Institute of Contemporary Art
University of Pennsylvania

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NEWS RELEASE

Open Call for Applicants Announced for RAW Académie at ICA to take place Fall 2020 at the Institute of Contemporary Art in Philadelphia

Led by Artistic Director Linda Goode Bryant, this marks the ninth iteration and first session of the experimental residential program outside of Senegal

March 6, 2020
Philadelphia, PA

Courtesy of RAW Material Company.

Linda Goode Bryant. Courtesy of Raw Material Company.

The Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA), University of Pennsylvania is pleased to announce an international open call for applications to participate in RAW Académie, an experimental residential program for artists, curators, and critics dedicated to the research and study of artistic and curatorial practice and thought. *RAW Académie at ICA: Infrastructure* will be the first session of the Académie to be held outside of Dakar, Senegal. Taking place over seven weeks at ICA in Philadelphia, this experiential study program will be held September 28 through November 13, 2020 and will be led by artist, writer, filmmaker and activist Linda Goode Bryant. The curriculum will consist of presentations, visits to other cultural institutions, and workshops with invited faculty. Confirmed faculty include Whitney Museum of American Art Assistant Curator Rujeko Hockley, who curated "We Wanted a Revolution: Black Radical Women, 1965-1985"; artist, filmmaker and cinematographer Arthur Jafa, recipient of the Golden Lion at the 2019 Venice Biennale; Museum of Modern Art Curator of Media and Performance, Thomas Lax, who is organizing, "Just Above Midtown: 1974 to the Present"; and writer, musician, and cultural critic Greg Tate who was a staff writer at *The Village Voice* from 1987-2003. More faculty will be announced. An evolutive exhibition including public programs and a publication, will remain on view in ICA's second-floor gallery through January 24, 2021.

"This collaboration with RAW Material Company is the result of several years of dialogue and dreaming together about the possibilities embedded within arts organizations and their locational identity," said ICA's Dorothy and Stephen R. Weber (CHE'60) Curator Alex Klein. "We are beyond thrilled for this unparalleled opportunity to host Session 9 of RAW Académie, led by artistic director Linda

Koyo Kouoh. Photo: Antoine Tempé.

Courtesy of RAW Material Company.

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Goode Bryant. I have long been an admirer of RAW's responsive, horizontal, transgeographic approach. The resulting seminar, public programming, and exhibition will undoubtedly challenge our preconceptions about museums, art practice, education, community, and discourse—all of which are valuable tools as we head into the U.S. 2020 presidential elections."

Using the public art museum as both a point of connection and departure, and situated at the ICA, Session 9 fellows will consider questions around infrastructure within the context of global production and today's market for art. Goode Bryant will ask fellows to "envision and conceive of an infrastructure that supports and expands the level and degree to which artists pursue a perpetual need to create and create anew. A structure that diversifies the ways and means for making artists more self-sufficient in meeting their living and creative needs, drawing on knowledge born from the artists and the works themselves. An infrastructure that can exist as creative hubs within local communities and that expands ongoing access and direct engagement with art as a natural, daily part of life."

"At RAW we are thrilled to be embarking on this adventure with ICA and Linda," says Koyo Kouoh, Founding Artistic Director of Raw Academy Company, currently Executive Director and Chief Curator of the Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art, Cape Town. "This collaboration constitutes a meeting point for us to explore, in practice, the implications, potentials, and limits of what it means to be an infrastructure that is open, as RAW Académie and ICA enter into symbiosis with Linda as our conductor."

"Situated within the academically rigorous institution of the University of Pennsylvania, ICA is a fitting host for the very first session to take place in the US. With its concentration on experimentation, wide-ranging approach to curatorial projects, and mission to furthering critical dialogue, ICA, like Raw Material Company, works to foster appreciation for and growth of artistic and intellectual creativity. We look forward to welcoming this year's residents to the culturally rich and diverse community of Philadelphia this fall," says ICA Interim Director John McInerney.

APPLICATION PROCESS

RAW Académie is a tuition-free experimental study program. ICA will provide assistance with travel, accommodation, and basic living expenses to successful applicants from outside of the Philadelphia region. A maximum of 10 fellows will be selected for the session. The application process is online only, and runs through March 15, 2020.

The selection committee for Session 9 is made up of Linda Goode Bryant and the curatorial teams of RAW Material Company and ICA. Only short-listed applicants will be notified and invited for an online interview and the final selection will be made by April 15. Please submit applications through form available at https://bit.ly/2VMv4rv.

ABOUT LINDA GOODE BRYANT

Born in Columbus, Ohio, USA, Linda Goode Bryant is an artist, writer, filmmaker and activist. Bryant received her B.A. at Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia and a Master's degree in Business from Columbia University in New York City. Linda co-produced and directed *Flag Wars* (2003), a cinéma vérité Emmy Award-nominated documentary. She is a 2004 Guggenheim Fellow and Peabody Award winner. Good Bryant was Founding Director of Just Above Midtown (JAM), a New

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MUSEUM HOURS
WEDNESDAY, 11AM–8PM
THURSDAY- SUNDAY, 11AM–6PM

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York City non-profit interdisciplinary artists' space that supported new work by emerging visual, video, and film artists, choreographers, musicians, writers, and performance and theater artists. JAM was the first gallery space to exhibit the work of African-American artists and other artists of color in a major gallery district, and is the subject of a 2022 exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art, New York. In 2003 Goode Bryant founded the Active Citizen Project (ACP), a non-profit organization that serves as a catalyst and laboratory for broad-based public activism using art and new media as tools for social change.

ABOUT RAW MATERIAL COMPANY
RAW Material Company is a center for art, knowledge and society in Dakar, Senegal. Founded by Koyo Kouoh, currently Executive Director and Chief Curator of the Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa, Cape Town, RAW Material Company is an initiative involved with curatorial practice, artistic education, residencies, knowledge production and the archiving of theory and criticism on art. It works to foster appreciation for and growth of artistic and intellectual creativity in Africa. The program is trans-disciplinary and is equally informed by literature, film, architecture, politics, fashion, cuisine, and diaspora.

ABOUT RAW ACADÉMIE
RAW Académie is an experimental residential program for the research and study of artistic and curatorial practice and thought. The program usually takes place over seven weeks in Dakar. It is dedicated to a dynamic reflection on artistic research, curatorial practice and critical writing. The Académie is held during two distinct sessions per year; May-June and September-November. Session 9 will take place in Philadelphia at the Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania (ICA), and will run from September 28 through November 13 2020.

ABOUT THE INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART | UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
The Institute of Contemporary Art at the University of Pennsylvania is a non-collecting institution presenting exhibitions at the forefront of contemporary practice and culture that challenge audiences to think in new ways. The ICA is free for all to engage and connect with the art of our time. Since its founding in 1963, ICA has served as a laboratory for the new, introducing and supporting the production of urgent and important contemporary art, beginning with ICA's inaugural show of paintings by Abstract Expressionist Clyfford Still, followed by the first museum show of works by Andy Warhol in 1965. Throughout its history, ICA has been instrumental in identifying and developing many promising artists before they attained prominence within the international art world, some of whom include—in addition to Warhol—Richard Artschwager, Vija Celmins, Alex Da Corte, Karen Kilimnik, Barry Le Va, Glenn Ligon, Robert Mapplethorpe, Agnes Martin, Rodney McMillian, Pepón Osorio, Cauleen Smith, and Charline von Heyl.

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