

Maria Hupfield: Super Massive Thunder Boom Ultimate Collection



Friday, May 6, 2022
7:00–8:00 pm

Vera List Center for Art and Politics
The New School
Abrons Arts Center
466 Grand St, New York, NY 10002

About

Maria Hupfield's *Super Massive Thunder Boom Ultimate Collection* is a 2020–2022 Borderlands Fellowship commissioned project and has been supported by research assistance, production grants, and curatorial guidance by the Vera List Center for Art and Politics at The New School and the Center for Imagination in the Borderlands at Arizona State University. It is presented in collaboration with Abrons Arts Center. Additional support has been given by the David Randolph Distinguished Artist-in-Residence Program.

The Vera List Center for Art and Politics is a research center and a public forum for art, culture, and politics. It was established at The New School in 1992—a time of rousing debates about freedom of speech, identity politics, and society's investment in the arts. A leader in the field, the center is a nonprofit that serves a critical mission: to foster a vibrant and diverse community of artists, scholars, and policymakers who take creative, intellectual, and political risks to bring about positive change.

The Center for Imagination in the Borderlands is an Indigenous space at Arizona State University where students, faculty, and guests catalyze and constellate stories, knowledge systems, and language within and across our many borderlands through conversation and performance. The center was founded in 2020 by poet and MacArthur Fellow Natalie Diaz (Mojave, Akimel O'odham) who serves as its director.

Abrons Arts Center is a home for contemporary interdisciplinary arts in Manhattan's Lower East Side neighborhood. A core program of the Henry Street Settlement, Abrons believes that access to the arts is essential to a free and healthy society. Through performance presentations, exhibitions, education programs, and residencies, Abrons mobilizes communities with the transformative power of art.

For information on related classes, please visit:
www.newschool.edu.

This event has been recorded and the documentation will be made available on
www.veralistcenter.org.

Image Credit: Maria Hupfield, *Tin Jingles*, 2022.
Courtesy of the artist.

Program

Super Massive Thunder Boom Ultimate Collection is a multiformat performance event that brings together Indigenous design and song in a demonstration of sovereignty and cultural strength the day after the National Day of Awareness and Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Gender Diverse people. This program is convened by Maria Hupfield, David Randolph Distinguished Artist-in-Residence and a 2020–2022 Borderlands Fellow, a joint initiative between the Vera List Center for Art and Politics at The New School and the Center for the Imagination in the Borderlands at Arizona State University. It is presented by the Vera List Center and Abrons Arts Center as part of Hupfield's ongoing research into Indigenous performance practices and protocols and her *Breaking Protocol* Borderlands Fellowship project.

Multidisciplinary artist and performer Ange Loft serves as the evening's Master of Ceremonies, with performances by The Dime Collective from Montreal (Eruoma Awashish, Nahka Bertrand, Sarah Cleary, and Sarah Zakaib), artist and educator Dennis RedMoon Darkeem, and Toronto-based performance art band Jane Schoolcraft, with a guest appearance by Nicole Wallace.

PARTICIPANTS (in order of appearance)

Welcome

Natalie Diaz and Carin Kuoni

Master of Ceremonies

Ange Loft

Performances

The Dime Collective

Dennis RedMoon Darkeem

Jane Schoolcraft with Nicole Wallace

Closing

Ali Rosa-Salas

The program is followed by a reception in the garden.

Participant Biographies

Ange Loft (Kahnawà:ke Kanién'kehá:ka, born in Kahnawake, Canada; lives in Toronto, Canada) is associate artistic director of Jumblies Theatre and Arts and an interdisciplinary performing artist and initiator practicing in Toronto. She is also a vocalist with the experimental music and performance art collective Yamantaka//Sonic Titan. Her collaborations use arts-based research, wearable sculpture and theatrical story-weaving to facilitate workshops and theatrical spectacle. Ange authored the “Toronto Indigenous Context Brief” for the Toronto Biennial of Art’s Advisory Council and is a participant of the *Rabbit Hole: Pod Theory Residency, 2020*.

The Dime Collective is based in Montreal and operates between Rome, Italy, and Canada. Members include: Eruoma Awashish (Atikamekw of Opitciwan, Wemontaci), Nahka Bertrand (Acho Dene Koe First Nation/Québécois), Sarah Cleary (Innu, Mashteuiatsh), and Sarah Zakaib (Second Generation Italo-Lebanese). Drawing from a range of expertise in the visual arts, fashion, powwow dance culture, and the everyday, the group designed a set of wearable art pieces made from dimes that they performed live over the course of the pandemic. They are the recipients of a Canada Council for the Arts Grant and mentored under artist Maria Hupfield.

Dennis RedMoon Darkeem is Bronx born and raised, wind clan, Yamassee Creek-Seminole Native American. An artist and art educator, he has exhibited his work and performed at the Bronx Museum of the Arts, Brooklyn Museum of the Arts, Open Sessions at The Drawing Center, La Mama Theater, the Museum of Modern Art, Bronx Art Space, Rush Gallery, The Judaic Museum of Art, and Smack Mellon, and has received fellowships and scholarships from NYSFA, NYC Teachers Foundation, Marko Rothko scholarship, and Price Waterhouse Fellowship award. He participated in Artist residencies at Wave Hill, the Laundromat Project, The Point, Bronx Children’s Museum, International Center of Photography, and Jamaica Arts Center. Dennis is also the creator and founder of Bronx Artist Day, RedMoon Bronx Soaps and Teas, and The RedMoon Arts Movement Inc, an organization that brings Art and Art resources to young people of the South Bronx and the tri-state area, and supplies young people with the skills necessary to be their own boss. Dennis believes in the philosophy “Art is Power.” Art is a tool, used to inform, engage, inspire, educate, embrace and celebrate one’s uniqueness. When one is open to Arts one is open to the world.

Jane Schoolcraft is a three-member performance art band based in Toronto. Members include artists, curators, and Indigenous academics Lisa Myers (Beausoleil First Nation) on guitar, Mikinaak Migwans (Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory), and Maria Hupfield (Wasauksing First Nation) on vocals and hand drum. The band uses sound and voice to disrupt colonial spaces

and speak to prior, persisting Indigenous presences. Members first started singing together at the Anti-Columbus Day action, American Museum of Natural History, New York (2016, 2017), and originally operated out of Brooklyn, New York, as an Anishinaabe hand drumming group under the name Nishnaabekwegaw Negamonid with poet Nicole Wallace. Public performances include Gallery Garden Party + Maria Hupfield Performance, for the exhibition Storywork: Maria Hupfield, Patel Brown East, Toronto (2021), and the reception of #callresponse at the Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, New York (2018).

Maria Hupfield is a 2020–2022 inaugural Borderlands Fellow for her project Breaking Protocol at the Vera List Center for Art and Politics at The New School and the Center for the Imagination in the Borderlands at Arizona State University; and recently announced inaugural Resident Artist for the City of Toronto, ArtworxTO, Parks and Recreation 2022. She was awarded the Hnatyshyn Mid-career Award for Outstanding Achievement in Canada 2018. Her work was exhibited and performed through her touring solo exhibition The One Who Keeps On Giving organized by The Power Plant (2017–2018), and solo Nine Years Towards the Sun, at the Heard Museum, Phoenix, (2019–2020). Amongst other places, she has also presented her work at the Montreal Museum of Contemporary Art, the NOMAM in Zurich, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Galerie de L’UQAM, Galerie Hugues Charbonneau, Patel Brown, the New York Smithsonian Museum of the American Indian, the New York Museum of Art and Design, BRIC House Gallery, the Bronx Museum, Boston Museum of Fine Arts, Site Santa Fe, and the National Gallery of Canada. She is co-owner of Native Art Department International with her husband artist Jason Lujan. She’s a member of the Anishinaabek People and belongs to Wasauksing First Nation in Ontario. She’s currently an Assistant Professor in Indigenous Performance and Media Art, and a Canadian Research Chair in Transdisciplinary Indigenous Arts, at the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM).

Nicole Wallace is the author of the chapbook, *WAASAMOWIN* (IMP, 2019). Nicole was the June/July 2020 poetry micro-resident at Running Dog and a 2019 Poets House Emerging Poets Fellow. They are a member of the Indigenous Kinship Collective and Managing Director of The Poetry Project. Recent work can be read in *Survivance: Indigenous Poesis* Vol. IV Zine and online at Running Dog, A Perfect Vacuum, and LitHub. Originally from Gakaabikaang, Minnesota, Nicole is of mixed settler/European ancestry and is a descendent of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (Ojibwe). They currently live and make work on unceded, occupied Canarsee and Lenape territory (Brooklyn, NY).

Vera List Center Fellowship

Vera List Center Fellowships support the development and presentation of ambitious art and research projects by national and international emerging artists, writers, scholars, and activists. Since 1994, the VLC Fellowship program has supported outstanding individuals at key moments in their early- and mid-careers, especially those who are members of underrepresented communities in the art world and those who would otherwise struggle to find support because of the experimental, political, and/or research-intensive nature of their work. The appointments provide the VLC Fellows with the opportunity to draw from the curatorial, academic, and professional resources of the Vera List Center and The New School. As commissions, the resulting fellowship projects are presented to the public through the Vera List Center's interdisciplinary public programs and institutional networks.

The Borderlands Fellowship is a joint initiative of the Center for Imagination in the Borderlands (CIB) at Arizona State University and the Vera List Center for Art and Politics (VLC) at The New School in New York City. The Borderland Fellowships are awarded every two years to two individual artists/scholars/thinkers that pair the distinct institutional resources of the CIB and VLC in order to support research projects that help create communities across different geographical, cultural, and political landscapes engaging the public as well as students at both sites. The fellowships focus on the relevance of place, thus seeking to support and apply an Indigenous lens to reflect on questions of borderlands.

VERA LIST CENTER FELLOWS

Carolina Caycedo Los Angeles, CA 2020–2022	Casey Gollan New York City 2015–2017	Kobena Mercer New Haven, CT 1999	Edward Rothstein New York City 1999
Etcétera Buenos Aires 2020–2022	Margarita Gutman New York City 2001	Lorraine O’Grady New York City 1997–1998	Katya Sander Copenhagen, Denmark 2006–2007
Maria Hupfield Toronto, Canada 2020–2022	Susan Hapgood New York City 1999	Olu Oguibe Storrs, CT 2000	Robert Sember New York City 2009–2011
Rasheedah Phillips Los Angeles, CA 2020–2022	Sharon Hayes Philadelphia, PA 2006–2007	Silvana Paternostro New York City 1997	Joshua Simon Philadelphia, PA 2011–2013
Adelita Husni Bey New York City 2020–2022	Danny Hoch New York City 2000	Wendy Perron New York City 2001	Victoria Sobel New York City 2015–2017
Past Fellows	Ashley Hunt Van Nuys, CA 2006–2007	Marjetica Potrc Ljubljana, Slovenia 2007–2008	Elisabeth Sussman New York City 1999
Lawrence Abu Hamdan Beirut, Lebanon 2015–2017	Helene Kazan London, UK/ Beirut, Lebanon 2018–2020	Leslie Prosterman Washington, D.C. 2001	David Thorne Los Angeles, CA 2006–2007
Maurice Berger New York City 1994	Bouchra Khalili Berlin, Germany/ Tangier, Morocco 2011–2013	Alexander Provan New York City 2013–2015	Jonathan Weinberg New Haven, CT 2002
dean erdmann Los Angeles, CA 2018–2020	Lana Lin & Lan Thao Lam New York City 2009–2010	Walid Raad New York City 2004–2005	
Wendy T. Ewald Rhinebeck, NY 2000	Jill Magid New York City 2013–2015	Sarah Rothenberg Houston, TX 1995	
Andrea Geyer New York City 2006–2007			

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The Board of the Vera List Center for Art and Politics is an integral part of the New School community. They provide counsel to the Vera List Center, develop expertise on ways to support the academic enterprise, offer insight and guidance on programs, provide significant financial support, and serve as ambassadors to the communities in which they live and work.

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Notes

UPCOMING

Saturday, May 7, 2022

Carolina Caycedo: La Siembra

Union Settlement

237 East 104th Street, New York

2:00–4:00 pm

Borderlands Fellow Carolina Caycedo plants a memorial tree and installs a sonic marker for murdered environmental activists, with a roundtable discussion that brings together Arizona water protectors Nellie Jo David and Amber Ortega, and Tatiana Roa Avendaño, an environmentalist, educator, and researcher at the environmental organization CENSAT Agua Viva. The discussion is moderated by Romy Opperman, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Philosophy at The New School for Social Research.

Monday, May 16, 2022

Seminar 12—Breaking Protocols: Desire Lines

Online

6:00–7:30 pm

Breaking Protocols: Desire Lines is the final seminar in the Vera List Center’s *As for Protocols* series. It brings together the artist duo Rashaun Mitchell + Silas Riener, with dance artist and audio describer Tess Dworman, architect Jing Liu, and performance curator and scholar Noémie Solomon to examine the notion of “desire lines” and to reflect on the questions: what do you desire from the institutions you’re a part of and that are a part of you? The seminar is co-convened with Joshua Lubin-Levy (Part-Time Lecturer, Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts, The New School).

May 20–June 10, 2022

NEO-EXTRA-ACTIVISM—Protocols for Buen Vivir

The Clemente Soto Vélaz Cultural & Educational Center

107 Suffolk Street, New York

Open daily 11:00 am–7:00 pm

The Vera List Center and The Clemente present *NEO-EXTRA-ACTIVISM—Protocols for Buen Vivir*, an exhibition and public performance of multidisciplinary Argentinian collective Etcétera. This exhibition is the last chapter in Etcétera’s two-year 2020–2022 Boris Lurie Fellowship, and the first presentation of the collective’s work in New York City.

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Studies into Darkness: The Perils and Promise of Freedom of Speech Book Launch

The New School, Glass Box Theater

55 West 13th Street, ground floor, New York

6:30–9:00 pm

Studies into Darkness: The Perils and Promise of Freedom of Speech (Amherst College Press and Vera List Center, 2022) provides a practical and historical guide to free speech discourse and combines it with poetic responses to the contemporary crises around free expression. This program brings together the book’s editors Carin Kuoni and Laura Raicovich with several contributors, including artists Mendi + Keith Obadike, who will present their performance *In The Mouth of This Dragon*.
