

## SCREENING SOCIETY

Art21's Screening Society is a free global screening program in support of the award-winning television series, *Art in the Twenty-First Century*. With each new season, Art21 invites a wide variety of partners—schools, universities, libraries, museums, nonprofit organizations, galleries, arts and cultural spaces, community centers, and more—to screen one of the season's episodes.

This guide offers hosts and participants information about the episodes and the featured artists, as well as suggestions for further engagement through discussion questions and activities.

For more information, resources, and educational opportunities, please visit [Art21.org](http://Art21.org).

## ABOUT ART21

Art21 is a celebrated global leader in presenting thought-provoking and sophisticated content about contemporary art—a preeminent resource for learning first-hand from the artists of our time. Art21's mission is to educate and expand access to contemporary art through the production of documentary films, resources, and public programs.

A nonprofit organization, Art21 provides unparalleled access to artists' voices, using the power of digital media to introduce diverse audiences around the world to contemporary art and artists. For more than two decades, Art21 has changed the paradigm for teaching and learning about the creative process.

## ART IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

The first and only nationally broadcast public television series to focus exclusively on contemporary visual art and artists in the United States and around the world, *Art in the Twenty-First Century* introduces audiences to a diverse group of established and emerging artists and their current bodies of work.

Through in-depth profiles and interviews, the series reveals the inspiration, vision, and techniques behind the creative works of some of today's most accomplished contemporary artists. Art21 travels across the country and abroad to film contemporary artists—from painters and photographers to installation artists, video artists, and sound artists—in their own spaces and in their own words. The result is a unique opportunity to experience first-hand the complexity of the artistic processes—from inception to finished product—behind today's most thought-provoking art.

Eleven seasons have been produced for PBS (2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2023).

## CREDIT LINE

When hosting an Art21 screening, please use the following credit line in publications associated with your event:

*This event is presented in collaboration with Art21, a nonprofit global leader in art education, producing preeminent films about today's leading visual artists and education programs that inspire creativity worldwide.*

Cover: *We Live Future Ancestral Technologies Entry Log*, Single channel video with audio, Cannupa Hanska Luger, 2019. *We Live* art direction, regalia design/construction, poetry and sound composition: Cannupa Hanska Luger. Videographer/Video editing: Dylan McLaughlin. Courtesy the artist and Garth Greenan Gallery.



## EPISODE SYNOPSIS: FRIENDS & STRANGERS

The artists in “Friends & Strangers” are connectors, building upon and supporting the existing groups they participate in and searching for ways to create ever more inclusive forms of community. Featuring Linda Goode Bryant, Miranda July, Christine Sun Kim, and Cannupa Hanska Luger, this hour follows the four artists as they identify collaborators, advocate for themselves and others, and work to create a world where we are made stronger together. In their practices, these artists build institutions that become networks for new and unorthodox ideas, generate participatory artworks that connect us across differences, and make the underserved and underrepresented visible to our wider society.



### MIRANDA JULY

Born: 1974; Barre, Vermont

July works across media in her practice, from staged performances and feature films to impromptu dance and short videos posted on social media, from novels and short-story collections to sculptural installations at the Venice Biennale. In each of these varied media, the artist examines different models and modes of connecting with people, from close friends and family to total strangers, and shows audiences how these connections might transform our lives and the world around us.



### CHRISTINE SUN KIM

Born: 1980; Orange County, California

Kim’s practice in drawing, video, and performance creates space for new explorations of sound and gives voice to collective experiences of oppression and systemic inequality. Using American Sign Language (ASL), closed-captioning, graphic illustration, and more, Kim enunciates personal and collective grievances, demands a political voice, and creates visibility for the Deaf community.



### CANNUPA HANSKA LUGER

Born: 1979; Standing Rock Sioux Reservation, North Dakota

Spanning performance, sculpture, and video, the artist’s practice engages elements of Indigenous history and culture to simultaneously address present-day grievances and sources of trauma while projecting that culture into the distant future. Through his work, Luger aims to call attention to the harmful ideologies and practices that support genocide, destroy our environment, and distort our sense of self and community.



### LINDA GOODE BRYANT

Born: 1949; Columbus, Ohio

Goode Bryant has sought to realize ideas that were previously thought impossible through a choreography of passion, commitment, skill, and community. From creating the first Black commercial gallery in New York City to founding an urban farming nonprofit on concrete yards and city rooftops, Goode Bryant’s works empower communities and create tangible change, allowing others to realize their impossible ideas alongside her.

## FURTHER ENGAGEMENT

After viewing the episode, use the following suggestions to elicit conversation and connection. Whether virtually or in person, participants can engage with the film in a variety of ways using a broad range of platforms. Please choose the questions and suggestions that best connect with your community.

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### DISCUSS THE EPISODE

- ☐ What aspects make an individual a friend compared to a stranger? How does someone transition from a stranger to a friend?
- ☐ How do the artists in this episode work with others to achieve their goals? In what ways are their practices the same? How are they different?

### DISCUSS THE ARTISTS

- ☐ Miranda July expresses “my great hope was that, through my work, I could have intimacy with other people.” What are some examples featured in the segment? How does she foster intimacy with others in her projects?
- ☐ Christine Sun Kim’s artwork is installed in places outside museum and gallery walls. Where is her work featured? Why does she want her work to be in such a variety of locations?
- ☐ Cannupa Hanska Luger states “I’m building things that aren’t these objects but conduits to share information from culture to culture.” Consider Luger’s projects, how does the artist build conduits to share information?
- ☐ Linda Goode Bryant creates spaces for collaboration throughout her multi-decade career. What elements of running a gallery space and urban farm foster community? How do both projects manifest the artist’s vision for the arts?

### GO FURTHER

- ☐ Ask audience members to introduce themselves to one another and share a story of an important friendship. How did that person move from a stranger to a friend? Was it a long or short journey? Did the person know they’d automatically become friends one day?
- ☐ Encourage participants to stay in touch through the use of simple postcards. After handing out blank cards, ask participants to write a question about or highlight from the episode they saw together in the message section on the left side of the card, then place their address on the right side. Then, ask participants to switch postcards with someone else in the audience and, in the next few days or weeks, reply to the thought or question their partner shared directly on the postcard and mail it back to them.

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**“My great hope was that, through my work, I could have intimacy with other people.”**

— Miranda July

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Keep in touch: [www.art21.org](http://www.art21.org)

Social Media: [@art21](https://twitter.com/art21)