

I-Park Foundation, Inc.

Artists-in-Residence Program

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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YEAR'S FIRST OPEN STUDIOS EVENT SHOWCASES RETURNING ARTISTS

East Haddam, CT (April 10, 2018) — I-Park artists-in-residence program launches its 18th season of artist residencies with a free Open Studios event Thursday, April 19, at 5 p.m. Members of the public are invited to visit the six resident artists in their studios, attend a presentation featuring some of their work, explore the grounds and enjoy complimentary refreshments. I-Park is located at 428 Hopyard Road in East Haddam.

While acceptance to I-Park's residency program is usually highly competitive, the six individuals participating in this month's program are all returning artists who were invited back for a special 24-day fellows' residency. Each is an accomplished artist whose impactful work was influenced by their time at I-Park. The returning artists are:

Patrick Harlin: The award-winning Michigan composer's work spans both music composition and soundscape ecology, often incorporating field recordings captured in remote regions of the U.S. and the Amazon rainforest.

Celene Hawkins: This Ohio visual artist works in a variety of disciplines, including sculpture, installation and photo-based works — many of which are derived from images taken at I-Park.

Eugenia Kim: A writer based in Washington, D.C., Kim is the author of the novel *The Calligrapher's Daughter* and the forthcoming *The Kinship of Secrets*, which she worked on during her last residency at I-Park.

Bernard Farai Matambo: Born in Zimbabwe and currently residing in New York, Matambo's prose and poetry have appeared in several publications, and he is the author of a new collection called *Stray*.

Linda Lee Nicholas: A New York-based painter with dozens of exhibitions to her credit, Nicholas returns to I-Park to work on her *Parallel Universes* painting series.

Jorge Sarsale: This prize-winning visual artist and architect is based in Buenos Aires, and has numerous solo exhibitions to his credit. Best known for his work with paper, Sarsale will be using his residency to explore a different medium: mud.

“All six artists benefited tremendously from their previous stays at I-Park — and their presence had a profound impact on us, as well,” says Executive Director Joanne Paradis. “It’s great to launch the season with familiar faces and artists whose work we admire so much.”

Admission to Open Studios is free, but advance reservations are requested. To reserve your space, go to i-park.org. For additional information, write events@i-park.org, or call 860-873-2468.

This is the first of nine residencies planned at I-Park this year, including the return of I-Park’s heralded Composers + Musicians Collaborative Residency, which debuted in 2015 and reappears for its third iteration in July. This time around, five composers will team with the Akropolis Reed Quintet to substantially shape and refine new works of contemporary concert music in preparation for performances in Connecticut and New York City the first week in August.

About I-Park: I-Park is an artists-in-residence program offering fully funded residencies in visual arts, creative writing, music composition/sound art, moving image, and architecture and landscape design. Since its founding in 2001, I-Park has sponsored more than 850 residencies, and has developed cross-disciplinary projects of cultural significance and brought them into the public domain. Set within a 450-acre nature preserve, I-Park encourages dialogue between the natural and built environments, and has been the setting for exhibitions, performances, symposia, and programs that facilitate artistic collaboration.

CALENDAR LISTING

WHAT: I-Park Open Studios

WHEN: Thursday, April 19, at 5 p.m.

WHERE: I-Park, 428 Hopyard Road, East Haddam, CT

HOW MUCH: Free, but donations welcome

FURTHER INFORMATION: Visit i-park.org, write events@i-park.org, or call 860-873-2468

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