



Jenny Marketou, Sunspotting A Walking Forest (2012)

# 2017 ENGAGING ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP

**MORE ART** welcomes applications from New York City-based emerging artists interested in exploring topics related to *labor, immigration, globalization, and economic justice* in their creative practice.

**+ART**

More Art is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that fosters collaborations between professional artists and communities to create public art and educational programs that inspire social justice.

**The 2017 ENGAGING ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP is an artist in residence program for emerging New York City-based artists interested in addressing the intersecting issues of labor, immigration, globalization, and economic justice in their creative practice.**

The goal of the 4 month fellowship is to prepare artists for long-term activist and socially-engaged work in partnership with advocacy and social service organizations, coalitions, unions, and groups of neighbors throughout the five boroughs. Ideal candidates must live in New York City and have an interest in or dedication to the interrogation of topics such as: *value, wage, debt, livelihood and family life, workers rights, labor, and alternative economies* as they relate to the fellow's respective communities and the larger landscapes of migration, neoliberalism, and/or the economies of the contemporary art market(s).

*What is the artist's \_\_\_\_\_ in the global economy?*

- a. role
- b. responsibility
- c. value
- d. labor
- e. \_\_\_\_\_
- f. all of the above

## Eligibility Requirements

**MORE ART** welcomes applications from visual and performing artists of all disciplines. For the 2017 Engaging Artists Fellowship we are strongly encouraging applications from artists who work in movement and performance based art, intermedia, interactive and participatory arts, educational theater, choreography, and writing for stage or public performance. *Artists of all disciplines are eligible to apply.*

We also strongly encourage applications from lifelong New York City residents; artists of color; recent immigrants; individuals from economically disadvantaged backgrounds; those who have been excluded from the resources of the art world because of cultural, racial, and linguistic heritage, ability, and/or sexual orientation or gender-based identity; do not have formal artistic training (such as an MFA); or those whose creative practices have been historically underrepresented from mainstream exhibitions and public works.

*The Engaging Artists Fellowship program is provided free of cost to artists and designed to consider the working artist, with all events scheduled during evenings or weekends.*

## Workshops, Roundtables, and Professional Development

Participants will have access to 3-4 roundtables related to workers rights, alternative economies, and labor movements within the arts and at large. Additionally, the fellowship includes 2-3 hands-on professional development workshops with leaders in both the arts, political economy, and labor sectors on how to apply one's skills as artists to the collective pursuit of labor and economic justice.

*Topics may include:* artists' roles in labor movements; timeline of artists and labor organizing from The Artists' Union (1934) to the present; history of workers' rights and labor laws and their effects on New York City residents and immigrant populations; institutional critique; and case-studies of socially engaged art.

## Artist Community and Mentorship

In order to build strong artist-led coalitions, More Art believes in creating synergies between artists in various stages of their careers through dialogue and access to accomplished artists working in/with the public. This year's workshops may be led by More Art commissioned artists including: Ernesto Pujol, Brendan Fernandes, Jennifer Dalton, and William Powhida.

Fellows will also have an opportunity to engage and collaborate with a diverse network of past Engaging Artist Fellows who have focused on issues of immigrant rights and economic empowerment as well as health and human services, housing justice, and anti-gentrification.

## Volunteering and the 'Artists-in-Residence' Model

The **ENGAGING ARTISTS (IN-RESIDENCE)** program is premised on the belief that art and artists play an integral role in empowering social justice movements by creatively illuminating social issues, engaging new audiences in activism, and catalyzing new public discourse about advocacy missions from multiple perspectives.

Engaging Artists enables artists to deepen their understanding of socially engaged art through direct action including volunteering, outreach initiatives, and public art projects. More Art will assist fellows in establishing crucial partnerships at

community-based organizations that focus on immigrant rights, labor justice, and economic empowerment in their home neighborhoods.

Each fellow will be required to volunteer *at least* 30 hours at partnering organizations over the course of the 4 month program, situating their status as artists-in-residence at the organization, while getting hands-on with the day-to-day work of activism and social services, which may not directly involve the arts. Artists will also have the chance to propose their own volunteer art-based project, if they so choose.

#### **CURRENT + PAST PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS\*:**

Hudson Guild  
Turning Point Education Center  
Families United for Racial and Economic Equality (FUREE)  
Good Old Lower East Side (GOLES)  
Queens Neighborhoods United (QNU)  
Center for Family Life

\* fellows may work with these or new partner organizations

## **Final Group Exhibition and Prize Opportunities**

Along with professional development programs, the Engaging Artists Fellowship includes small project support stipends for workshops as well as an exhibition staged in 2018 and prize opportunities available only to Engaging Artists alumni.

Engaging Artists culminates in a curated exhibition and an opportunity to apply for More Art's juried 'Prize for Public Art' and 'Prize for Research in Social Practice' that enables recipients to expand upon a collaborative project conceived during the fellowship.

### **Prize in Research in Social Practice (up to \$1000)**

This prize category is ideal for independent fellows or collectives who are still in the early stages of an art and social engagement project that could use support while developing or deepening community collaborations, researching, and workshopping.

### **Prize in Public and Community Arts (up to \$4000)**

This prize is ideal for independent fellow or collectives looking to stage a culminating exhibition or presentation of the project, event, collaboration, or engagement. Proposals must take place in a public space (broadly defined to encompass outdoor venues such as parks and the street or indoor locations such as libraries, schools, community centers, etc.) and/or in a site that is relevant to the topic explored and accessible to a defined community and/or the public at large. Proposals can be part of a larger project, or series, and seek additional support.

This year (2016-2017) the Prize for Public Art goes to Bridget Bartolini and Priscilla Stadler who will stage multiple storytelling and participatory installations in Jackson Heights, Corona, and Elmhurst, Queens with partner organization Queens Neighborhood United. Research prizes went to Ligaiya Romero to stage a performative parade in Brooklyn, and to Jonathan Gardenhire for a public photography and archive initiative in partnership with residents of NYCHA Smith Houses in the Lower East Side, Manhattan.

The 2016-2017 Final curated exhibition, *Building Stories* will be held at Flux Factory from October 4th to October 15th, 2017.

## Program Timeline\*

Week 1 | 1 May – 7 May

Thursday, May 4, 7pm-9pm:

Orientation at More Art office

*Artists will select partnerships in consultation with More Art*

Week 2 | 8 May – 14 May

Thursday, May 11, 7pm-9pm:

Guest Speaker Roundtable #1

Week 3 | 15 May – 21 May 17

Thursday, May 18, 7pm-9pm

*Residents begin to volunteer with organizational partners*

Workshop #1

Week 4: 22 May – 28 May 24

Thursday, May 25, 7pm-9pm

Guest Speaker Roundtable #2

Week 5: 29 May – 4 June

Thursday, June 1, 7pm-9pm

Workshop #2

Resident Meeting #2

Week 6: 5 June – 11 June

Thursday, June 8, 7pm-9pm  
Guest Speaker Roundtable #3 (Final Guest Speaker)

Week 7: 12 June – 18 June  
Thursday, June 15, 7pm-9pm  
Workshop Series #3 (Final Workshop)  
Resident Meeting #3

Week 8: 19 June – 28 June  
Thursday, June 22, 7pm-9pm  
Resident Meeting #4

29 June – August 31  
*Studio visits with Residents and Community Programs Coordinator*  
Saturday, July 15th: Public Town Hall-style Potluck Event  
Thursday, August 17th: Curatorial Review with Guest Curators at More Art

\*Timeline subject to change. Fellowship Meetings, Workshops and Roundtable events are expected to be scheduled on Thursday evenings 7-9pm and occasional Saturday afternoons.

## Sample week schedule

Artists will be expected to volunteer *at least* 30 hours during the course of the program. There is flexibility for each artist to establish a schedule that works for them and the organization they are volunteering with.

*In one week, artists can be expected to attend:*

- One ninety minute residency meeting at More Art office at The Neighborhood Preservation Center or site-specific locations in lower Manhattan and Brooklyn *to be determined.*
- Volunteer for approximately 4 hours at their partnering organization.

Selected artists must attend the full speaker program, professional development workshops, and studio meetings (see timeline and sample week schedule). Failure to complete the volunteering requirement or having missed more than one residency meeting will risk eligibility for the Engaging Artist Prizes and participation in the final exhibition.

## **2017 ENGAGING ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION**

To Apply:

1. Complete the following **online application**
2. Email portfolio and resume / CV to PJ@moreart.org

**Due: Wednesday April, 5th at 11:59 PM**

Email subject line: Engaging Artists 2017 Application // [last name]

**Attach a single PDF formatted as follows:**

Section 1: application

Section 2: portfolio

Section 3: resume / CV

### **1. APPLICATION QUESTIONS**

Name:

Do you live in New York City? (Y/N)

Address:

Phone number:

Email:

Website:

*(Optional:)*

Race/ethnicity:

Country of origin:

Do you speak conversational English?: (Y/N)

**Why are you interested in participating in the 2017 Engaging Artists Fellowship focused on immigration, labor, and economic justice? (300 words max)**

**Have you been involved with the social justice movements in the past? If so, please elaborate including a description of your experience working collaboratively in community, nonprofit, and activist settings. (300 words max)**

**Explain the relationship between social justice and your artistic practice.**  
(300 words max)

**Please describe your artistic training, either informal or academic.**  
(100 words max)

**Please include a narrative biography.** (250 words max)

*(Optional:)*

**If accepted into the fellowship would you need any accommodations  
(including but are not limited to):**

- Written materials in accessible formats, such as large print, braille, or audiotape
- Readers or sign language interpreters
- ADA meeting spaces
- Interpretive devices or equipment.
- Adjustments or modifications to application policies and procedures.

## 2. PORTFOLIO

Up to 10 work samples in the following format:

- Photography or still images/graphics (10 images)
- Link to video (only the first two minutes of the video will be viewed, Please note the starting point if it is not at 0:00)

*Please note:*

Year completed

Medium

Dimension

Important details (50 words max)

## 3. RESUME / CV

**Submit application or any questions to PJ@moreart.org by April 1st at 11:59 pm**