



**Making Space at the Armory releases full schedule of public events for  
Symposium: Sound & Color – The Future of Race in Design,  
January 14 & 15, 2023**

**Session topics include Anti-Racist Design Pedagogy, The Future of Theater Design in XR,  
Afrofuturism and Design for Live Performance, Culturally Specific Design, and more**

New York, NY – Thursday, January 5, 2023 – Park Avenue Armory announces the full schedule of public events [Symposium: Sound & Color – The Future of Race in Design](#), an interdisciplinary forum exploring how race matters in creative design for live performance, especially in the current moment of creative, technological, and cultural unrest. Hosted by lighting designer and co-organizer **Jane Cox**, playwright **Branden Jacobs-Jenkins**, set designer **Mimi Lien**, and sound designer and composer **Mikaal Sulaiman**, this event will include a series of conversations and interventions on **Saturday, January 14, 2023** and **Sunday, January 15, 2023**, intended to allow artists, intellectuals, and designers to explore lighting, sound, costume, and set design, as well as augmented reality, as sites of innovation, magic, and transformation.

Full schedule listed below:

**Saturday, January 14, 2023**

1:00pm – 2:00pm

**Opening Conversation  
*Veterans Room***

Set designer **Mimi Lien**, lighting designer **Jane Cox**, and sound designer and composer **Mikaal Sulaiman** in conversation, moderated by playwright **Branden Jacobs-Jenkins**.

2:00pm – 3:00pm

**Creating a Collaborative Aesthetic Over Time  
*Veterans Room***

Long-term collaborators costume designer **Montana Blanco**, set designer **Adam Rigg**, sound designer **Palmer Hefferan**, and puppet designer and fabricator **James Ortiz** discuss their collaborative history and work on *The Skin of Our Teeth*, moderated by director **Lileana Blain-Cruz**.

3:00pm – 4:00pm

**Presentation of Micro-Commissions  
Presented in collaboration with Design Action  
*Second Floor Historic Company Rooms***

Commissions by Barrymore-nominated scenic designer [Marie Laster](#); designer and artisan [Danielle DeLaFuente](#) and sound designer [Nina Field](#); queer, nonbinary interdisciplinary artist [Gylanni Carrington](#); Mexican scenic and costume designer [Rodrigo Hernandez Martinez](#); sound designer and composer [Elliot Yokum](#); and lighting designers [Christina Tang](#) and [Alex Vásquez Dheming](#).

**Space for Informal Conversations  
*Second Floor Hallway***

4:00pm – 5:00pm

**Conversations Between Generations**

***Veterans Room***

Actor, playwright, and director **Ruben Santiago-Hudson** in conversation with lighting designer and educator **Victor En Yu Tan** sharing the experiences of working in culturally specific theaters with younger artists. Moderated by Puerto Rican scenic designer and Head of Scenic Design at DePaul University **Regina García**.

**Teaching Design and Production through an Anti-Racist Lens**

***Board of Officers Room***

Costume designer and Princeton faculty member **Sarita Fellows** and Head of Lighting Design Training at NYU Tisch **Jeanette Yew** in conversation with University of Rhode Island Professor **Christine Mok**.

**Sunday, January 15, 2023**

1:00pm – 2:00pm

**The Future of Theater Design in XR**

**Presented in collaboration with Oregon Shakespeare Festival**

***Veterans Room***

Korean director, artist, and producer **Scarlett Kim** and director **Mei Ann Teo** in conversation with new media artist and creative technologist **LaJuné McMillian**; multidisciplinary artist and performer **Justin Hicks**; costume designer **Dede Ayite**; Ojibwe and Oneida writer, actor, and interdisciplinary artist **Ty Defoe**; and dancer **Raja Feather Kelly**.

**Black Sound Artists Round Table**

***Board of Officers Room***

Sound designer and composer **Mikaal Sulaiman** in conversation with composer, sound design artist, and musician **Justin Ellington**; Ghanaian interdisciplinary artist **Jojo Abot**; vocalist, composer, and performance artist **Holland Andrews**; and duo **Mendi + Keith Obadike**.

2:00pm – 3:00pm

**Afrofuturism in Conversation with Design for Live Performance**

***Veterans Room***

Park Avenue Armory Curator of Public Programming **Tavia Nyong'o** in conversation with director **Shariffa Ali** and Taiwanese scenic designer **You Shin Chen**.

**Culturally Specific Design**

***Board of Officers Room***

New York City Center Encores! Producing Creative Director **Clint Ramos** in conversation with theatrical lighting, projection, and puppetry designer **Jeanette Yew**. Moderated by **Diep Tran**, Editor-in-Chief of *Playbill*.

3:00pm – 4:00pm

**Presentation of Micro-Commissions**

**Presented in collaboration with Design Action**

***Second Floor Historic Company Rooms***

Commissions by Barrymore-nominated scenic designer [Marie Laster](#); designer and artisan [Danielle DeLaFuente](#) and sound designer [Nina Field](#); queer, nonbinary interdisciplinary artist [Gylanni Carrington](#); Mexican scenic and costume designer [Rodrigo Hernandez Martinez](#); sound designer and composer [Elliot Yokum](#); and lighting designers [Christina Tang](#) and [Alex Vásquez Dheming](#).

**Space for Informal Conversations**  
*Second Floor Hallway*

4:00pm – 5:00pm

**Darkness and Light: Lighting Design Onstage**  
Presented in collaboration with Princeton University's CreativeX  
*Veterans Room*

Lighting designers **Itohan Edoloyi**, **Stacey Derosier**, **Alejandro Fajardo**, and **Alan Edwards** in conversation, moderated by symposium host, Director of the Princeton University Theater program, and lighting designer **Jane Cox**.

**Costume Design Conversation**  
*Board of Officers Room*

Hosted by costume designer and founder of Black Trans Liberation **Qween Jean** with costume designers **Dominique Fawn Hill** and **Devario D. Simmons**.

**Ongoing Presentations**

**Movement Portraits**  
*19K*  
by **LaJuné McMillian**

**Documentation of the performance work *rasgos asiáticos***

An intimate story about the fluidity of borders and time, **Virginia Grise's** site-specific performance installation (documented here) *rasgos asiáticos* examines migration and displacement, and unearths hidden histories in the confluence of China, Mexico, and the United States. Created in collaboration with designer **Tanya Orellana**, *rasgos asiáticos* is a constructed space for personal and political excavation, revealed through inherited stories, fragmented memories, historical re-imaginings, and recurring dreams.

**Quills Fest VR World Pop Up**  
Presented by the Oregon Shakespeare Festival  
*Colonel's Room*

The Oregon Shakespeare Festival mount a pop-up version of their Quills Fest VR World, a transmedia sandbox that radically expands access to the transformational power of storytelling and imagines a multimodal future of theater. Pop-up works include XR and AR projects in multiple phases of development—from prototypes and works-in-progress to fully completed projects—that boldly explore liveness, interactivity, and immersive storytelling.

**TICKETING**

Day passes at \$45 (plus fees) and weekend passes at \$60 (plus fees) are available for purchase online at [armoryonpark.org](http://armoryonpark.org) and by phone through the Park Avenue Armory Box Office at (212) 933-5812, 10am to 6pm Monday through Friday. In person box office hours may vary.

**SPONSORSHIP**

Bloomberg Philanthropies is the Armory's 2023 Season Sponsor.

Support for Park Avenue Armory's artistic season has been generously provided by the Charina Endowment Fund, the Donald A. Pels Charitable Trust, The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, the Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, the Howard Gilman Foundation, the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, The Emma and Georgina Bloomberg Foundation, the Marc Haas Foundation, the Leon

Levy Foundation, the May and Samuel Rudin Family Foundation, Gregory Annenberg Weingarten, GRoW @ Annenberg, the Richenthal Foundation, and the Isak and Rose Weinman Foundation. Additional support has been provided by the Armory's Artistic Council.

## **ABOUT PUBLIC PROGRAMMING AT THE ARMORY**

Park Avenue Armory's Public Programming series brings diverse artists and cultural thought-leaders together for discussion and performance around the important issues of our time viewed through an artistic lens. Launched in 2017, the series encompasses a variety of programs including large-scale community events; multi-day symposia; intimate salons featuring performances, panels, and discussions; Artist Talks in relation to the Armory's Drill Hall programming; and other creative interventions.

Highlights from the Public Programming series include: **Carrie Mae Weems'** 2017 event *The Shape of Things* and 2021 convening and concert series *Land of Broken Dreams*, whose participants included **Elizabeth Alexander, Theaster Gates, Elizabeth Diller, Nona Hendryx, Somi, and Spike Lee**, among others; a daylong Lenape Pow Wow and Standing Ground Symposium held in the Wade Thompson Drill Hall, the first congregation of Lenape Elders on Manhattan Island since the 1700s; "A New Vision for Justice in America" conversation series in collaboration with Common Justice, exploring new coalitions, insights, and ways of understanding question of justice and injustice in relation moderated by *FLEXN Evolution* creators **Reggie (Regg Roc) Gray** and director **Peter Sellars**; the 2019 *Black Artists Retreat* hosted by **Theaster Gates**, which included public talks and performances, private sessions for the 300 attending artists, and a roller skating rink; *100 Years | 100 Women*, a multiorganization commissioning project that invited 100 women artists and cultural creators to respond to women's suffrage; a Queer Hip Hop Cypher, delving into the queer origins and aesthetics of hip hop with Astraea award-winning duo **Krudxs Cubensi** and author and scholar **Dr. Shante Paradigm Smalls**; the Archer Aymes Retrospective, exploring the legacy of emancipation through an immersive art installation curated by **Carl Hancock Rux** and featuring a concert performance by mezzo soprano **Alicia Hall Moran** and pianist **Aaron Diehl**, presented as one component of a three-part series commemorating Juneteenth in collaboration with Harlem Stage and Lincoln Center as part of the Festival of New York; and legendary artist **Nao Bustamante's BLOOM**, a cross-disciplinary investigation centered around the design of the vaginal speculum and its use in the exploitative and patriarchal history of the pelvic examination.

Notable Public Programming salons include: the Literature Salon hosted by **Branden Jacobs-Jenkins**, whose participants included **Lynn Nottage, Suzan Lori-Parks, and Jeremy O. Harris**, a Spoken Word Salon co-hosted with the **Nuyorican Poets Cafe**; a Film Salon featuring the works of immersive artist and film director **Lynette Wallworth**; "Museum as Sanctuary" led by installation artist and Artist-in-Residence **Tania Bruguera**, curated by **Sonia Guiñansaca** and **CultureStrike**, and featuring undocu-artists **Julio Salgado** and **Emulsify**; a Dance Salon presented in partnership with **Dance Theater of Harlem**, including New York City Ballet's **Wendy Whelan** and choreographer **Francesca Harper**, among others; and Captcha: Dancing, Data, Liberation, a salon exploring Black visual complexity and spirit, led by visionary artist **Rashaad Newsome** and featuring **Saidiya V. Hartman, Kiyon Williams, Dazié Rustin Grego-Sykes, Ms.Boogie, Puma Camillê**, and others.

Artist Talks have featured esteemed artists, scholars, and thought leaders, such as: architects **Jacques Herzog** and **Pierre de Meuron** in conversation with **Ai Wei Wei**, moderated by Juilliard president **Damian Woetzel**; director **Ariane Mnouchkine** and Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright **Tony Kushner** in conversation with *New Yorker* editor **David Remnick**; director **Ivo van Hove** in conversation with **James Nicola**, Artistic Director of New York Theater Workshop; artist **William Kentridge** and his collaborators **Philip Miller** and **Thuthuka Sibisi** in conversation with **Dr. Augustus Casely Hayford**, Director of the Smithsonian, National Museum of African Art; *Lehman Trilogy* director **Sam Mendez** and adapter **Ben Powers** in conversation with playwright **Lynn Nottage**; artist and composer **Heiner Goebbels** in conversation with composer, vocalist, and scholar **Gelsey Bell**; choreographer **Bill T. Jones** in conversation with architect **Elizabeth Diller** and designer **Peter Nigrini**, moderated by vocalist and performance artist **Helga Davis**; and composer, librettist, and director **Michel van der Aa** in conversation with conceptual and performance artist **Marina Abramović**.

[www.armoryonpark.org](http://www.armoryonpark.org)

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