

Join us on July 23 at Governors Island, KODA House!



Left: Lindsey Whittle; Right: Anissa R. Lewis

Saturday July 23, 2022 | 12-6pm

KODA House Governors Island, Colonels Row, Building #404B, second floor

Click here to view map. Details on how to get to Governors Island here.

On **Saturday July 23 from 12-6pm**, RU is organizing a new series of exhibitions with works by two artists from Covington, KY, **Lindsey Whittle** (Sparklezilla) and **Anissa R. Lewis**, whose residencies are generously supported by the Great Meadows Foundation, Louisville KY.



Lindsey Whittle and Rory Torstensson, "Documentation Flag Performance", 2022.

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Performative Experiments by the artist: The first 15 minutes of each hour | 2pm: mini flags will be distributed as part of a performance (while supplies last)

Lindsey Whittle's (Sparklezilla) project "4D Flag" is an ongoing project with Cincinnati artist **Benjamin Cook** and will feature a digital flag by **Loraine Wible**. Both Whittle and Cook have been exploring together what is and how to communicate through interactive flags. Cook and Whittle have been building this collaborative flag language together since November 2021, with Cook, a vexillologist and

contemporary painter, giving many compelling flag presentations to Whittle's Classes since 2019. Whittle was a lead teaching artist for the Cincinnati Artworks HDC Flag program summer 2020 and 2021 where she exhibited flag work with youth apprentices. This will be the 3rd variation of "4D flag" since starting this project with Cook, and the first time installing it outside, allowing the work to come alive with sunlight and wind. Whittle's flags dig into the idea of teamwork by exploring her 25 active collaboration languages through her visual and creative choices. Whittle and Cook have strong interests in exploring color, layer, shape and collaboration that they look forward to sharing with audiences on Governors Island. Whittle will be exploring performative experiments with the work the first 15 minutes of each hour from 12-6 (6 experiments total). At 2 pm mini flags will be distributed as part of a performance - while supplies last.



Left: Lindsey Whittle, "Hat Flag Close up", 2022; Right: Lindsey Whittle and Rory Torstensson, "Hat Flag Performance", 2022.

Exposed to The Air, to View/Not Covered by Anissa R. Lewis



Open lot between a red house and white house, Covington, KY, 2018

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Anissa R. Lewis' project is a continuation and re-imagination of her Love Letter Yard Signs as light projections. A work-in-progress, these projections of open and lost spaces, lost histories, are brought together with signage that dictate how we once interacted with, "valued" and navigated these same spaces. Lastly, texts and quotes from bell hooks and James Baldwin are introduced to spur an urgency for reclamation and renewal of connection with these spaces and places.



About the artists:

Lindsey Whittle, also known by her art name/identity Sparklezilla, is a multimedia performance and garment-based artist, textile print designer, art experience facilitator and educator who likes to take art experiences out of traditional art spaces and into everyday life. She uses colorful, transformable objects not only to form shapes, but as a starting point for collaboration. Whittle is a professor and educator that has developed custom garment and performance art programs for the Art Academy of Cincinnati since 2016. Whittle co-owns and co-instigates **PIQUE**, an experience gallery and Airbnb in Covington, KY, with her husband and fellow artist Clint Basinger. Basinger and Whittle, when working together operate under the art collective name "Spikow" which also includes their sound art band "Spikow for Now". PIQUE's Airbnb has been featured in Architectural Digest and Whittle's artworks have been featured by Hyperallergic.

After receiving her MFA from Yale University School of Art, Anissa R. Lewis moved to Philadelphia, PA where her deep belief in community, identity, agency, justice and voice led her to many projects and collaborations. In 2005, Lewis returned to Covington, KY to focus her work on the power of place in her hometown neighborhood and continue her community-based practice and projects. She has taught classes in social practice and print at the University of Cincinnati College of Design, Art, Architecture and Planning, and received a Creative Community Grant from the Center for Great Neighborhoods, in Covington, KY. Her work has been viewed at the Hampton University Museum, in Hampton, VA, The Carnegie, in Covington, KY, the Riffe Gallery, in Columbus, OH and at the Contemporary Arts Center, in Cincinnati, OH. Her work has been collected by the Sara Vance Waddell Collection. She lives in her childhood home, Covington, KY, with her family and works at the Art Academy of Cincinnati as the Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging.



This program benefits from the support of the Great Meadows Foundation, Louisville KY. We are grateful to KODA for inviting RU to share the house on Governors Island.

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