

# Amant

## Amant Siena Announces Second Edition of its Residency Program

Amant is pleased to announce the 2021 edition of its Siena Residency Program. Inaugurated in 2020, the Amant Siena Residency Program welcomes international artists and cultural practitioners to its venue in Chiusure, Italy.

In this hamlet located in the heart of the province of Siena, the residency is composed of various apartments, studios, and common spaces accessible to the participants. The rich historical context and varied landscape surrounding the residency, provides artists with an ideal setting to conduct research and produce work. Residents are encouraged to focus on their practice while cultivating new directions in their work surrounded by their peers in this non-urban setting. The residency is also an integral part of the village of Chiusure. Each year, residents are asked and encouraged to engage with the community through various events: from open studios, to talks, and cookouts.

Residents are selected through a process of nomination and come from different artistic fields such as choreography, literature and poetry, visuals arts, art criticism and filmmaking. Each year, renowned professionals from the arts and humanities are invited to nominate individuals that could take advantage of this peaceful setting and environment that Amant Siena provides. Potential candidates are then invited to apply to the program before the final selection is completed.

The 2021 nominators included: Sabih Ahmed, Associate Director and Curator, Ishara Art Foundation, Dubai; Cedric Fauq, Chief Curator, CAPC, Bordeaux; Mark Godfrey, Curator, Tate Modern, London; Quinn Latimer, poet and art critic, Basel; Isabel de Naverán, Dance Advisor, Reina Sofía Museum, Madrid; Hans Ulrich Obrist, Director of Serpentine Galleries, London; Iheanyichukwu Onwuegbucha, Artistic Director, Centre for Contemporary Art, Lagos; José Roca, Artistic Director FLORA ars+natura, Bogota and Artistic Director, 23rd Biennale of Sydney.

The selected 2021 residents come from a diverse cultural background and work across different fields in the arts and humanities.

Tim Bouverie (UK, b. 1987)  
Marcela Calderón (Colombia, b. 1991)  
Monika Czyzyk (Poland, b. 1990)  
Sky Hopinka (USA, b. 1984)  
Kabelo Malatsie (South Africa, b. 1987)  
Robertas Narkus (Lithuania, b. 1983)  
Eszter Salamon (Hungary, b. 1970)  
Lantian Xie (China, b. 1989)

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## About the residents:

### Tim Bouverie

Tim Bouverie (born 1987, UK) is a historian, writer and former political journalist. Published in 2019 by Bodley Head, his first book *Appeasing Hitler, Chamberlain, Churchill and the Road to War* is a new narrative history of the disastrous years of indecision, failed diplomacy and parliamentary infighting that enabled Nazi domination of Europe. During his residency, Tim Bouverie will be working on a new book, *Allies at War*, a study of allied diplomacy during the Second World War. He will also continue developing a short book on classical music based on 100, personally selected, pieces.

### Marcela Calderón

Marcela Calderón (born 1991, Bogota, Colombia) is an artist, producer, and cultural manager. Her work focuses on sculpture and material narratives. During her residency, Calderón will develop ongoing research exploring a natural resin called *mopa mopa*, used in "Barniz de Pasto" craftsmanship. The research is a formal exploration of the historical path that led the *mopa mopa* from its functional use before Colombia's colonization, to its aesthetic use in artisanal practices in colonial times, and then its renewed and broadened importance today.

### Monika Czyżyk

Monika Czyżyk (born 1989, Poland. Lives in Helsinki, Finland) is a visual artist and filmmaker primarily working with moving image in the context of experimental documentaries and socially engaged projects. She works nomadically in local contexts, manifesting collaboration-based performances that she combines with recorded experiences to create her films and installations. During her residency, Czyżyk will continue developing *BOdyssey*, a series of docuportraits and animations begun in 2016. *BOdyssey* features global female participants and asks them to speculate on a variety of subjects including 21st century feminism, ecology, politics, family, technology, and post-humanity.

### Sky Hopinka

Sky Hopinka (Ho-Chunk Nation/Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians) was born and raised in Ferndale, Washington and spent several years in Palm Springs and Riverside, California, Portland, Oregon, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. His video, photo, and text work centers around personal positions of Indigenous homeland and landscape, designs of language as containers of culture expressed through personal, documentary, and non-fiction forms of media. During his residency, Hopinka will be working on a two-channel video installation that is shot along the Mississippi River and focusing on effigy mounds throughout the region. Looking at histories of the communities that are along the river, as well as stories and places, the piece will emphasize connections and movement through these landscapes and waterways.

### Kabelo Malatsie

Kabelo Malatsie (born 1987, Johannesburg) is a curator and organizer whose work explores the exhibitionary mode as an instigator of remaking and rereading the world we inhabit. She was formerly Director of Visual Arts Network of South Africa (2018-2019) a network and development agency for the visual arts in South Africa, promoting connection, access and innovation in our industry. During her residency, Malatsie will explore the notion of the underground. The underground is considered in this study as the unknown and the

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unknowable, multi-axial, multi timelines, non-linear and domesticated knowledge as used by writer and scholar Njabulo Ndebele to describe forms of embodied knowledge.

## **Robertas Narkus**

Robertas Narkus (born 1983, Lithuania) describes his practice as the 'management of circumstance in an economy of coincidence'. Employing performance, new media, language and entrepreneurship he brings together the ordinary and the absurd to explore notions of technology and human desires. During his residency, Narkus will continue working on a new project entitled "Gut Feeling" which navigates the notions of production, gentrification and compromise and will be exhibited in the Lithuanian pavilion of the 59th Venice Biennale in 2022.

## **Eszter Salamon**

Eszter Salamon (born 1970, Pécs, Hungary lives in Berlin) is an artist, choreographer, and performer. Currently, she is undertaking an artistic Ph.D. at the National Academy of the Arts, KHiO, in Oslo. Salamon uses choreography as an activating and organizing agency between various media, such as image, sound, music, text, voice, bodily movement and actions. During her residency, she plans to write a section of her artist book "Slow Works" (2001-2021) that she is currently working on as part of her PhD Fellowship at KHiO, Oslo, reflecting her interest in temporal elongation and slowness in choreography.

## **Lantian Xie**

Lantian Xie (born 1988, Dubai, UAE) is an artist that makes images, objects, stories, jazz bands, motorcycles, books, parties, wagers, meetings, interviews, stockpiles, photocopiers, plastic bags, paper bags, water bottles, cigarettes, ashtrays, taxidermy peacocks, beer, parking spaces, plastic chairs, itineraries, deliveries, documents, compressed air, packing solutions, loose change. During his residency, Xie will develop a project An archivist's nightmare– a buffet for silverfish. Through writing and speech, the artist will consider silverfish as creatures as operating logics of contemporaneity as they eat words, time, records, powdered documents, metabolize paper, glue and the stories humans tell themselves.

## **Louise Beer**

Louise Beer (born 1986, Aotearoa, New Zealand) is an artist and curator working in Minster, UK. Louise's practice uses installation, moving image, photography and sound to examine humanity's evolving understanding of Earth's environments and the cosmos, creating objects and experiences that reflect the incomprehensible nature of reality, from the ocean floor to the night sky. During her residency, Louise Beer will further her research into the philosophical and biological importance of natural darkness. Louise will explore the Crete Senesi landscape using photography and sound recording, focusing on the geological history of the area.

## **Ornaghi & Prestinari**

Ornaghi & Prestinari is a Milan-based artist-duo working jointly since 2009. In their works they elaborate and integrate formal influences and references from the world of design, architecture and art history, merging together pictorial and plastic figuration, reflections on conceptual art and personal life experiences. Their research focuses on the various facets of

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**“material culture” understood as the relationship between human beings and objects and how this relationship is linked to the history of materials, design, production techniques, and the consequences related to consumption. During their residency, they will focus on the concept of transparency, investigating it through materials and objects.**