

art21

ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2023



The world's leading source to learn
directly from the artists of our time.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	Mission & Vision	3
	Letters	5
<hr/>		
In Review	Art21 at a Glance	7
	FY2023 Digital Engagement	8
	Art21 for Everyone Campaign	10
<hr/>		
Films	<i>Art21 in the Twenty-First Century</i>	11
	<i>Extended Play</i>	21
	<i>New York Close Up</i>	23
<hr/>		
Events	Miami Art Week	25
	Premieres	26
	Art21 at the Movies	27
<hr/>		
Education	Art21 Educators	30
	Art21 Ambassadors	31
	Public Programs	32
	Resources	33
	READ	35
<hr/>		
Community	Staff, Board of Trustees	37
	Filmmakers	39
	Committees	41
	Donors	45
	Financial Statements	49

Cover: Production still from the *Extended Play* film "Sarah Sze: Emotional Time." © Art21, Inc. 2023.
Page 1: Production still from the *Extended Play* film "Aliza Nisenbaum: Painting from Life." Art21, Inc. 2023.

A close-up photograph of a person's hands working on a clay sculpture of a human figure. The sculpture is made of reddish-brown clay and has a dark cross-like shape on its chest. The person is wearing a dark blue long-sleeved shirt with a white logo. The background is a blurred studio with various art supplies and sculptures.

INTRODUCTION

MISSION & VISION

The mission of Art21 is to educate and expand access to contemporary art through the production of documentary films, resources, and public programs.

Art21's vision is to inspire a more creative and inclusive world through the works and words of contemporary artists.

LETTER

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



TINA KUKIELSKI
Susan Sollins Executive Director and Chief Curator

As we reflect on the past year at Art21, I am thrilled to share with you the incredible strides and accomplishments we have made together. In a year marked by challenges, Art21 has remained steadfast in our mission to celebrate and champion contemporary artists from across the country and around the globe.

Our latest season of *Art in the Twenty-First Century* featured artists from diverse backgrounds, bringing attention to the rich tapestry of talent found throughout our nation. Over the course of 2023, we were able to shine a spotlight on these artists like never before, garnering unprecedented attention for artists who are pushing the bounds of artistic practice. With thematic episodes such as “Everyday Icons,” “Bodies of Knowledge,” and “Friends & Strangers,” we delved into thought-provoking topics that resonated with audiences worldwide.

Our commitment to film excellence and improving the accessibility of Art21’s films and resources has not gone unnoticed. Art21 received exciting press placements in fiscal year 2023 from renowned publications such as *The Cut* and *Entertainment Weekly*, further solidifying Art21’s position as a leader in the contemporary art world. Our films also made significant waves in the festival circuit and were awarded with 24 official selections from

festivals, including several Oscar-qualifying events. This recognition not only honors the talent of our filmmakers but also amplifies the voices of the artists they portray.

Fiscal year 2023 also marked an unprecedented number of film premieres for Art21, including the 9 digital releases and 3 broadcast premieres of *Art in the Twenty-First Century*. We hosted our first film premiere event during Miami Art Week, engaging a captivated audience as well as a new supporter base in the American South. In a groundbreaking move, we also hosted our inaugural multiday film festival in New York City, Art21 at the Movies, providing a platform to celebrate artists and filmmakers alike.

In addition to our film and media accomplishments, our education programs, including the Art21 Educators Summer Institute, drew participants from around the globe. We launched new initiatives like Art21 Activations to broaden our reach and strengthen engagement with audiences on the local level across the country.

We also began planning Art21’s first-ever capital campaign, “Art21 for Everyone,” to ensure that our mission of making contemporary art accessible to all continues to thrive. With everyone’s continued dedication, I am confident that the best is yet to come for Art21. Whether you are a longtime member of our community or new to our cause, I invite you to join us as we celebrate and champion contemporary artists, enriching lives and sparking creativity worldwide.

Warm regards,

Tina Kukielski
Susan Sollins Executive Director and Chief Curator

LETTER

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



LOUISE ELIASOF
Art21 Trustee

Dear friends of Art21,

As we reflect upon the past year, I am delighted to share a milestone in Art21’s history: the launch of our \$6.5M capacity-building campaign. This initiative will propel Art21 into a new era of greatly extended access to the works and words of the artists of our time.

The campaign is the result of meticulous planning, a clear strategic vision, and the unwavering dedication of our staff, Board of Trustees, and supporters like you. Our goal is ambitious yet essential: to expand our programs through new initiatives in three key areas: Education and Impact, Film Excellence, and Accessibility and Reach. I’ve worked closely with fellow trustees and staff in shaping this campaign, which builds upon Art21’s legacy of excellence and innovation.

Over the past fifteen years serving on the board, I’ve had the great privilege of witnessing Art21’s boundless growth and expanding impact firsthand. I’m always thrilled to see the profound influence of our film and education programs on artists, educators, students, and art enthusiasts worldwide, underscoring our mission of making contemporary art and the voices of artists accessible to all. Recently, an undergraduate student told me that she binged Art21 in high school and was so inspired that she is now majoring in fine arts in college. This is why we do what we do!

Thanks to our generous community of supporters, we can ensure that Art21 remains at the forefront of arts education, enriching lives and shaping the cultural landscape for generations to come.

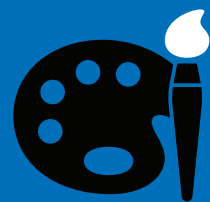
With gratitude,

Louise Eliasof
Art21 Trustee

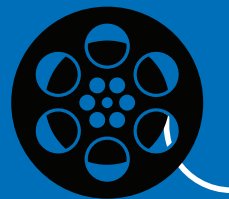


IN REVIEW

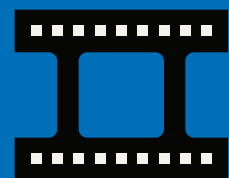
ART21 AT A GLANCE



300+
ARTISTS FEATURED



550+
FILMS



78+
HOURS OF FILM



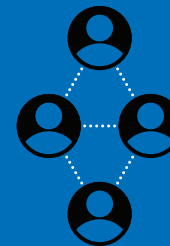
OFFERED IN
68
LANGUAGES



4.8m
VIDEO VIEWS
On Art21.org, Vimeo,
Youtube & PBS



1.1m
UNIQUE VISITS
To Art21.org



1.3m+
SOCIAL MEDIA
FOLLOWERS



9
NEW DIGITAL
FILMS

**ART
IN THE
TWENTY-
FIRST
CENTURY**

3
NEW EPISODES



21
FEATURED
ARTISTS

FY2023 DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT

Art21's reach continued to expand to new audiences in fiscal year 2023 through our website, social media platforms, museum and media partnerships, and press placements.

In anticipation of the launch of Season 11 of *Art in the Twenty-First Century*, we made exciting updates to our website, including the launch of a dual media player with audio descriptions, to make Art21's films more accessible to audiences with visual impairments. We also expanded the *Explore* tool of Art21.org with new themes, designed to supplement the search function and help both educators and the general public discover content on the website.

In addition, Art21 saw significant growth across social media platforms and began exploring audience-focused approaches to content creation. In an effort to highlight how Art21 is making a real difference in the world, we kicked off a new interview series featuring teachers, students, and older adults to hear their thoughts on the impact of our films and programs. Our audiences have also shown a keen interest in behind-the-scenes glimpses of our in-person events.

In fiscal year 2023, Art21 films and events were featured in national press publications, including *The Cut*, *Entertainment Weekly*, the *New York Times*, *Colossal*, and the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.



ART21 FOR EVERYONE CAMPAIGN

The “Art21 for Everyone” campaign represents a significant milestone in the organization’s history as we embark for the first time on capacity-building efforts to bring more artists and films to more audiences worldwide.

With the support of a dedicated group of donors, this campaign has successfully raised \$5 million so far to fund institutional growth and the development of new initiatives that will support Art21 as the global leader in amplifying the work and profiles of contemporary artists.

This campaign will be instrumental in realizing Art21’s vision, executing new initiatives laid out in a strategic plan to increase digital access, boost educational impact, and expand film production.

KEY INITIATIVES INCLUDE:

The preservation of an invaluable 4,000-hour film archive of raw footage

Foster and grow documentary filmmaker community

New regional programming, bringing Art21 directly to educators across the U.S.

Publication of a new book of curated artist interviews

The implementation of accessibility and language upgrades across all platforms

Programming for lifelong learning audiences

Continued expansion of the art documentary catalog via increased production of films

Production still from the *Art in the Twenty-First Century* Season 11 episode, “Bodies of Knowledge.” © Art21, Inc. 2023.

FILMS

In fiscal year 2023, Art21 produced **9 digital films, 3 full episodes of *Art in the Twenty-First Century***, and collected **28 honors**, including multiple Vimeo Staff Picks and dozens of film festival selections where our films were screened across the globe.

ART IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

“I hope these narratives spark a similar sense of awe, of hope, and most importantly—of possibility, for the audience as they did for me, when I experienced them firsthand.”

Chiemi Karasawa
Season 11 Director

Production still from the *Art in the Twenty-First Century* Season 11 episode “Everyday Icons.” © Art21, Inc. 2023.

Fiscal year 2023 saw the release of the eleventh season of *Art in the Twenty-First Century*, Art21’s Emmy-nominated, Peabody Award-winning documentary series. The only series on U.S. television to focus on contemporary art, Season 11 marks a return for the PBS broadcast series to thematic focuses. The groundbreaking artists featured include Tauba Auerbach, Alex Da Corte, Linda Goode Bryant, Guerrilla Girls, Miranda July, Christine Sun Kim, Cannupa Hanska Luger, Daniel Lind-Ramos, Amy Sberald, Rose B. Simpson, Hank Willis Thomas, and Anicka Yi.

Art in the Twenty-First Century is a celebration of creativity, diversity, and the power of art to inspire and provoke change. For the first time in the history of the series, Art21 took a staggered release approach, premiering each of the three one-hour episodes at different points throughout the year. We hosted film premiere events and education programs around each episode, including Art21 at the Movies, Art21’s first film festival experience.



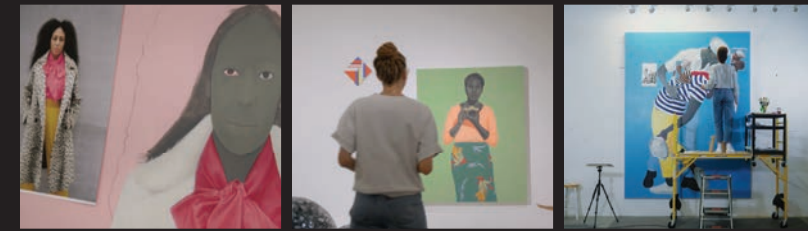
EVERYDAY ICONS

Directed by Ian Forster, Art21 Senior Producer

As our culture works to correct centuries-long exclusions and misrepresentations, the artists in “Everyday Icons” show us alternative paths toward a more complete picture of our world.



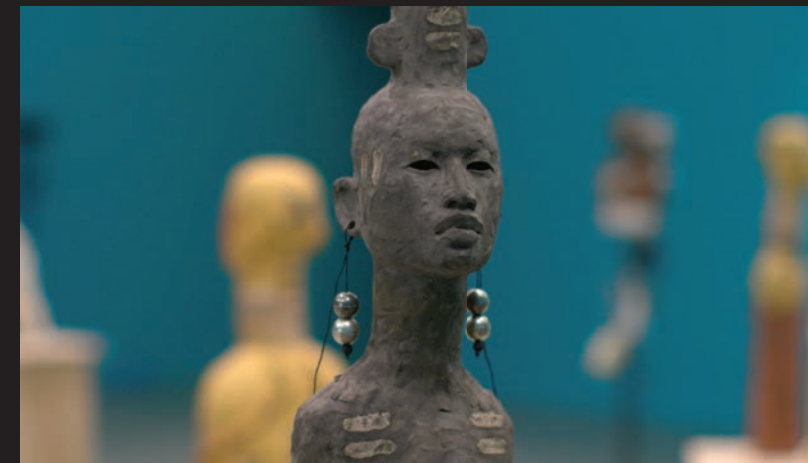
ALEX DA CORTE



AMY SHERALD



DANIEL LIND-RAMOS



ROSE B. SIMPSON

Production stills from the *Art in the Twenty-First Century* Season 11 episode “Everyday Icons.” © Art21, Inc. 2023.

BODIES OF KNOWLEDGE

Directed by Malika Zouhali-Worrall

The artists in “Bodies of Knowledge” are expert investigators—exploring new fields with excitement and curiosity, discovering new ways of understanding ourselves, and developing new methods of inquiry that expand our vision of the world.



TAUBA AUERBACH



HANK WILLIS THOMAS



GUERRILLA GIRLS



ANICKA YI

Production stills from the *Art in the Twenty-First Century* Season 11 episode, “Bodies of Knowledge.” © Art21, Inc. 2023.

FRIENDS & STRANGERS

Directed by Chiemi Karasawa

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.



LINDA GOODE BRYANT



CHRISTINE SUN KIM



MIRANDA JULY

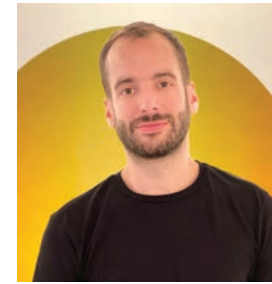


CANNUPA HANSKA LUGER

Production stills from the *Art in the Twenty-First Century* Season 11 episode “Friends & Strangers.” © Art21, Inc. 2023.



THE FILMMAKERS



Ian Forster, director of “Everyday Icons,” the first episode of Season 11, has produced films with Art21 since 2009. As Senior Producer, he has worked on seven seasons of *Art in the Twenty-First Century*. Additionally, he worked on the Peabody Award-winning film “William Kentridge: Anything Is Possible” and has overseen the digital series *Extended Play* since 2012, producing over 100 short artist portraits. Forster created the online video series *Artist to Artist* in 2013, which featured artists in conversation with their peers at international biennials. His films have screened at festivals internationally, including DC Shorts, DOC NYC, and Artecinema, and have been recognized with Vimeo Staff Picks and as a Webby Award Honoree.



Malika Zouhali-Worrall, director of “Bodies of Knowledge,” the second episode of Season 11, is a documentary director and editor based in New York. An Emmy Award-winning director, her directing credits include the feature-length documentaries, *Call me Kuchu* (Berlin Film Festival, Netflix) and *Thank You For Playing* (Tribeca Film Festival, News & Television Emmy Award). Malika directed the short film *Video Visit*, which was released by Laura Poitras’ Field of Vision and screened at film festivals including SXSW, AFI Fest, Blackstar, and BAM Cinemafest. Malika is also an Emmy-nominated editor, having worked on *Union* (2024), which won a Special Jury Award at Sundance Film Festival, and *Through the Night* (2020).



Chiemi Karasawa, director of “Friends & Strangers,” the third and final episode of Season 11, is a veteran New York-based documentary producer and director. Her films include *Elaine Stitch: Shoot Me* (premiered Tribeca Film Festival), *The Betrayal: Nerakhoon* (Academy Award Nominee, Emmy Award Winner), *Billy The Kid*, and *Blue Note Records: Beyond the Notes* (premiered at Tribeca Film Festival). She has also worked with notable directors, including Spike Jonze, Jim Jarmusch, Sam Mendes, Stephen Frears, and Martin Scorsese, as a Script Supervisor.

Production still from the *Art in the Twenty-First Century* Season 11 episode “Bodies of Knowledge.” © Art21, Inc. 2023.

EXTENDED PLAY

“Whenever we create art and put something in the world, it pushes the envelope of who gets to be represented even further. These things are integral to how art can then negotiate a space for a future generation.”

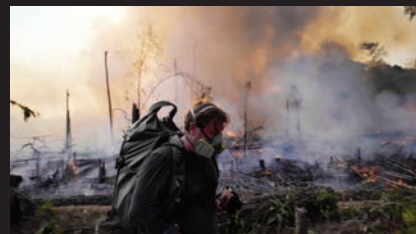
Shahzia Sikander
Artist

Art21’s *Extended Play* series provides unmediated, behind-the-scenes access to today’s leading artists. *Extended Play* films have been accepted by and honored with nearly 50 official festival selections, including DOC NYC, Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival, and Tallgrass Film Festival, as well as Vimeo Staff Picks and a Webby Award Honoree.

In fiscal year 2023, “Wangechi Mutu: Between the Earth and the Sky” screened at DART Film Festival. “Song Dong: Shēng” screened at The Art of Brooklyn Film Festival. “Richard Mosse: What the Camera Cannot See” screened at the DC Shorts International Film Festival, was awarded an Honorable Mention for Documentary Short Film by the Charlotte Film Festival, and was selected for a Vimeo Staff Pick. “Charles Gaines: Systems & Structures” was screened at The Roxbury International Film Festival. “Richard Misrach: Never the Same” received an Honorable Mention from the Thomas Edison Film Festival, as well as screened at SF Indie Fest and the Oscar-qualifying Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival.



SONG DONG:
生 / SHĒNG



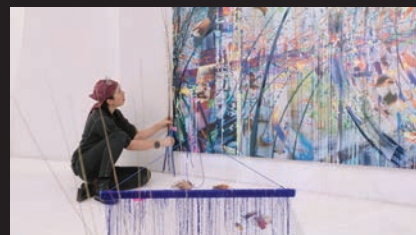
RICHARD MOSSE:
WHAT THE CAMERA CANNOT SEE



CHARLES GAINES:
SYSTEMS & STRUCTURES



SHAHZIA SIKANDER:
MELTING BOUNDARIES



SARAH SZE:
EMOTIONAL TIME



ALIZA NISENBAUM:
PAINTING FROM LIFE

Production still from the *Extended Play* film “Charles Gaines: Systems & Structures.” © Art21, Inc. 2022.

NEW YORK CLOSE UP

New York Close Up (NYCU) is devoted to capturing early-career artists living and working in New York City. NYCU films have been accepted and honored by more than 100 film-festival selections, including Oscar-qualifying ones such as Big Sky Documentary Film Festival, BlackStar, DOC NYC, Full Frame, and New Orleans Film Festival.

In fiscal year 2023, “Heidi Lau’s Spirit Vessels” received the Director’s Choice Award from the Thomas Edison Film Festival. “Salman Toor’s Emerald Green” screened at American Documentary and Animation Film Festival, Mardi Gras Film Festival, Melbourne Queer Film Festival, Miami Film Festival, and NewFest. “Tommy Kha’s Bits & Pieces” screened at Charlotte Film Festival, Indie Memphis Film Festival, New Orleans Film Festival, and Outfest Fusion. “Azikiwe Mohammed is a Guy Who Makes Things” screened at Rooftop Films, Roxbury International Film Festival, and SF Doc Fest. “Rose Salane’s Lost & Found” screened at The Art of Brooklyn Film Festival. Additionally, “Tau Lewis: Shreds of Memory” and “Joiri Minaya’s Pattern-Making” were both selected as Vimeo Staff Picks.

Production still from the *New York Close Up* film, “Esteban Cabeza de Baca’s Time Travels.” © Art21, 2023.

“The way that my paintings develop is in a very intuitive approach of what I feel, but also searching for who I am. Growing up along the border and not being connected to a lot of my heritage, I have had to find it on my own.”

Esteban Cabeza de Baca
Artist



TAU LEWIS:
SHREDS OF MEMORY



JOIRI MINAYA'S
PATTERN MAKING



ESTEBAN CABEZA DE BACA'S
TIME TRAVELS

EVENTS

MIAMI ART WEEK

Art21 hosted two activations during Miami Art Week 2022, including a private brunch at SLS South Beach, supported by Blue Rider Group, Risk Strategies, and Patterson Belknap, and a film screening at Rooftop Cinema Club South Beach.

The film screening showcased four Art21 films, including the world premiere of “Charles Gaines: Systems and Structures,” the first public screening of “Richard Mosse: What the Camera Cannot See,” and screenings of “Azikiwe Mohammed is a Guy Who Makes Stuff” and “Diane Severin Nguyen’s Transfigurations.”

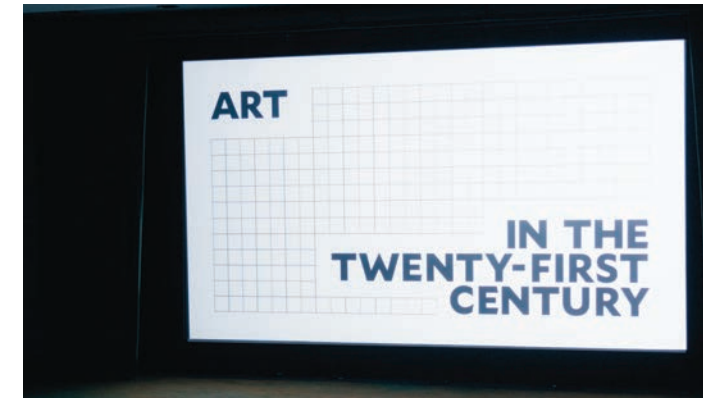
Photography by Carolina Menedez Photo



PREMIERES

“EVERYDAY ICONS”

On Tuesday, February 22, 2023, Art21 hosted an exclusive evening premiere of “Everyday Icons,” the inaugural episode of Season 11 of *Art in the Twenty-First Century*, featuring Alex Da Corte, Daniel Lind-Ramos, Amy Sherald, and Rose B. Simpson, at the Tribeca Screening Room in New York City. The red-carpet event, supported by Maartje Oldenburg, Jack Shainman, Jessica Silverman, and Hauser & Wirth, marked the first in-person premiere for the series since 2019.



“BODIES OF KNOWLEDGE”

On Tuesday, June 20, 2023, Art21 hosted the pink-carpet premiere of “Bodies of Knowledge,” the second episode of Season 11 of *Art in the Twenty-First Century*, featuring Tauba Auerbach, Guerrilla Girls, Hank Willis Thomas, and Anicka Yi, at Manhattan’s Paley Center for Media. The event drew nearly 200 friends and supporters of Art21, who enjoyed an evening filled with drinks, hors d’oeuvres, and spirited interactions, including Instagram Live interviews with Art21 staff.



Photography by Timothy O’Connell





ART21 AT THE MOVIES

On September 13 and 15, 2023, Art21 launched its inaugural large-scale public film event, Art21 at the Movies, at Metrograph and SVA Theatre in New York City. This two-day event showcased cutting-edge films on contemporary art and provided attendees with the opportunity to engage directly with artists and filmmakers from across the country. The event kicked off at Metrograph with the premiere of “Esteban Cabeza de Baca’s Time Travels” and Episode 3 of *Art in the Twenty-First Century*, “Friends & Strangers.” Artists Linda Goode Bryant, Miranda July, Cannupa Hanska Luger, and Esteban Cabeza de Baca were in attendance, and Christine Sun Kim prepared remarks via video in advance. Director Chiemi Karasawa introduced “Friends & Strangers,” sharing insights with the audience about the filmmaking process.

The second evening of Art21 at the Movies took place at SVA Theatre, kicking off with the 3-D film premiere of “Westermann: Memorial to the Idea of Man If He Was an Idea,” from Pentimenti Productions, executive produced by the artist Brian Donnelly, known professionally as KAWS. The film was followed by a dynamic conversation hosted by Emma Nordin, Art21 Director of Education, with artists Trenton Doyle Hancock and Aaron Curry, gallerist John Corbett, and the director of the film Leslie Buchbinder.

“Stories That Shape Us,” hosted by Jurrell Lewis, Art21 Assistant Curator, featured films highlighting woman-identifying BIPOC artists. Remarks were given by featured artist and Art21 trustee Abigail DeVille, filmmaker Carrie Hawks, and artist Philemona Williamson, who was featured in a State of the Arts produced film that had its first big screen premiere at Art21 at the Movies. “Art21 Vimeo Staff Picks,” a program hosted by Nick Ravich, Art21 Director of Production, featured a collection of Art21 films selected as Vimeo Staff Picks. Filmmakers in attendance included Rafael Salazar and Ava Wiland (RAVA Films), Brian Redondo, Ian Forster, Adam Golfer, and Alina Rancier.

Art21 at the Movies was presented with the generous support of the Art21 Board of Trustees, Agnes Gund, Garth Greenan Gallery, and Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art.

Photography by Jason Crowley/BFA.com
© BFA 2023



EDUCATION

Art21's education initiatives engage audiences in a dialogue about contemporary art and the artists featured in Art21 films.

Education program highlights included a screening of "Charles Gaines: Systems & Structures" at REDCAT Theater in Los Angeles; Screening Society for Season 11 of *Art in the Twenty-First Century*; and the first dual-language English and Spanish screening and conversation featuring Aliza Nisenbaum at the Queens Museum.

"The ability to have access to these different ways of thinking and different methodologies has gotten me very excited about how to present different forms of artistry to my students. It excites the educator in me."

Kandice Stewart
Educator in Maplewood, NJ



Photography by Timothy O'Connell

ART21 EDUCATORS

"I think the best part is having the support of like-minded people."

Jonathan Deuck
Educator in Manitoba, Canada

Established in 2009, Art21 Educators stands as a comprehensive year-long professional development endeavor aimed at supporting K-12 educators across all disciplines who seek to integrate contemporary art, artists, and concepts into their classroom curricula. Central to the program is its Summer Institute, held in July. Art21 Educators attracts educators at different career stages from across the globe to NYC to become a part of a community that lasts well beyond the program.

Hailing from various corners of the United States, Australia, and Sweden, participants in the latest cohort engaged in a rich array of activities throughout the week-long institute. Highlights included a captivating presentation by acclaimed Art21-featured artists Jaimie Warren and Emily Flores of Whoop Dee Doo and a studio visit with Marela Zacarías. Attendees actively participated in sessions led by Art21 Educators alumni and staff members, and immersed themselves in gallery visits and museum tours.

ART21 AMBASSADORS

Art21 Ambassadors makes the educational resources and teaching strategies developed in Art21 Educators accessible to a larger network of educators, with Art21 staff and select program alumni leading professional development seminars and workshops virtually and in various locations nationwide.

In fiscal year 2023, Art21 delivered a diverse range of professional development opportunities. Leveraging the benefits of hybrid programming, Art21 maintained virtual series such as “An Educator Talk with Olivia Gude,” “Play in Contemporary Art,” presented in partnership with the Brooklyn Museum, and a tour with Shahzia Sikander at the Madison Square Park for her project *Havah...to breathe, air, life*.

“It helped me feel re-charged by bringing me out of my comfort zone. I was fearful at the onset, as I knew no one in the room, but once I acclimated, I got completely into it.”

TASK party participant



TASK PARTY WITH OLIVER HERRING AT THE BROOKLYN MUSEUM

Photography by Hannah DeGarmo

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Art21 orchestrates events featuring artists, filmmakers, and curators to enrich public comprehension and involvement in contemporary art. In FY2023, programs occurred online and in person in Brooklyn, Queens, and Manhattan in New York City; Los Angeles, CA; and Athens, GA.

LIFELONG LEARNERS

With this new initiative, Art21 is expanding its programming to bring opportunities for accessing contemporary art to audiences 60+ years old. During this fiscal year, Art21 partnered with Well Connected, an online learning community from the nonprofit Front Porch, to offer workshops to seniors across the fifty states through virtual programs obtainable by phone and webinar.

ART21 ACTIVATIONS

Art21 Activations will bring the best of Art21 programming to local areas around the nation. Each Activation is tailored to the specific needs of a local community and will offer at least two events for various audiences, such as teachers, students, art lovers, and lifelong learners.

In the pilot Art21 Activation, Art21 hosted three events to celebrate Paul Pfeiffer and his new *Extended Play* film. Art21 hosted a teacher workshop on the topic of sports and contemporary art in partnership with the Art Education Department of UGA. Art21 premiered the film “Paul Pfeiffer: Interrupting the Broadcast” at a public program, cohosted by UGA, at the Athenaeum.



SCREENING AND CONVERSATION OF CHRISTINE SUN KIM IN THE *ART IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY* SEASON 11 EPISODE “FRIENDS & STRANGERS,” AT ICA LA.



DISCUSS

(BEFORE VIEWING)

- What does 'knowledge' mean? How does one learn? Where? With who?
- When is an artist also a researcher? In what ways can research inform an artist or their practice?
- What does 'style' mean in an art context? Do all artists have a uniform style?

(AFTER VIEWING)

- Considering the artists featured, what might 'Bodies of Knowledge' mean in this context?
- How do the artists in this episode learn? Where do they seek inspiration from? How do these artists go about research in different ways?
- How do these artists challenge how viewers consume art? What do they want their audience to learn?

Guerrilla Girls outside the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York, NY. Production still from the Art in the Twenty-First Century Season 11 episode, "Bodies of Knowledge." © Art21, Inc. 2023.

GET INVOLVED

SCREENINGS



ARTISTS

Linda Goode Bryant with Marari Hassinger in New York, NY. Production still from the Art in the Twenty-First Century Season 11 episode, "Friends & Strangers." © Art21, Inc. 2023. Tyronne Mitchell, Barbara Mitchell, and others at the opening night of Synthesis. Just Above Midtown, 1974. Photo by Camille Billosq. Courtesy of the Hatch Billosq Collection. People at work on Project EAST Farms in New York, NY. Production still from the Art in the Twenty-First Century Season 11 episode, "Friends & Strangers." © Art21, Inc. 2023. Vivian Browne and Camille Billosq at the opening night of Synthesis. Just Above Midtown, 1974. Photo by Jeanie Black. Courtesy of the Hatch Billosq Collection.



Michael Rakowitz

"If we're to have conversations about what decolonization truly looks like, it's accompanied by repair and it's accompanied by accountability. That work is actually something that's never done." —Michael Rakowitz

Born
1973 (Great Neck, NY)

Education
Purchase College, BFA
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, MS

Lives and Works
Chicago, Illinois

About the Artist
Michael Rakowitz draws upon extensive research on cultural objects and events in order to weave together complex histories and unlikely symbols in his sculptures, installations, participatory workshops, films, and architectural interventions. His Iraqi-Jewish heritage and the damage caused by long conflicts between the West and the Middle East also serve as important influences for his work.

Media and Materials
community engagement
food
installation
sculpture

Key Words and Ideas
activism
ancestry
colonization
community

Related Artists
Tanya Aguiliga
John Akomfrah
Allora and Calzadilla
Firelei Báez
Kevin Beasley
Tania Bruguera
Minerva Cuevas
Abigail DeVille

Teaching Connections
haunting
immigration
studio

**Olafur Eliasson
Richard Mosse
Postcommodity
Rose B. Simpson
Nancy Spero
Pedro Reyes
Hank Willis Thomas**

Rakowitz critiques the ongoing forces of colonization, bringing attention not only to the value of cultural artifacts that have been lost, looted, or destroyed, but also to the people who have suffered from continuing violence.

ART IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

EVERYDAY ICONS

SEASON 11 SCREENING SOCIETY GUIDE

Daniel Gordon

"It's an interesting analog versus the real." —Daniel Gordon

Born
1980 (Boston, Massachusetts)

Education
Bard College, BA
Yale University, MFA

Lives and Works
New York, New York

About the Artist
Daniel Gordon creates works that dissolve distinctions between collage, photography, and sculpture. His practice involves cutting images from the Internet, digitally altering the images, and then printing them and using cutouts of these

Media and Materials
photography
sculpture

Key Words and Ideas
abstract
analog
appropriation
collage
color
disorientation
reproduction

Teaching Connections
pivotation
tableau
transformation

Related Artists

RESOURCES

The primary educational resource Art21 provides is the films. To supplement the films, Art21 offers a variety of tools to help educators use the films in their classrooms. Resources include free downloadable Educator Guides and READ articles and playlists written by Art21 Educators alumni and staff.

Educator Guides released in FY2023 featured artists in the digital series including the first two episodes of Season 11 of *Art in the Twenty-First Century*, Firelei Báez, Lucas Blalock, Meriem Bennani, Daniel Gordon, Luchita Hurtado, Kameelah Janan Rasheed, Shaun Leonardo, Guadalupe Maravilla, Michael Rakowitz, and Marelá Zacarías.





READ

READ on Art21.org offers audiences unique access to contemporary art through text-based interviews with artists, original photography of their studios, and the firsthand accounts of educators who bring contemporary art into classrooms.

In fiscal year 2023, Art21 released 12 new artist interviews, delving into their creative processes and personal journeys. These interviews offer a glimpse into the artists' challenges and triumphs in the studio, their utilization of experiences and materials to craft their art, and their contemplation of profound existential questions. Collectively, these conversations provide invaluable insights into the essence of the artistic endeavor.

Additionally, 17 articles written by educators were published, offering insightful resources and strategies for educators to integrate contemporary art into their teaching practices. These articles provide innovative approaches for engaging students with contemporary artistic concepts, themes, and techniques.

“Our world becomes so small when we only understand ourselves through the context of now. History allows you to put things in a context that is much bigger than yourself. But history always comes with the power of those who have had access to telling it.”

Morehshin Allahyari,
Artist



HAIG
AIVAZIAN



MOREHSHIN
ALLAHYARI



TOM
BURR



HERA
BÜYÜKTAŞÇIYAN



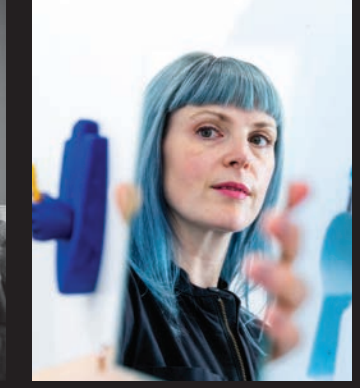
SAM
DURANT



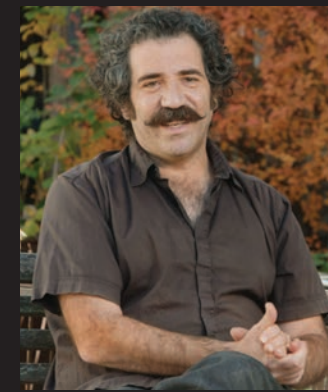
BUCK
ELLISON



DAVID
LEGGETT



ROSE
NESTLER



MICHAEL
RAKOWITZ



MARTINE
SYMS



HIROMI
TSUCHIDA



MICHAEL
WANG

COMMUNITY



Photography by Deonté Leë © BFA 2024

STAFF AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

STAFF

Art21's projects are realized through the efforts of a creative group of individuals who contribute their unique talents to further the organization's mission.

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Susan Sollins Executive Director
and Chief Curator

Lauren Barnett
Chief Operating Officer

Makda Amdetsyon
Education Coordinator

Andrea Yu-Chieh Chung
Associate Producer

Hannah DeGarmo
Associate Director of Communications

Lolita Fierro
Director of Development

Ian Forster
Senior Producer

Grace LeCates
Development Assistant

Jurrell Lewis
Assistant Curator

Emma Nordin
Director of Education

Nick Ravich
Director of Production

Jessica Svenson
Senior Development Manager

Noor Tamari
Executive Assistant

Nora Wimmer
Associate Manager of Web & Editorial

Thanks to Education Advisor
Joe Fusaro

**Thanks to members of the Art21 staff
through recent years:**
Molaundo Jones and Anna Pruett

Art21 Interns:
Natania Dorma, Yeon Cho, Amber He,
Emma Kanne, Carina Martinez, William
Trevino, and Adam Varca

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Art21's Board of Trustees is composed of an inspiring group of individuals—many of whom have been with the organization since its founding—and each contributes a wealth of knowledge from their experience in film, technology, and philanthropy. With their creative direction and oversight, Art21 is able to foster a dynamic conversation on contemporary art and artists through film, education initiatives, and digital engagement.

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Nicole Deller
Secretary

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Co-Treasurer

Mark Dorfman
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Chairman Emeritus

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Oliver Herring

Paul Pfeiffer
Erica Samuels

Shahzia Sikander
Jasmin Tsou

Christine Turner
Carrie Mae Weems

Diana Wierbicki

ART21 FOUNDER
Susan Sollins (In Memoriam)

**ART IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY
CO-CREATORS**

Susan Dowling
Susan Sollins

*Board and staff lists reflect current members as of September 2024

FILMMAKERS

Throughout fiscal year 2023, Art21 collaborated with numerous skilled independent filmmakers who directed, shot, produced, and edited our films.



SEASON 11, ART IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

Andy Cahill	Michelle Hanks	Colin Morris III
Ryan Carl	Oscar Harrison	Benny Mouthon
Javier Castillo	Nikita Iziev	Andrew Orkin
Stephanie Cen	Chiemi Karasawa	Eric Perez
Bryan Chang	Damon Karys	Addison Post
La’Ron Cooper	Andrew Kemp	Arjun Pothuri
Sam Cullman	Robert La Rosa	Chris Ramey
Danica Drezner	Alex Laviola	Daud Sani
Genna Edwards	Ursula Liang	Mary Ann Toman
Connor Finn	Bailey Lica	Lynn True
Leah Ford	Julia Liu	Danielle Varga
Gisela Fullà-Silvestre	Steve Lopez	Michael Workman
Naiti Gámez	Shane Lovero	Jane Macedo Yang
David Gauff	Fiona McBain	David Yim
Giacomo Gex	Carla Mejia	Malika Zouhali-Worrall
Steven Golliday	Yasmin Mistry	

NEW YORK CLOSE UP

Lorena Alvarado	Lei Gonzalez	Yeon Park
Carver Audain	Christian Guinanzaca	Pete Qandt
Lanee Bird	Manuela Hidalgo	Alina Rancier
Dan Brauchli	Natacha Ikoli	Pierce Robinson
Ana Valeria Castillos	Crystal Kayiza	Rachel Villegas
Benjamin Eckersley	Jia Li	Angela Guerra Walley
Nico Fazio	Michael Lovett	Mark Lee Walley
Andrew Fox	Sofia Marcos	Yunbo Wu
Marina Frigerio	César Martínez Barba	
Banerys Gonzalez	Isabel Padilla	



EXTENDED PLAY

Jarred Alterman	Sean Hanley	Joel Pickard
Max Blecker	Riley Hooper	Daryl Pittman
Collin Blendell	Jiale Hu	Doug Potts
Alan Brenner	Miasarah Lai	Fivel Rothberg
Alexandra Brown	Sebastián Lasaoa Rogers	Rafael Salazar Moreno
Andrea Cruz	Pasquin Mariani	Luigi Scaglione
Kira Dane	EJ Markland	Misha Spivack
Jackson Derbish	Kevin Marshall	Patrik Wallner
Sue Ding	Jan Midelfort	Crystal Wong
Ana Fernández	Cédric von Niederhäusern	Russell Yaffe
Jonah Greenstein	Thomas Niles	



Production still from the *Art in the Twenty-First Century* Season 11 episode "Everyday Icons." © Art21, Inc. 2023.

COMMITTEES

ARCHIVE COMMITTEE

The Archive Committee members contribute their expertise in digitizing and leveraging Art21 footage, assist in identifying funding opportunities, facilitate connections with industry leaders, and provide guidance on ethical and legal considerations in artist and filmmaker relationships. With a focus on ensuring Art21's historically valuable archive meets the needs of contemporary audiences while also ensuring its careful preservation for future generations, this committee plays a vital role in shaping the organization's archival strategies.

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| James Cohan | David Howe |
| Nicole Deller | Hiroko Onoda |
| Abigail DeVille | Shahzia Sikander |
| Teri Eaton | Lori Perlow |
| Stuart Ginsberg | Christine Turner |
| Susan Harris | Migs Wright |
| Oliver Herring | |

*Committees reflect current members as of September 2024

COMMUNITY EXPANSION COMMITTEE

The mission of Art21's Community Expansion Committee is to strategize, foster, and expand the prospecting, cultivation, and fundraising processes and practices of Art21. Committee members help engage new stakeholders, communities, supporters, and future prospects in order to expand the breadth of Art21's impact. Future members of the Committee should have strong ties to the philanthropic community, with wide networks throughout the arts, film, media, education, and other cultural sectors. All committee work is done in partnership with the Executive Director and Development staff.

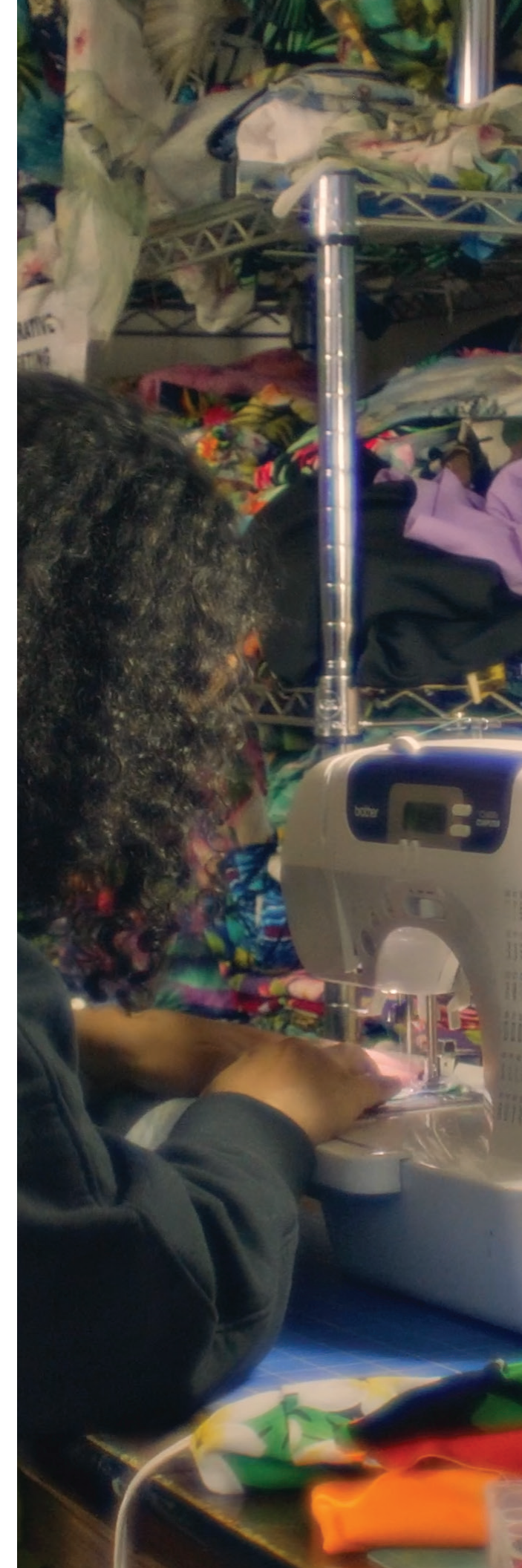
- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Deborah Beckmann | Andrea Glimcher |
| Talley Dunn | Anna Raginskaya |
| Ryan Gates | Erica Samuels |

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Education Committee members play an integral role as champions of Art21's educational endeavors. Members offer invaluable guidance on the curation of educational materials and facilitate partnerships with educators and educational and cultural institutions. Their efforts contribute to the expansion of Art21's professional development offerings and public programming. Moreover, members actively engage in activities aimed at promoting and disseminating Art21 films and content, thereby enhancing educational opportunities for both educators and students.

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| James Cohan | Oliver Herring |
| Yaroslav Faybishenko | Lori Perlow |
| Hedy Fischer | Paul Pfeiffer |
| Barbara Gundlach | |

Production still from the *New York Close Up* film "Joiri Minaya's Pattern Making." © Art21, Inc. 2023.





FILMMAKER COMMITTEE

The Filmmaker Committee expands on Art21's commitment to documentary film excellence by providing advice on how to best support the community of filmmakers who create and sustain Art21 productions. This committee will be a sounding board for the production team, allowing Art21 to build upon its network of talent behind the camera and expand its support of the filmmaker community through programs like mentorships and fellowships.

Bryan Chang	Christine Turner
César Martínez Barba	Malika Zouhali-Worrall

GALA COMMITTEE

The Art21 Gala Committee provides support and guidance to the Art21 staff on the planning and successful execution of Art21's biennial fundraiser. Committee members assist Art21's Executive Director and Development team in developing a timeline and appropriate fundraising goals for the event. Committee members assist with prospecting, soliciting and purchasing tables and sponsorships, and procuring honorees. The Gala Committee will provide input on decisions such as the selection of the venue, honorees, program for the evening, and other fundraising elements such as a silent auction and potential corporate sponsors. The committee will also oversee the finances of the event and help ensure the event meets the revenue goal.

Migs Wright	Jasmin Tsou
Louise Eliasof	Ryan Gates
Andrea Glimcher	Erica Samuels
Hedy Fischer	

This page, top to bottom: Production still from the *Extended Play* film, "Richard Mosse: What the Camera Cannot See." © Art21, Inc. 2022. Production still from the *Art in the Twenty-First Century* Season 11 episode "Bodies of Knowledge." © Art21, Inc. 2023. Production still from *Extended Play* film, "Song Dong: Shēng." © Art21, Inc. 2022.

Page 44: Production still from the *Art in the Twenty-First Century* Season 11 episode "Friends & Strangers." © Art21, Inc. 2023.



DONORS

Thanks to our committed community of supporters, Art21 can share the captivating narratives of some of today’s most influential contemporary artists with audiences worldwide, all conveniently accessible for free, 24/7, at Art21.org. We invite you to join us in championing Art21’s vision of fostering a more creative and inclusive world through the powerful works and words of artists.

ART21 CONTEMPORARY COUNCIL

Becoming a member of Art21’s Contemporary Council is one of the most meaningful and intentional ways to support Art21’s mission. In addition to serving as invaluable ambassadors of Art21’s mission, members of this intimate group receive access to special events, private studio visits, curatorial presentations, and more.



“Art21 shares my belief that art should be available to everyone, as art has the power to transcend boundaries and connect us all. I take pride in being part of the Art21 community, endorsing the mission and programs that elevate artists’ voices and the very essence of human expression.”

Sarah Arison,
President Arison Arts Foundation



“Teiger Foundation is proud to support Art21’s mission. As a former curator myself, I find Art21’s approach to storytelling is a critical avenue to understanding the ideas and lives of the artists of our time.”

Larissa Harris
Executive Director, Teiger Foundation



“Art21 is a fantastic organization that highlights the contributions artists make to our understanding of creativity. The Henry Nias Foundation is thrilled to support Art21, and recognizes it as an important voice for the arts.”

Cathy Edelman
Director, Henry Nias Foundation

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS FROM FISCAL YEAR 2023:



Ursula Von Rydingsvard Studio Visit
Private studio tour and live wood carving demonstration from sculptor Ursula von Rydingsvard



Charles Gaines Screening
Art21 x CalArts reception and film screening celebrating the life and work of Charles Gaines



Richard Mosse Studio Visit
Private studio visit and screening with artist Richard Mosse



Abigail DeVille: Bronx Heavens, Bronx Museum
Exhibition walkthrough with artist and Art21 board member, Abigail DeVille, and exhibition curator Eileen Jeng Lynch



David Howe Studio Visit
Private studio visit with artist and chairman emeritus David Howe



“Bodies of Knowledge” Premiere
Pink carpet premiere of “Bodies of Knowledge,” the second episode of *Art in the Twenty-First Century*, Season 11

We are grateful for the individuals, foundations, and institutions whose contributions make Art21’s programs a reality.

We have made every effort to accurately list the donations made in fiscal year 2023 (October 1, 2022–September 30, 2023). If you believe that your name has been mistakenly left off this list, please contact us at support@art21.org.

\$100,000 and above

Andreas Foundation
The Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Foundation
The David S. Howe Foundation
Dawn and Chris Fleischner
Lambent Foundation Fund of the Tides Foundation
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Andrea Glimcher

Susan Harris
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Eric Ball and Seth Dager
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Suzanne Bucher
Catalina Casas
Liz Christensen
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Suzanne Delehanty
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Kathleen Engman
Anna C. Furney
Jimmie and Scott Hudson
Molaundo Jones
Jamie Kay
Jeffrey Lee
Cecil McDonald, Jr.
George and Joyce Moss
Marquita Pool-Eckert
Mary Quinton-Barry
Jane L. Richards
Jasmin Tsou
Christine Turner
Carrie Mae Weems
Terry Zucker

\$1-249

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Amazon Smile Foundation
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Oliver Herring
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Pamela Whitehead
Julie Wolfe
William Wolfslau
Dianna Woolley
Christina Young
Malika Zouhali-Worrall



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Art21 Statement of Activities
September 30, 2023

REVENUE & SUPPORT

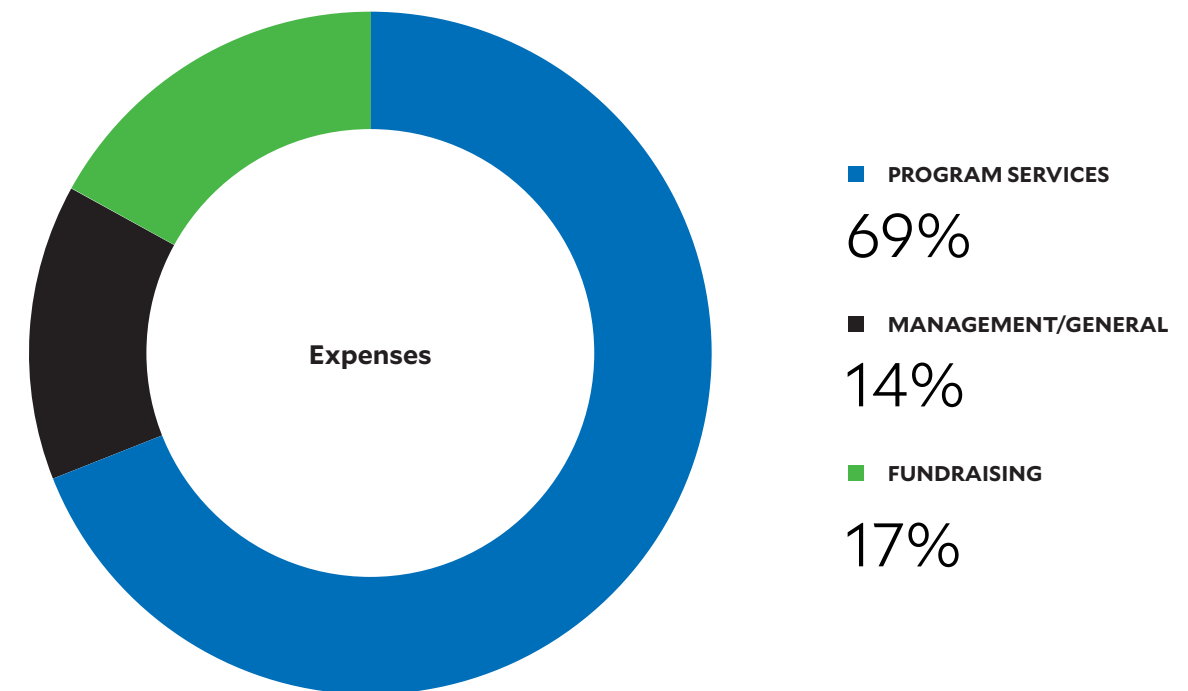
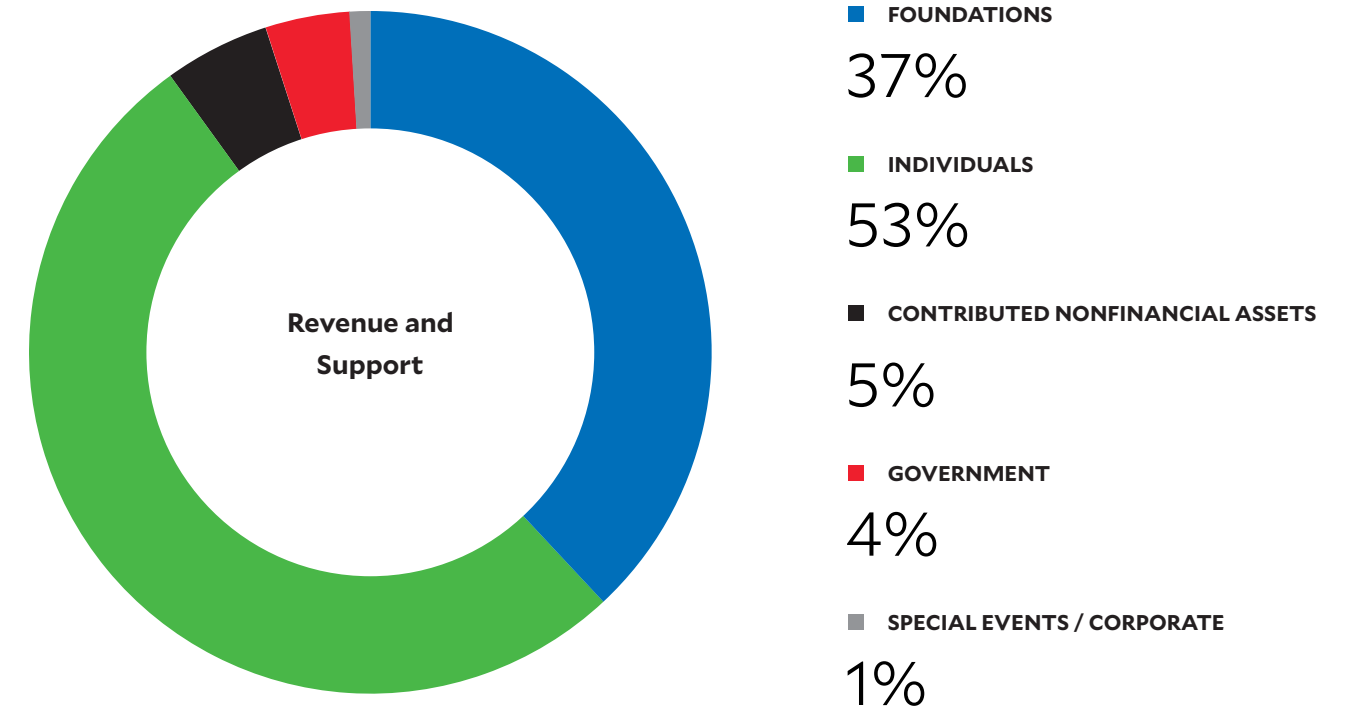
Grants and contributions	\$4,228,059
Special Events revenue	(\$92,691)
Other income	\$569,315
Program service revenue	\$219,062
Total revenue and support	\$4,923,745

EXPENSES

Program	\$2,175,227
Supporting services - Management and general	\$454,506
Fundraising	\$535,858
Total expenses	\$3,165,591

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

Net assets at beginning of year	\$6,438,141
Net assets at end of year	\$8,196,295





Art21, Inc.
231 West 29th Street, Suite 706
New York, NY 10001



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Stay Updated
art21.org/newsletter

Production still from the *New York Close Up* film,
"Esteban Cabeza de Baca's Time Travels" © Art21, 2023.

