tools, historic processes lab, shooting studios, with technical and conceptual support. Each artist receives a stipend to aid them in all stages of creative activity, whether it is research and experimentation, the development of new work, completing a project already in progress, working on an exhibition, or editing a book.

“Reviewing the applications was a valuable reminder of the terrific range of approaches to photography today- from tender portrayal of fluid gender identity to the allure of communes and cults living off the grid”, said Pradeep Dalal, member of the 2021 Jury. “The more familiar vein of photographic process driven work that mined a host of alternative materials and methods was well represented. There was a palpable interest in creating richly tactile surfaces and giving some weight and dimensionality to the image.”

The 2021 Workspace Program jury included **Pradeep Dalal** (Artist, Educator and Director of the Creative Capital/ Warhol Foundation Arts Writers Program, New York), **Maria Martinez-Cañas** (Artist and Educator, Miami) and **Milagros de la Torre** (Artist, New York).



Now in its fifth year, the Workspace Program receives generous support from **The Henry Nias Foundation, The Phillip and Edith Leonian Foundation, The Jacques and Natasha Gelman Foundation, Roz Leibowitz**, and photographers and artists who donate their work for Penumbra's print sale (see list below).

Applications for the program are due each year in December. For more information and to see a selection of works by the 2021 Workspace Program Artists, visit:

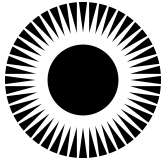
[penumbrafoundation.org/workspace](https://penumbrafoundation.org/workspace)

### **About the Artists:**

***Sophie Barbasch*** is a New York based photographer. She earned her MFA in photography from the Rhode Island School of Design and her BA in Art and Art History from Brown University. Selected grants and residencies include the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, the Blue Mountain Center, and a Fulbright Fellowship to Brazil.

***Daveed Baptiste*** is a multidisciplinary maker working in fashion design, photography, and textiles. His migration from Haiti to America inspires all of his work. As an immigrant and queer person, his work examines the multidimensional identities of the Caribbean diaspora living in the United States. Through collaborative projects and various mediums, his work aims to decolonize notions of race, gender, and class within the Haitian community and greater Caribbean diaspora. He is a recent Parsons graduate with a BFA in Fashion Design. His photographs have been published in *The New Yorker* and *VOGUE*, and he has exhibited at Red Hook Labs and Aperture. He is a 2020 Lakou NOU Resident at the Haiti Cultural Exchange.

***Dylan Hausthor*** is an artist based in New England. Their work is an act of hybridity—an effort to render field recordings into myth. Interested in small-town gossip and the fragility of journalistic truth, they look for stories that are found at the end of dirt roads and in the tops of fir trees. They subscribe to emotional cohesiveness in their work and rely on vignettes, tangents, and tropes of conceptual art in their storytelling. Hausthor received their BFA from Maine College of Art and is a current MFA candidate at Yale University. Their work has been showcased nationally and internationally by the Aperture Foundation, *British Journal of Photography*, *Photo District News*, *PHMuseum*, *Vice*, *Gomma*, *World Press Photo*, *LensCulture*, *Vogue*, and the permanent collection at MoMA's library. They are a 2019 recipient of a Nancy Graves fellowship for visual artists, runner-up for the Aperture Portfolio Prize, nominated for *Prix Pictet 2021*, a recipient of the Ellis-Beauregard grant and residency, and the winner of *Burn*

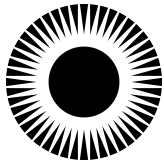


Magazine's Emerging Photographer's Fund. They founded the art publication imprint Wilt Press in the spring of 2015, released their first trade edition monograph with Void Photo in 2019 with their collaborator Paul Guilmoth and currently works as a farmer.

**Alyssa Minahan** utilizes photographic materials, including unfixed gelatin silver paper and large format negatives, in non-traditional ways to express ideas integral to the medium of photography, specifically its complex relationship to time, space and memory. In September 2019, Alyssa released NOTES, a handmade photo book published by Datz Press (Seoul, South Korea). NOTES is held in the collections of The New York Public Library, International Center for Photography Library, Amon Carter Museum of American Art Research Library, Stanford University Library, California College of the Arts Library and Massachusetts College of Art and Design Morton R. Godine Library. Alyssa has exhibited her work at numerous galleries and museums, including the Datz Museum of Art (Seoul, South Korea), Center for Creative Photography (Tucson, Arizona), Pingyao International Photography Festival (Shanxi, China), Photographic Center Northwest (Seattle, Washington) and Boston University Art Galleries (Boston, Massachusetts). In addition, her work has been featured in Harper's Magazine, Art New England and Phases Magazine. Alyssa is the recipient of the 2017 Massachusetts College of Art and Design Graduate Teaching Fellowship and is currently a Lecturer of Photography in the Department of Visual and Media Arts at Emerson College (Boston, MA).

**Rehan Miskci** (b. 1986, Istanbul) is a New York / Istanbul based visual artist working in photography, video and installation. She holds an undergraduate degree in Interior Architecture from Istanbul Technical University and an MFA in Photography, Video and Related Media from the School of Visual Arts, New York. She is the first place winner of Baxter Street Camera Club of New York's Annual Competition in 2015. Her work has been exhibited in venues including Transmitter Gallery, Brooklyn, Fridman Gallery, New York, Kasa Gallery, Istanbul. Miskci is an alumna of Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture (2019) and she is the recipient of the Bronx Museum's Artist in the Marketplace Fellowship (2019). Miskci was also awarded a NYFA (New York Foundation for the Arts) Fellowship in Photography (2019).

**Christie Neptune** holds a B.A. in Visual Arts from Fordham University. Her films and photography have been included in shows at BASS Museum, Miami, FL (2019); The University of Massachusetts Boston (2018); Rubber Factory, New York, NY (2017); A.I.R. Gallery, Brooklyn NY (2016); and Rutgers University (2015). Her work has been featured in publications including Artforum, NY Times, Hyperallergic, and The Washington Post. Neptune has been awarded the Bronx Museum of the Arts: Artist in



Marketplace (AIM), Smack Mellon Studio Residency, NYSCA/NYFA Fellowship in Interdisciplinary Arts, and Light Work Artist-in-Residence among others.

### **Penumbra Print Sale Donors:**

Penumbra Foundation sponsors an auction or print sale of photographs donated by outstanding photographers to support the Workspace Program. The photographers whose work is supporting the 2021 cycle are: Elizabeth Albright, Sophie Barbasch, Mary Ellen Bartley, Marina Berio, Geoffrey Berliner, Tim Carpenter, Lois Conner, Dillon DeWaters, Lisa Di Donato, Christine Elfman, Odette England, Adama Delphine Fawundu, Arash Fewzee, Larry Fink, Jenia Fridlyand, Vivian Galban, Theresa Ganz, Lucy Helton, Alan Huck, Kevin Kunstadt, Ruth Lauer-Manenti, Aspen Mays, Raymond Meeks, Michael Page Miller, Andrew Moore, Ian Lewandowski, Jolene Lupo, Tasha Lutek, Arthur Ou, Sarah Palmer, Ahndraya Parlato, Emma Phillips, Liz Sales, Molly Rapp, David Rothenberg, Victoria Sambunaris, Sophie Schwartz, Griffin Shapiro, Joni Sternbach, Olivia Walsh, James Welling and Jeffrey Whetstone.

### **About Penumbra Foundation:**

Penumbra Foundation is a non profit organization that brings together the Art and Science of Photography through education, research, outreach, public, publishing and residency programs. Its goal is to be a comprehensive resource for photographers at any level, artists, students, professionals, historians, researchers, conservators and curators.

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