

Otobong Nkanga: Cadence
Artist, performer, and collaborator bios

Otobong Nkanga is a visual and performance artist based in Antwerp, Belgium. Nkanga studied at the Obafemi Awolowo University in Ile-Ife, Nigeria, the École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts, Paris, and DasArts, Amsterdam. She has been artist-in-residence at the Rijksakademie in Amsterdam and DAAD in Berlin. Nkanga is the recipient of the Nasher Prize, the Flemish Cultural Award for Visual Arts, the Peter Weiss Prize, the Sharjah Biennial Award, the Special Mention Award of the 58th Venice Biennale, the inaugural Lise Wilhelmsen Art Award, the Belgian Art Prize and the Yanghyun Prize. She has held solo exhibitions at IVAM Centro Julio González, Valencia, Sint-Janshospitaal Bruges, Kunsthau Bregenz, Henie Onstad Museum, Oslo, Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin, Tate St. Ives, the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Tate Modern, and M HKA, Museum of Contemporary Art, Antwerp. Nkanga has exhibited at such international venues as the Castello di Rivoli Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Centre Pompidou, Moderna Museet, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, and Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa; and at the 58th Venice Biennale, documenta 14, 31st Bienal de São Paulo, 8th Berlin Biennale, and at three iterations of the Sharjah Biennial. In 2017, the artist initiated the Carved to Flow project as part of documenta 14, establishing the Carved to Flow Foundation, an organic farm in Akwa Ibom, Nigeria, and supporting the Akwa Ibom nonprofit art space in Athens, Greece.

Holland Andrews is a vocalist, composer, and performance artist whose work focuses on the abstraction of operatic and extended-technique voice to build soundscapes encompassing both catharsis and dissonance. Frequently highlighting themes surrounding vulnerability and healing, Andrews arranges music for voice, clarinet, and electronics, and develops and performs soundscapes for dance, theater, and film.

Keishera is a soul-reggae singer and songwriter who has performed at music venues across New York City and Germany. In addition to her debut album *It's Me Keishera*, she has released multiple singles and is currently producing a 1960s-soul-inspired album. Showcasing her versatility as a vocal artist, Keishera previously collaborated with Otobong Nkanga on *14 Rooms* at Art Basel, Switzerland.

Christian Joy is a Brooklyn-based costume designer and artist. She has designed looks for Karen O of the Yeah Yeah Yeahs, Brittany Howard, and Childish Gambino. Joy's work has been seen onstage at the Grammy Awards and the Oscars. Her work has been featured in the *New York Times* and *Vogue*.

Muyassar Kurdi is a Palestinian American, New York City-based interdisciplinary artist. Her work encompasses sound art, voice, movement, painting, analog photography, and film. Her practice honors the futuristic and ancient through meditative movements and sonic sound explorations. Centered on embodiment with a nonlinear approach rooted in improvisation, she explores memory, displacement, and the body in relation to nature.

Anaïs Maviel is a composer, vocalist, percussionist, and cross-disciplinary artist dedicated to translating spiritual concepts to sensory experiences, using sound as alchemy. She navigates song; choral, instrumental, and orchestral music; and experiential staging with a strong connection to cosmologies of sound and speech rooted in oral traditions. She bridges the gaps between genres and mediums to create diverse, inclusive, yet sacred experiences.

Miss Olithea is excited and deeply humbled to be a part of this breathtaking piece. Among her favorite past performances are Carnegie Hall's Afrofuturism Festival, JAM Performance Festival at MoMA, and the world premiere of *Olio: A Syncopated Citizenry of Syncopated Sonnets*. Love you PK always.

Samita Sinha is an artist, composer, researcher, and educator who creates multidisciplinary performance works that investigate origins of voice. She distills and unravels Indian vocal traditions through the body to create a non-colonial, bodily, and multivalent language of vibration and transformation.

MoMA

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