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Stephanie Dinkins: *If We Don't, Who Will?*

More Art's 2025 Public Art Commission Introduces the Artist's *The Stories We Tell Our Machines*

More Art is thrilled to announce *If We Don't, Who Will?*, a public art commission by transdisciplinary artist Stephanie Dinkins.

A leading voice in AI and emerging media, Dinkins is known for creating critical artworks that illuminate the intersections of artificial intelligence with race, gender, cultural memory, and history. In this project, she invites the public to engage with a performative and functional artificial intelligence laboratory *If We Don't, Who Will?* which will be installed at The Plaza at 300 Ashland Place in the Downtown Brooklyn Cultural District from June 25-September 28, 2025.



Blending sculptural, technical, and performative approaches, *If We Don't, Who Will?* is the opening chapter of an evolving series of planned works by Dinkins entitled *The Stories We Tell Our Machines*. The project challenges the conventions of AI by centering the culture, craft, and well-being of historically underrepresented communities within the global majority. Guided by the artist's belief that a more equitable and just AI is possible, *If We Don't, Who Will?* encourages us to build care-filled relationships with machine intelligences, demonstrating that care is at the core of our humanity.

Dinkins aims to demystify AI's "black box," revealing how the data we feed into these systems shapes their perceptions—and, in turn, how they impact our society. As Dinkins explains:

"Our attention, understanding, advocacy, and participation in nurturing AI are crucial to creating a world that supports all of us—not just a select few. AI runs the risk of perpetuating harmful biases and stereotypes embedded in

our society. However, when our stories are self-determined, nuanced, and culturally specific, they can foster AI systems that reflect and uplift the experiences of everyday people.”

Designed in collaboration with renowned architects **LOT-EK**, the laboratory is housed in an upcycled shipping container—reimagined as an interactive site for storytelling and exploration. Neighbors, community members, and passersby will be invited to contribute to a growing dataset of stories that reflect the vast diversity of human experience. *The Stories We Tell Our Machines* will evolve over the coming year across a variety of venues and take a multitude of forms including DNA printing, community events, and an interactive app.

The project fosters cultural exchange between AI lab technicians, the public, and bespoke AI algorithms, which work together to generate visual responses to contributed stories. In doing so, it maps out new possibilities for co-creation and care between humans and machines.

Named one of the 100 Most Influential People in AI 2023 by *Time Magazine*, Dinkins’ work continues to advocate and push for a future where people from all walks of life can actively shape AI systems that are trustworthy, collaborative, and truly representative of our shared humanity.

Public events are planned with partners in the newly opened L10 Arts and Cultural Center to take place over the summer and into the fall. Visit www.moreart.org and follow us @moreartnyc on Instagram for more details.

If We Don’t, Who Will? is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the Lambent Foundation, The Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation, Schmidt Sciences, LLC, and Future Histories Studio at Stony Brook University. Technological development by DOTDOT Studio, with architectural design by LOT-EK, and fabrication by Chris Zirbes and Whitney Design & Fabrication. Mechanical design by J+M Engineering with structural consulting by Eytan Solomon / TYLin Group.

Site partners include the L10 Arts and Cultural Center, Downtown Brooklyn Partnership, Two Trees, Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts (MoCADA), Brooklyn Public Library (BPL Presents), 651Arts, and Brooklyn Academy of Music.

About the Artist

Stephanie Dinkins is a transdisciplinary artist and educator whose work intersects emerging technologies and our future histories. Her art practice is deeply committed to creating platforms for dialogue about AI as it intersects with these critical societal

issues. As an LG-Guggenheim Awardee, and one of Time Magazine's 100 Most Influential People in AI (2023), Dinkins leverages technology and storytelling to challenge and reimagine the narratives surrounding marginalized communities, particularly those of Black and brown individuals. Through her installations, digital platforms, and community-based projects, Dinkins seeks not only to question the current paradigms of AI development but also to forge paths toward more equitable and inclusive technological futures. Her work emphasizes the importance of incorporating diverse voices and perspectives into the design and application of AI, advocating for a future where technology uplifts and amplifies underrepresented histories and experiences and fostering a tech ecosystem that is truly beneficial for all.

Dinkins is the Kusama Endowed Chair in Art at Stony Brook University and a Schmidt Futures AI2050 Senior Fellow. Dinkins' work in AI and other mediums uses emerging technologies and social collaboration to work toward technological ecosystems based on care and social equity. She exhibits and publicly advocates for inclusive AI internationally at a broad spectrum of community, private, and institutional venues.

Dinkins previous fellowships and support include the United States Artist Fellowship, Knight Arts & Tech Fellowship, Sundance Artist of Practice Fellowship, Lucas Artists Fellowship in Visual Arts at Montalvo Art Center, the Soros Equality Fellowship, Visions 2030, Data and Society Research Institute Fellowship and awards from the Stanford Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence, Creative Capital, Eyebeam, Pioneer Works Tech Lab, NEW INC, Blue Mountain Center, The Laundromat Project, Santa Fe Art Institute and Art/Omi. *Wired*, *The New York Times*, *Art In America*, *Artsy*, *Art21*, *Hyperallergic*, *the BBC*, *The Nod Podcast*, *Rightclicksave.com*, and many popular podcasts and online publications have highlighted Dinkins' art and ideas.

About More Art

More Art is a non-profit organization based in New York that commissions socially engaged public art projects, reaching over 10,000 spectators a year. More Art supports collaborations between artists and communities to create public art projects and educational programs that stimulate creative engagement with critical social and cultural issues. More Art uses public art and digital media to create powerful experiences that aggregate individual and collective perspectives on sensitive topics, such as immigration. All projects are carried out through multi-year collaborations with community-based organizations.