

*Atlanta Artists Selected for the European Cultural Centre's Exhibition
PERSONAL STRUCTURES-Beyond Boundaries, Venice, Italy*

OPENING DAY: APRIL 20, 20234

CLOSING DAY: NOVEMBER 24, 2024

VIP OPENING, PALAZZO BEMBO, APRIL 18, 2024

Atlanta-based Organizer: SHANNON MORRIS, The Curator's Studio, LLC.

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The Curator's Studio, LLC is pleased to announce the participation of three Atlanta-based artists Sabre Esler, Grace Kisa and Corrina Sephora, in the seventh edition of the European Cultural Centre (ECC)'s *PERSONAL STRUCTURES-Beyond Boundaries* exhibition. The biennial contemporary art exhibition invites artists and creative minds from across the world to open in Venice, Italy, from the 20th of April to the 24th of November, 2024. The three Atlanta-based artists selected for exhibition will show their work, along with Birmingham-based artist Annie Kammerer Butrus, within Palazzo Bembo, located along the Grand Canal steps from the Rialto Bridge, where a VIP opening will be held April 18, 2024.

The 2024 Personal Structures exhibition presents the third collaboration between Shannon Morris, Principal of The Curator's Studio, LLC and the ECC, having curated Shanequa Gay's "daughters of metropolitan" 2022 and Cheryl Goldsleger's "Vast Scales-Intimate Spaces," 2019."This group of artists began their journey to Venice in early November 2022, and it's been wonderful to witness them create new bodies of work that engage in broad conversations."

This year's guiding title, "Beyond Boundaries," considers our global society's complex dynamics. The ECC's curatorial team offers the collective presentation of artists as a journey across geographic, political, religious, cultural, and artistic boundaries. Participating artists are internationally renowned and emerging artists, photographers, and sculptors and showcase projects by worldwide academic institutions. In addition to Palazzo Bembo, the ECC hosts artists in Palazzo Mora and Marinaressa Gardens, located in the heart of the Venetian city.

More About the Artists and Their PERSONAL STRUCTURES

Annie Kammerer Butrus

Annie Kammerer Butrus's (b. Evanston, Illinois) artistic practice concentrates on the intersection of science, landscape, and memory. Her work shows how nature, emotions, and mapping shape ideas of place and belonging.

Internal/External reveals the power of the landscape in our memory. Scientists use functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) to understand emotional states and have found that when a landscape memory is recalled, brain activity is the same as when one is imagined. Butrus' work presents diptychs of our brain's left and right hemispheres based on fMRI images, merging them with her landscape shadow tracings.

The work features lateral ventricles and uses cranial demarcations as the boundaries for the interior and exterior of the brain. Contrasting singular hues or wide-ranging colors evoke various emotional states inside and outside the cranial hemispheres. When paired with landscape tracings, the resulting brain map reveals the mind's power to hold both imagined and remembered landscapes.

Butrus holds an MFA in Painting and Printmaking, University of Notre Dame and a BA, Wellesley College. Notable public and private collections hold her work. She lives and works in Birmingham, Alabama, where she conducts her Color Response Community Art Project.

Sabre Esler

Sabre Esler (b. Cleveland, OH) explores the synergy between art and science, where elegance and symmetry meet. Esler's study of energy waves, mathematical codes and

musical ciphers allows her to question the human experience of personal perspectives and narratives, which create imaginary constructs defining who we become through logical and illogical choices or paths. Through her practice, she seeks a harmonious life balance. While recognizing chaos as a natural phenomenon that interrupts the universe's balance and reveals genuine experiences, her work provides a calm, meditative background, soothing melodies and loving interactions in juxtaposition to the manufactured disruptors such as AI, social media and the frenetic pace of information overload in our current way of life.

Esler holds an MFA from Savannah College of Art and Design and a BFA from Miami University, Oxford, OH, where she studied graphic design, illustration and biology. She exhibits her work in major cities throughout the US at major non-profit art centers, galleries, museums and academic institutions. Internationally, renowned public, private and corporate collections hold her work in their collections. Esler receives accolades for her work at events such as the Carolyn Glasoe Bailey Foundation Art Prize in Minnesota and participates in art fairs such as SCOPE and Aqua during Art Basel, Miami. She is a studio artist at Atlanta Contemporary and a Distinguished Hambidge Fellow.

Grace Kisa

A multimedia artist whose primary form of expression is sculpture, Grace Kisa (b. Kenya) employs an improvisational process to combine creativity, play and problem-solving. Her work draws inspiration from her childhood spent in Kenya, Ethiopia, Botswana, and Virginia and as a practicing artist in Georgia (US). By transforming what is familiar, she creates narratives that engage various histories while working through concepts of insertional identities, examining migration processes and cultural exchange beyond borders.

"Transmission | Transformation" merges speculative imagination, future dreaming, and world-building to create a recipe for powerful creativity that enables humans to tap into their innate potential. Through this body of work, Kisa proposes that through speculative imagination, humans can fuel our future dreams and develop detailed worlds that resonate with their visions of the here and now.

A graduate of the Art Institute in Atlanta, Georgia, where she has worked professionally for twenty years, Kisa exhibits widely throughout the United States. Notably, in 2019, she participated in the Prizm Art Fair during Art Basel Miami. Artist Fahamu Pecou

commissioned her to design and fabricate an Egungun costume for his "Do Or Die" thesis exhibition performance, included in the Michael C. Carlos Museum collection at Emory University. Kisa is a 2020 Artadia finalist for their collaborative project called "Nu Africans", which was exhibited at The Hammonds House Museum and was commissioned alongside Ellex Swavoni by the Atlanta BeltLine to design and fabricate a public art sculpture "All In One."

The New York Times, Forbes, The Atlanta Journal and Constitution, ArtsAtl, Black Art In America, and Rolling Out have published reviews of her work.

Corrina Sephora

Multimedia artist Corrina Sephora (b. New Hampshire, 1971) explores nautical and cosmic imagery, focusing on the elements of water and air that coincide with the memories of her experiences. "Dwelling in a Sea of Time and Space" combines ancient and contemporary technology and nautical and celestial imagery to explore life's journey in a dance with the liminal spaces. Her objects reference historical and functional connections to the practice of blacksmithing. The Aviron- oar is inspired by ceremonial staffs, merging her connections to the sky and water, steering humanity through uncharted waters and a sea of time and space.

Corrina holds a BFA in Metals and Sculpture from Massachusetts College of Art, Boston, 1995, & an MFA in Sculpture from Georgia State University, 2005. She participates in multiple residencies throughout the U.S. and abroad. Prominent locations feature her sculptures, including The Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Park, Atlanta, GA, Atlanta Botanical Gardens, and Atlanta Jewish Academy. Placed within permanent collections such as the Museum of Contemporary Art, Georgia, and King and Spalding Contemporary Art Collection, and featured in private collections, notably Sir Elton John.

Among her most recent accolades, Corrina boasts of the Judith Alexander Foundation Relief Fund for Visual Artists presented by the Judith Alexander Foundation, Fulton County Arts and Culture Virtual Arts Initiative, and Decatur Artway Sculpture Program offered by the Decatur Arts Council, Decatur, Georgia. In 2023, the Freeport Art Museum's Arts Plaza, Freeport, IL, selected her work through a national call to create a public installation.