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IDEAS
CITY

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New Museum Announces IDEAS CITY Detroit Program

Public Conference on April 30

Forty-One International Fellows, Selected from Over Eight Hundred Applicants, Will Participate in a Five-Day Intensive Studio Laboratory Program in a Former Hospital Complex

New York, NY...Lisa Phillips, *Toby Devan Lewis Director* of the New Museum and Cofounder of IDEAS CITY, is pleased to announce the program and featured participants in **IDEAS CITY Detroit**. Under the leadership of IDEAS CITY Director Joseph Grima, the Detroit event will kick off the 2016–17 series of programs for IDEAS CITY. IDEAS CITY Detroit will take place **April 25–30, 2016**, and will include an intensive weeklong studio laboratory workshop with forty-one Fellows, culminating in a daylong public conference, featuring many internationally acclaimed speakers from the fields of art, architecture, design, policymaking, and urbanism, including **Rembert Browne, Theaster Gates, dream hampton, Walter Hood, and Amanda Williams**, among others. The conference, which is free and open to the public, will take place on **April 30, 2016**, at the **Jam Handy, a former film studio for car commercials**. Please see the program addendum for further information.

IDEAS CITY Detroit will launch the initiative's first **studio laboratory**, which will continue as a central feature of IDEAS CITY going forward. Fellows will live and work in the **Herman Kiefer Complex**—a former hospital complex in Virginia Park and one of Detroit's most iconic disused sites—transforming it into a hub of cultural activity. Led by Joseph Grima and organized in collaboration with **Maurice Cox, Director of Planning and Development for the City of Detroit**, this five-day workshop will bring together emerging practitioners who are **working at the intersection of community activism, art, design, and technology** in cities around the world and will include site visits, lectures, and discussions with Fellows, local experts, and community members.

"IDEAS CITY Detroit will gather forty-one extraordinary individuals to tackle specific challenges facing the city. We're incredibly excited to have the opportunity to learn from Detroit, to deploy a collective intelligence model based on arts and culture, and to further exchange with the community. The city is in the process of reinventing itself and, once again, is on the verge of transforming our understanding of the modern metropolis. Detroit is a laboratory for a new paradigm of urbanity," said Joseph Grima, Director of IDEAS CITY.

Following an open call for participants in the studio laboratory earlier this year, IDEAS CITY received over **eight hundred applications from thirty countries. Forty-one emerging professionals were selected.**

Locations

Studio Laboratory

The studio laboratory will take place in the Herman Kiefer Hospital Complex's former Powerhouse building, thanks to IDEAS CITY Detroit's architectural partner, Studio Castellano.

Public Conference

The public conference will be held at the Jam Handy, a former film studio for car commercials located at 2900 East Grand Boulevard.

About IDEAS CITY

IDEAS CITY is a collaborative, civic, and creative platform that starts from the premise that art and culture are essential to the future vitality of cities. This international initiative provides a forum for designers, artists, technologists, and policymakers to exchange ideas, identify challenges, propose solutions, and engage the public's participation. The initiative was cofounded by Lisa Phillips, *Toby Devan Lewis Director*, and Karen Wong, Deputy Director, the New Museum.

2016–17 Schedule

IDEAS CITY Detroit: April 25–30, 2016

IDEAS CITY Athens: September 19–25, 2016, in partnership with NEON Foundation

IDEAS CITY Arles: May 22–27, 2017, presented by the New Museum, LUMA Arles, and LUMA

IDEAS CITY New York: Fall 2017

Support for IDEAS CITY Detroit

Founding support for IDEAS CITY is provided by Goldman Sachs Gives at the recommendation of David B. Heller & Hermine Riegerl Heller.

Major support for IDEAS CITY Detroit is provided by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

LUMA is the Global Social Engagement Partner of IDEAS CITY.

Additional support for IDEAS CITY Detroit is provided by the Lambent Foundation.

Fellowship support for IDEAS CITY Detroit is provided by the US Embassy, Athens, Greece.

Special thanks to the Detroit-based furniture company Floyd.

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IDEAS CITY Detroit

Program Schedule, Speakers, and Fellows

IDEAS CITY Detroit Public Conference

Saturday April 30, 2016
The Jam Handy
2900 East Grand Boulevard
Detroit, MI 48202

- 11:15–11:30 AM:** Welcome Address by IDEAS CITY, Maurice Cox, and Rembert Browne
- 11:30 AM–1 PM: Session 1** Opening Keynote by Theaster Gates
Talk by Amanda Williams
Panel Discussion with Michelle T. Boone, Theaster Gates, Jenny Lee, and Amanda Williams
Presentations by Studio Laboratory Fellows
- 1:30–3 PM: Session 2** Opening Keynote by dream hampton
Panel Discussion with Rembert Browne, Halima Cassells, dream hampton, and Sonya S. Mays
Presentations by Studio Laboratory Fellows
- 3:30–7 PM: Session 3** Opening Keynote by Walter Hood
Talk by Bryan Boyer
Panel Discussion with Kunalé Adeyemi, Bryan Boyer, Ellie Abrons/T+E+A+M, and Walter Hood
Presentations by Studio Laboratory Fellows
Screening by Liam Young

IDEAS CITY Detroit Speakers

Ellie Abrons is Assistant Professor in Architecture at Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of Michigan. Her work has been exhibited at Storefront for Art and Architecture, New York; A/D Gallery, New York; and the Architectural Association, London. Abrons was recently selected, as part of the architectural practice T+E+A+M, to exhibit work in the US Pavilion at the 2016 Venice Architecture Biennale.

Kunlé Adeyemi is an architect, urbanist, and founder of NLÉ, an architecture, design, and urbanism practice focused on developing cities and communities. His recent work Makoko Floating School is a prototype for building in African regions that have little or no permanent infrastructure and is located in the lagoon of Lagos, Nigeria. Additionally, Adeyemi is Adjunct Associate Professor at the Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Preservation and Planning.

Michelle T. Boone is Commissioner of the City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events. As a member of the mayor's cabinet, Boone is responsible for developing and implementing policies and programs that support Chicago's arts and culture sector and creative industries. Previously, Boone was Senior Program Officer for Culture at the Joyce Foundation and Director of Gallery 37, a program that provides job training in the arts to Chicago youth.

Bryan Boyer is a strategic designer with experience in public sector innovation, entrepreneurship, and contemporary architecture. Boyer cofounded Dash Marshall, a design consulting practice focused on strategy and urban innovation. Additionally, Boyer cofounded Makeshift Society Brooklyn and Helsinki Design Lab, and is on the Board of Directors at Public Policy Lab in New York.

Rembert Browne is Writer-at-Large at *New York* magazine, where he covers culture, entertainment, politics, and style. Browne contributes regularly to *Daily Intelligence*, *Vulture*, the *Cut*, and *New York* magazine's print edition. He has reported from the front line in Ferguson, MO, questioned President Obama on Air Force One, and moderated the Iowa Brown and Black Presidential Forum. From 2011 until 2015, Browne was a staff writer at *Grantland*.

Halima Cassells is a native Detroit artist and activist who has exhibited her work widely and has produced public works, including a Congressional Seal commemorating Rosa Parks. Cassells holds leadership roles across various community-based organizations in Detroit, including the Oakland Avenue Artists Coalition, the Free Market of Detroit, North End SOUP, and the Detroit Black Community Food Security Network.

Maurice Cox is the Director of Planning and Development for the City of Detroit. Previously, he was Director of the Tulane City Center and Associate Dean for Community Engagement at the Tulane University School of Architecture in New Orleans. Additionally, Cox has served as Design Director of the National Endowment for the Arts in Washington, DC, where he led the selection of design grants and leadership programs such as the Mayors' Institute on City Design.

Theaster Gates is a Chicago-based artist who has developed an expanded practice that includes space development, object-making, and performance. He is Founder of the Rebuild Foundation and a professor in the Department of Visual Art and Director of the Arts and Public Life Initiative at the University of Chicago. Gates has exhibited his work and performed at the Studio Museum in Harlem, New York; Whitechapel Gallery, London; Punta della Dogana, Venice; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; the Santa Barbara Museum of Art, CA; and dOCUMENTA (13), Kassel, Germany; among other venues.

dream hampton is a filmmaker, writer, and organizer who was born and raised in Detroit. hampton has contributed to magazines such as the *Village Voice*, the *Detroit News*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Vibe* magazine, *Essence*, and *Ebony*, and collaborated with Jay Z on his best-selling

book *Decoded*. She has directed the films *I Am Ali* and *Treasure: From Tragedy to Transjustice, Mapping a Detroit Story*. Hampton was also Coproducer of the show *Black Girls Rock!*

Walter Hood is an architect based in Oakland, CA, whose work focuses on community development and sustainability. He is the founder of Hood Design; Professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of California, Berkeley; and the author of *Urban Diaries and Blues & Jazz Landscape Improvisations*. Hood has designed a landscape garden for the de Young Museum in San Francisco, a master plan for the Pittsburgh Park Conservancy, and a solar strip for the University at Buffalo, NY.

Jenny Lee is Executive Director of Allied Media Projects. From 2002 to 2010, Lee was a youth organizer for the community organization Detroit Summer under the mentorship of Grace Lee Boggs. She founded Detroit Digital Justice Coalition, a community organization that promotes the usage of media and technology in schools and neighborhoods across the city. Lee is on the steering committee of INCITE! Women of Color Against Violence and Art x Culture x Social Justice Network.

Sonya S. Mays is the President and CEO of Develop Detroit, a real estate and housing development company that focuses on the revitalization of Detroit neighborhoods. Mays has served as Senior Advisor to the Emergency Manager of Detroit and played a key role in guiding the city through the largest municipal bankruptcy in US history. In that position, she was responsible for a diverse range of legal, financial, operational, and economic development activities across Detroit's restructuring efforts.

Amanda Williams is an artist and architect based in Chicago. Her work spans the fields of painting, installation, and photography, and reflects the cultural relationship between color, race, and space. Williams has exhibited her work at the Studio Museum in Harlem, New York; the Chicago Architecture Biennial; Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago; and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco; among other institutions. She is Adjunct Professor of Architecture at the Illinois Institute of Technology.

Liam Young is an architect working at the intersection of design, fiction, and futures. He is the founder of the think tank Tomorrow's Thoughts Today and has consulted on and conducted workshops about speculation, emerging technologies, and future-forecasting for organizations including Arup, Phillips Technologies, and the BBC. Young's work has been featured on NBC and the BBC, and in *Wired* magazine, *Time* magazine, and *Dazed & Confused* magazine.

IDEAS CITY Detroit Fellows

Joe Ahearn is a curator and cultural practitioner based in New York. He is Program Director at Clocktower Radio, an online art radio station, and a member of Silent Barn, an arts collective and multidisciplinary community space in Brooklyn.

Taylor Renee Aldridge is a writer and arts administrator based in Detroit. Aldridge is Director of Programs at the N'Namdi Center for Contemporary Art and is a cofounder of *ARTS.BLACK*, an online publication for art criticism from black perspectives. She was formerly a junior fellow at the National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution.

Ava Ansari is an artist, educator, and curator based in Detroit. She is Community Events Organizer at the Arab American Museum and a codirector of the Back Room, a curatorial and pedagogical project that facilitates exchanges between artists, curators, and scholars in Iran and the United States. Ansari has exhibited her work at Dixon Place, Eyebeam, La MaMa, and the AC Institute.

Hallie Applebaum is a creative strategist based in Washington, DC. Applebaum is Open Innovation Specialist at the World Bank, where she develops tools and policy for entrepreneurs and governments that enable economic development and modernization through innovative design thinking.

Leonardo Aranda is an artist and programmer based in Mexico City. He is currently Director of Medialabmx, a nonprofit organization focused on art, technology, and social change. Aranda is also Associate Professor at the Faculty of Arts, Autonomous University of the State of Morelos.

Nick Axel is a writer and researcher based in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. He is Managing Editor of *Volume* magazine and Interactive Specialist at Forensic Architecture. Axel's work spans the practices of criticism, research, cartography, and design, and has been published widely. He has lectured at Strelka Institute, Design Academy Eindhoven, and the Bartlett, University College London.

Merve Bedir is an architect and researcher based in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. She is a PhD candidate at the Delft University of Technology and a partner at Land+Civilization Compositions, a studio that focuses on urbanism through the lens of artistic practice. Bedir codirects the Shenzhen Architecture Biennial's educational program and is a contributor to *Volume* magazine and the *Funambulist*.

Francesca Berardi is a writer and journalist based in New York. She is the author of *Detour in Detroit* and a Master's candidate at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. Berardi's writing examines urban inequality, the economics of race, and immigration policies, and appears regularly in Italian newspapers and magazines.

Beverly Chou is a designer based in Ann Arbor, MI. Chou is Mechanical Engineer at Leon Speakers, a design company whose vision is to mix art with audio and technology. Her interests lie in sustainable manufacturing, consumer product experiences, and the design of shared objects and spaces.

Carolyn Concepcion is a design strategist and cultural innovator based in Detroit and New York. She is a Master's candidate at the Gallatin School of Individualized Study at New York University. Concepcion's work focuses on visualizing possible futures and creating interactive experiences for cultural institutions and social impact organizations.

Gabriela Córdoba Vivas is an artist based in Bogotá, Colombia. She is a cofounder of CaldodeCultivo, a collaborative practice that emphasizes civic, community, and artistic engagement in cities. Her work spans the fields of art, urbanism, photography, and politics.

Afaina de Jong is an architect and writer based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. She is a PhD candidate at the Delft University of Technology and the founder of AFARAI, a design studio that focuses on urban strategies and the do-it-yourself city. De Jong is the author of *For the People, by the People* and has been a contributing editor of *MARK* magazine.

Pinar Demirdağ is an artist based in Paris. Demirdağ is a cofounder of Pinar&Viola, a digital art and media collective that works in fashion, graphic design, ceramics, and print. She has collaborated with MTV, Rhizome, Koché, IKEA, and Adidas, and is a regular contributor to *Dazed & Confused* magazine.

Fataah Dihaan is a creative practitioner based in New York. He is Director of Strategy for the creative agency Social House and a cofounder of the online pop culture network Arcade44. His clients include Pepsi, Adidas, W Hotels & Resorts, Red Bull, and Warner Brothers.

Shaida Ghomashchi is a writer, photographer, and curator based in Tehran. Ghomashchi is the foreign editor of *Tarikh Irani*, an online platform for studying Iranian sociopolitical history and current affairs. She is also a cocurator of "City Inc.: Bata Cities/Corporate Towns," a collaborative exhibition exploring urban design and the cultural legacy of the twentieth-century notion of urban utopia.

Jon Gray is a cultural practitioner based in New York. Gray is the founder of Ghetto Gastro, a transdisciplinary collective in the Bronx devoted to youth empowerment, education, and food culture. His work has been featured in the *New York Times* and the *Observer*.

Kunal Gupta is a creative practitioner based in New York. He is a cofounder of Better, a community-driven sharing start-up that connects people's skills and resources with businesses and grassroots organizations. Previously, Gupta cofounded the arts collective and multidisciplinary community space Silent Barn and the video game art space Babycastles.

Tommy Haddock is an architect based in San Francisco. Haddock has worked on several international projects for the Tokyo-based firm SANAA, including the recently completed Grace Farms. In 2015 he started his own architectural practice.

Jason Hilgefert is an urbanist and architect based in Rotterdam, Istanbul, and Shenzhen. He is the founder of Land+Civilization Compositions, a design studio that develops approaches to urbanism using artistic practice. Hilgefert codirects the Shenzhen Architecture Biennial's educational program and is a regular contributor to *uncube* magazine.

Ekene Ijeoma is an artist and designer based in New York. His practice strives to connect people and data through visceral experiences. Ijeoma has exhibited his work at Storefront for Art and Architecture, the Design Museum, the Istanbul Design Biennial, and Salone del Mobile. He has lectured at Parsons School of Design and has led critiques at the School of Visual Arts and Yale University.

Tamara Jafar is a musician and artist based in New York. Her work explores the creation of surreal agonistic experiences in urban contexts. Jafar is currently in residence at the New Museum's art, design, and technology incubator, NEW INC, and is a Master's candidate at the Harvard Graduate School of Design.

Stacy'e Jones is a cultural practitioner and DJ based in Detroit. Jones is the founder of Liquid Flow Media Arts Center, an online community devoted to cultural empowerment and the music scene in Detroit.

Toms Kokins is an architect and urban designer based in Riga, Latvia. He cofounded Fine Young Urbanists, a design studio that aims to redefine public spaces through provocative actions. Kokins organizes the Riga Technical University International Summer School in Latvia and lectures at the Umeå School of Architecture in Sweden.

Cindy Lin is a researcher, bio enthusiast, and artist based in Ann Arbor, MI. She is currently a PhD candidate at the University of Michigan School of Information. Lin's work focuses on the politics, organization, and material engagement of do-it-yourself culture in Indonesia and the American Midwest.

Monty Luke is a curator and music producer based in Detroit. He is Curator of Public Programs at the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit and a founder of the electronic music label Black Catalogue. Luke has worked for Carl Craig's techno label Planet E and participated in the D25: Detroit Twenty-Five World Tour, an event that celebrated twenty-five years of techno music in Detroit.

Daanish Masood is a politician based in New York. He is Advisor on Political Affairs and Media at the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and a member of BeAnotherLab, a conflict resolution system that merges neuroscience with performance and virtual reality. BeAnotherLab's work has been featured in *Wired* magazine and the *Verge*, and on the Discovery Channel and the BBC.

Tiff Massey is an artist and activist based in Detroit. Her work explores class, race, and contemporary culture through the lens of African adornment and has been exhibited in China, France, South Africa, Belgium, and the Netherlands. Massey was awarded a Kresge Visual Arts

Fellowship in 2015 and previously worked as Adjunct Professor of Metalsmithing at Macomb Community College.

Jose R. Mejia is a creative strategist based in New York. He is a cofounder and Editorial Director of Industry Standard, an antidisiplinary studio that focuses on branding, design, and creative direction for the arts, media, and urban development. Previously, Mejia worked on Another Detroit is Happening, a conference that set out to foster connections between activists, creators, and entrepreneurs.

Cara Michell is a Master's candidate at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. In her work, she explores impactful art and design interventions. Michell has worked with Theaster Gates and Place Lab on the master planning of Rebuild Foundation's Stony Island Arts Bank, an international platform for contemporary art and a cultural space for the local community.

Marsha Music is a writer, poet, and presenter based in Detroit. She has contributed to anthologies, documentary films, an HBO movie, and narratives, including *Thanks for the View*, *Mr. Mies: Lafayette Park, Detroit*; *Untold Tales*; and *Unsung Heroes: An Oral History of Detroit's African American Community, 1918–1967*. Music was awarded a Kresge Literary Arts Fellowship and a Knight Arts Challenge award.

Ryan Myers-Johnson is an arts administrator, dance educator, and curator in Detroit. She is the founder of Sidewalk Festival of Performing Arts, an annual celebration of Detroit's independent and alternative performance arts. Myers-Johnson has curated and choreographed pop-up performances throughout nontraditional spaces across Metro Detroit.

Claire Nowak-Boyd is a community advocate and preservation specialist based in Flint, MI. She works as Urban Planner for the City of Flint, for which she coordinates zoning inquiries and casework. Previously, she was Executive Director of Preservation Detroit and organized antidisplacement preservation in St. Louis, MO.

Evelina Ozola is an urban designer based in Riga, Latvia. She is a cofounder of Fine Young Urbanists, a design studio that focuses on redefining public spaces through provocative actions. Ozola is Program Director of the Riga Technical University International Summer School in Latvia.

Paolo Patelli is an architect and researcher based in Milan. He is a cofounder of La Jetée, a collaborative design practice operating at the intersection of space and society. Patelli holds a PhD in Architectural and Urban Design from Politecnico di Milano and has exhibited his work at the 24th Ljubljana Biennial of Design, Slovenia, and in RMIT Gallery, Melbourne.

Margarita Pournara is a journalist based in Athens. She is a staff writer at the Greek daily newspaper *Kathimerini*, where she focuses on urbanism, archeology, politics, travel, and food. Pournara is a member of LABattoir, a cultural platform for the city of Thessaloniki.

Jay Rayford is a cultural practitioner based in Detroit. He is Community Director at the Future Project. Rayford has previously worked with Mobilize.org, the Youth Development Commission, FlockTAG, and FoodCircles, and has spoken on youth civic engagement at the White House.

Unai Reglero is a visual artist and art director in Bogotá, Colombia. He is a cofounder of CaldodeCultivo, a collaborative practice that emphasizes civic, community, and artistic engagement in the city. Reglero is also the founder of Künstainer, a curatorial collective dedicated to the relationship between art and territory.

Alethea Rockwell is an arts professional based in New York. She is Assistant Educator for Adult and Academic Programs at the Museum of Modern Art, New York. Rockwell has also contributed to exhibitions and public programs at the Courtauld Gallery, Tate Modern, the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, and the Slought Foundation.

Ruhi Shamim is a creative practitioner based in New York. She is a cofounder of Better, a community-driven sharing start-up that connects people's skills and resources with businesses and grassroots organizations. Shamim has also consulted for media and technology start-ups throughout the United States and South Asia.

Giuditta Vendrame is a designer and researcher based in the Netherlands. She is a cofounder of La Jetée, a collaborative design practice operating at the intersection of space and society. Vendrame has exhibited her work at the 24th Ljubljana Biennial of Design, Slovenia, and in RMIT Gallery, Melbourne.

Nikolas Ventourakis is a visual artist and photographer based in Athens and London, whose photographic practice fuses fine art and documentation. Ventourakis was a Fulbright Fellow at the California Institute of the Arts and a recipient of the Deutsche Bank Award in photography. He has exhibited his work in Greece, Cyprus, Italy, Portugal, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

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