

TAKE-OVER TAKE-OVER

Ashley Ja'nae
Mallory Kimmel
Neha Misra
Jamilla Okubo
Edgar Reyes
Katja Toporski
Paloma Vianey
Isabella Whitfield



Takeover artists

On view September 21 through October 5, 2024

Exhibition reception Saturday, September 28, 2024, 6–9pm
1353 U St NW, Washington, DC 20009

Washington, DC: Hamiltonian Artists is pleased to present *Takeover*, an artist-led group exhibition featuring fellows and studio residents. Each artist is invited to present recent artworks of their choice and communicate their ideas with full creative freedom, uninfluenced by institutional norms or the curatorial gaze. Participating artists include Ashley Ja'nae (2024 Studio Resident), Mallory Kimmel (2024 Studio Resident), Neha Misra (2023-2025 Fellow), Jamilla Okubo (2024 Studio Resident), Edgar Reyes (2022-2024 Fellow), Katja Toporski (2024 Studio Resident), Paloma Vianey (2024 Studio Resident), and Isabella Whitfield (2022-2024 Fellow).

DC ART ALL NIGHT

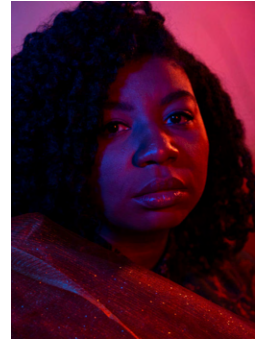
In congruence with DC Art All Night, The *Takeover* exhibition reception will take place on Saturday, September 28th, 6–9pm. Artists will also open their studios upstairs for an evening conversation, sharing a behind the scenes look at their making processes. At this time, studios are only reachable by two flights of stairs; we acknowledge and apologize that this limits access for some.

This joint program is presented in part with the support of District Bridges U Street Main Street Program. RSVP is encouraged, link to register [here](#). Visit Hamiltonian Artists' [website](#) and follow [@hamiltonian_artists](#) on Instagram for more information.

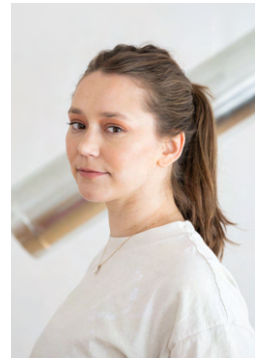
In addition, applications for The Studios at Hamiltonian Artists will reopen on September 28th. Selected artists will have the opportunity to join Hamiltonian Artists' community of studio residents during the 2025 leasing period. The jury will include Jamal Gray, independent curator and organizer, Jaynelle Hazard, Director & Chief Curator (Georgetown University Art Galleries), and Paloma Vianey, artist and 2024 studio resident. Priority is given to Hamiltonian Artists alumni, DC natives, DC residents (minimum 3 years), and area-based international artists. Applications close on October 19th, learn more about the studios [here](#).

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Ashley Ja'nae is an interdisciplinary visual artist and educator. She creates imagery centered around belonging, care, and intimacy through people's relationships with our hair, ourselves, and our communities. Her artistic practice explores drawing, illustration, sculpture, printmaking, mixed media, and video art. She received her BFA in Art & Design Education from Pratt Institute and studied at Moore College of Art and Design in their MFA in Socially Engaged Studio Art program. She's exhibited her work nationally and internationally, including at the Brooklyn Museum, Icebox Project Space, Galerie Kritiku, and the Anacostia Arts Center.



Mallory Kimmel is an interdisciplinary artist, educator, and writer who makes socially engaged work addressing and eradicating exclusionary design practices in the built environment. Through the process of object making, furniture design, performance, and social practice her practice dethrones political meta-narratives used to denote worth and expandability. Kimmel earned her MFA in Interdisciplinary Art from California College of the Arts, and a BS in Ecology from Susquehanna University. She has exhibited her work nationally and internationally at the Clarvit Courtyard at the University of Maryland, the Inaugural Gallery at the US State Department, Minnesota Street Projects, and the Cultural Center Semberija.



Neha Misra नेहा मिश्रा is a contemporary eco-folk artist, poet, and an award-winning climate justice advocate. Misra's feminist, Earth wisdom centered interdisciplinary studio practice embodies the transformative power of art to build bridges between private, collective, planetary healing and liberation. Neha is a 2023–2025 Hamiltonian Artists Fellow and a recipient of the North Carolina Climate Justice Collectives' introductory 2024 Arts Residency. She has been honored as a Presidential Leadership Scholar and as a Regenerative Artist by the Design Science Studio—a partnership of the Buckminster Fuller Institute and habRitual for leading planet conscious artists.



Jamilla Okubo is an interdisciplinary artist exploring the intricacies of identity. Her layered experience as a North Carolina-born, Washington, DC-bred daughter of the Diaspora informs her practice, as does her background in fashion and design. Through figurative painting and pattern design, Okubo uses the body as both a narrative instrument and primary tool of communication. Recently, she exhibited her work at the House of Fine Arts, the Southampton Arts Center, and Mehari Sequar Gallery. She has created art installations for Culture Corp × Hudson Yards and the DC Line Hotel. Notable publications of her work include the covers of *An American Marriage* (2018) and *Moses, Man of the Mountain* (1939). She earned her BFA from Parsons School of Design.



Edgar Reyes is a multimedia artist and educator based in the Baltimore, MD, and the Washington, DC-area. Drawing upon his family's Mexican and Indigenous roots, Reyes's work invites viewers to think about the people, places, and connections they carry with them. Reyes earned his MFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art and has taught at nonprofit organizations, universities, and museums. His work has been exhibited nationally in galleries and public spaces, including large-scale installations for Baltimore's Light City Festival and VisArts' Make It Visible project. His work has also been exhibited in dialogue with the Walters Art Museum's permanent collection. Reyes is a 2023–2025 Hamiltonian Artists Fellow, Rubys Artist Grant recipient (2021), Janet & Walter Sondheim Artscape Prize Semifinalist (2021), and Bresler Resident Artist at VisArts (2021).



Katja Toporski is a jewelry and installation artist based just outside of Washington, DC. Her practice is concerned with the larger role of adornment in human history and its relationship to other art practices. To her, both serve as an access point to a non-linear understanding of the world, to the unexplainable, to mind and spirit, and their intersection with contemporary life. She earned her MFA from Towson University, and has taught at various institutions including Towson University, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, and the Penland School of Craft. Her work has been exhibited in group exhibitions and solo shows in jewelry galleries across the US and Europe. Toporski participated in Penland School of Craft's winter residency, Den Brune Koia artist residency, and the Smitten Forum at the Mendocino Art Center.



Paloma Vianey is an interdisciplinary artist from Ciudad Juárez, Mexico. Her work explores the vulnerabilities and violence of her community. Vianey's practice narrates her experience of crossing the US–Mexico border frequently, questioning the political tension of this division. She earned her BA from University of Texas at El Paso and MFA from Cornell University. She has received grants from the Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation (2023, 2021, 2020), and the National Fund of the Arts in Mexico (2020), and a fellowship from the Phillips Collection (2023). She has been awarded residencies at Fundación Antonio Gala and the Studios of Key West. Vianey has exhibited at museums and galleries across the US and Mexico, including the El Paso Museum of Art, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, Herbert F. Johnson Museum, and Jack Hanley Gallery.



Isabella Whitfield is a multidisciplinary artist based in Virginia, working primarily in sculpture and site-responsive installation. After earning her BA in Sculpture and Politics from the University of Virginia, she completed a postgraduate year as an Aunspaugh Art Fellow. Whitfield exhibits primarily in the DC area and has been a resident artist with Penland School of Craft, Anderson Ranch, Anderson Ranch Arts Center, Ox-Bow, Pyramid Atlantic, and VisArts Richmond. She is currently a 2022–2024 Hamiltonian Fellow, Papermaking Associate at Pyramid Atlantic, and Gibbs Street Resident Artist at VisArts in Rockville.



ABOUT HAMILTONIAN ARTISTS

Hamiltonian Artists' mission is to nurture community and increase access to space, opportunity, and resources for emerging artists, through impactful programs and exhibitions.

The organization reaffirms and expands upon its originating vision as an incubator for the professional development of emerging visual artists, serving as a hub for Washington, DC's, creative economy and a vibrant center for contemporary art in the DC area. With its unique investment in emerging artists, Hamiltonian Artists provides resources to aid their development in important business skills, professional experiences, and visibility to support and sustain their art career.

Through the fellowship program, exhibitions, studios, artist talks, public events, membership program for art collectors at all levels, and so much more, the organization contributes to the vitality of the area's arts scene by deepening the appreciation for contemporary art and culture throughout Washington, DC, and beyond.

HOW TO VISIT

Location: Hamiltonian Artists, 1353 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20009

Hours: Thursday–Saturday, 11am–6pm

For more information visit hamiltonianartists.org.

CONTACT

For press inquiries and additional info, contact Anisa Olufemi, fellowship manager and curator anisa@hamiltonianartists.org

Images available [here](#).