

Frieze Press Release
February 14, 2018



Kapwani Kiwanga: Inaugural Winner of the Frieze Artist Award, supported by Luma Foundation at Frieze New York 2018

**Kiwanga to Present Major New Commission at Frieze New York,
May 3–6 2018**

Today Frieze announces **Kapwani Kiwanga** as the winner of the Frieze Artist Award, a major opportunity for an emerging artist launching at Frieze New York 2018. The Paris-based artist will realize an open-air installation, exploring freedom of movement and architectures of exclusion, in Randall's Island Park from May 3–6 2018. Curated by **Adrienne Edwards** (Whitney Museum of American Art/Walker Art Center, Minneapolis), the Frieze Artist Award forms part of the fair's non-profit program and is supported by the Luma Foundation.

Kiwanga's proposal was selected from an international open call, resulting in hundreds of applications from more than 50 countries. The 2018 Frieze Artist Award jury included **Liam Gillick** (artist), **Eungie Joo** (San Francisco Museum of Modern Art), **Pablo León de la Barra** (Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York) and Edwards, chaired by **Loring Randolph** (Artistic Director, Frieze). Kiwanga receives a budget of up to 30,000 USD and will realize her artwork at Frieze New York.

Edwards said: "I'm thrilled to be launching the Artist Award at Frieze New York with such a strong, thought-provoking artist. Kapwani's rigorous research and imaginative approach confront audiences with the raw materials and elemental structures of power. I'm looking forward to experiencing Kapwani's ambitious artwork in Randall's Island Park, which will ask poignant questions about our built environment and human histories of control."

Kiwanga has explored subjects as far reaching as space travel, anti-colonial struggles, geology and disciplinary architectures, often rooted in her training in anthropology. Part documentary, part fiction, Kiwanga's works span installation, sound, video and performance, unsettle established narratives and create spaces in which marginalized discourse can flourish.



Kiwanga's winning commission, *Shady* (working title), will be a large-scale sculptural work made for the open air and installed outside the entrance to Frieze New York. Created with industrial metal and agricultural fabric and punctuated by holes and passageways, the imposing structure will both invite and obstruct movement. The artist's political choice of Shade Cloth, used in large-scale farming on the African continent and beyond, will speak to the colonial appropriation of land from indigenous communities and the manipulation of the natural environment for economic gain. In these ways, the artist will build on her practice shining new light on the psychological power of design and histories of exclusion.

Kapwani Kiwanga (b. 1978, Hamilton, Canada) lives and works in Paris, France. Kiwanga studied Anthropology and Comparative Religion at McGill University in Montreal before taking part in the program La Seine at the École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Paris. Kiwanga's work is currently on show as part of "Stories for Almost Everyone" at the Hammer Museum (Los Angeles, 2018) and she has been selected for the 2018 edition of Glasgow International.

About the Frieze Artist Award, supported by the Luma Foundation

The launch of the Artist Award in New York follows an established program of Artist Award commissions at Frieze London. The 2017 Frieze Artist Award winner (London) was Kiluanji Kia Henda, whose two-part installation took the cult of Marxism-Leninism in Angola as its starting point. Previous award winners in London include Yuri Pattison (2016), Rachel Rose (2015) and Mélanie Matranga (2014). The Frieze Artist Award sits within a rich history of artist awards presented at Frieze Art Fairs, including the Emdash Award (2011–13) and the Cartier Award (2006–10). Explore all projects here. Frieze New York 2018 takes place from May 4–6 in Randall's Island Park and is supported by global lead partner Deutsche Bank for the seventh consecutive year.

For further information please visit frieze.com

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Notes to Editors:

Frieze: Frieze is the world's leading platform for modern and contemporary art for scholars, connoisseurs, collectors and the general public alike. Frieze comprises three magazines—*frieze*, *Frieze Masters Magazine* and *Frieze Week*—and four international art fairs—Frieze London, Frieze Masters, Frieze New York and Frieze Los Angeles. Additionally, Frieze organizes a program of special courses and lectures in London through Frieze Academy.

Frieze was founded in 1991 by Matthew Slotover and Amanda Sharp, with the launch of *frieze* magazine, the leading international magazine of contemporary art and culture. In 2003, Sharp and Slotover launched Frieze London art fair, which takes place each October in The Regent's Park, London. In 2012, they launched Frieze New York, which occurs each May in Randall's Island Park, and Frieze Masters, which coincides with Frieze London in October and is dedicated to art from ancient to modern. In 2018, Frieze announced the launch of Frieze Los Angeles, which will open February 14–17, 2019 at Paramount Pictures Studios, Los Angeles.

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Adrienne Edwards is the recently appointed Engell Speyer Family Curator and Curator of Performance at the Whitney Museum of American Art, a post she begins in May. She has realized new cross-boundary work with a wide range of artists, including commissions with Edgar Arceneaux, Yto Barrada, Teju Cole, Juliana Huxtable, Rashid Johnson, Laura Lima, Julie Mehretu and Jason Moran, Wangechi Mutu, Adam Pendleton and Yvonne

Rainer, and Tracey Rose in addition to projects and productions by Jonathas de Andrade, Chimurenga, Kwani Trust, Benjamin Patterson, Pope.L, Ralph Lemon, Senga Nengudi, Lorraine O'Grady, Dave McKenzie, Will Rawls, and Carrie Mae Weems for Performa, where she was Curator from 2010-2018. Edwards developed special thematic presentations within the Performa biennial, including "AFROGLOSSIA" (Performa 17), "Babylon Brazil" (Performa 15), and "Three Duets, Seven Variations" on the occasion of the New York tour of "Radical Presence: Black Performance in Contemporary Art" (Performa 13). She also oversaw Performa's institutional partnerships and co-commissioning relationships with Anthology Film Archives, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, MoMA, and The Studio Museum in Harlem. As the Walker Art Center's Curator at Large from 2016-2018, Edwards organized Jason Moran's first-ever monograph and touring exhibition, co-curated the permanent collection exhibition, "I am you, you are too", and co-led a \$1million Mellon Foundation Interdisciplinary Initiative. Other curatorial projects have included the critically acclaimed exhibition and catalogue "Blackness in Abstraction", hosted by Pace Gallery in 2016. In addition to being a PhD Candidate in Performance Studies at New York University, she is a contributor to numerous exhibition catalogues and art publications including *Aperture*, *Art in America*, *Parkett*, and *Spike Art Quarterly*.

Luma Foundation: In 2004, Maja Hoffmann created the Luma Foundation to support the activities of artists, independent pioneers and organizations working in the visual arts, photography, publishing, documentary filmmaking, and other media. The Luma Foundation produces, supports, and enables challenging art projects committed to an expansive understanding of environmental issues, human rights, education and culture.

In 2014, Luma started the regeneration of the Parc des Ateliers, an expansive former industrial site located in Arles, France. Situated adjacent to the city's UNESCO World Heritage sites, the Parc des Ateliers serves as the major programmatic and cultural centre for the Luma Foundation's diverse activities. The site includes a resource centre designed by architect Frank Gehry (to open

in 2019); various industrial buildings rehabilitated by Selldorf Architects; and a public park designed by landscape architect Bas Smets. Hoffmann works closely with the Luma Arles Core Group (Tom Eccles, Liam Gillick, Hans Ulrich Obrist, Philippe Parreno, and Beatrix Ruf) on a program of exhibitions and multidisciplinary projects presented each year in the site's newly rehabilitated venues of the Grande Halle, Les Forges, and the Mécanique Générale. More info: www.Luma-arles.org.

Deutsche Bank: Frieze New York is sponsored by global lead partner Deutsche Bank for the seventh consecutive year, continuing a shared commitment and understanding of the unique role contemporary art plays in today's globalized culture. Deutsche Bank has been supporting the work of cutting edge, international artists and their galleries for more than 35 years and has distinguished itself as a global leader in corporate art programs. For further information please visit art.db.com and db-artmag.com.

Press Contacts:

US & Americas
Resnicow & Associates
Adriana Elgarresta
resnicow.com
tel: +1 212 671 5158
aelgarresta@resnicow.com

UK, Europe & ROW
Scott & Co
Rosie O'Reilly
scott-andco.com
tel: + 44 (0)20 3487 0077
rosie@scott-andco.com

Frieze Contact:
Michelangelo Bendandi
frieze.com
tel: +44 203 372 6111
michelangelo.bendandi@frieze.com