

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Hermitage Media Relations; 941-475-2098, Ext. 8;
Communications@HermitageArtistRetreat.org



**Hermitage Presents First “Cross Arts Collaborative” Program
with Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe and Florida Studio
Theatre, Celebrating Original Work Created as Part of the
New Initiative**

Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe’s Derric Gobourne Jr. and Florida Studio Theatre’s Tsebiyah Misheal Derry share excerpts of songs, poems, and other works created while in residence this summer as the inaugural recipients of the Hermitage Cross Arts Collaborative Residency. This new initiative gives performers affiliated with leading Sarasota arts organizations the opportunity to expand their practice from ‘performer’ to ‘creator.’

(November 1, 2022) — **The Hermitage Artist Retreat** (Sarasota County, Florida) announced today that it will present a showcase of new work created during the inaugural year of the Hermitage Cross Arts Collaborative. Made possible with generous support from the Koski Family Foundation, this new initiative is designed to give performers and company members from leading Sarasota arts organizations a chance to expand their artistic practice from ‘performer’ to ‘creator.’ The goal of the Cross Arts Collaborative is to inspire and encourage generative work created by some of the best and brightest performers in our vibrant performing arts community. Nominated by their respective ‘host’ organizations in collaboration with Emily Mann, long-tenured Artistic Director of the McCarter Theatre Center and Emeritus member of the Hermitage’s National Curatorial Council, Florida Studio Theatre’s **Tsebiyah Mishael Derry** and Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe’s **Derric Gobourne Jr.** spent two weeks on the historic beachfront campus of the Hermitage Artist Retreat, developing their proposals to create new work. The resulting community program, “Cross Arts Collaborative: New

Voices and New work,” will be held on **Wednesday November 30th at 5pm ET** on the Rooftop Terrace at Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe’s downtown Sarasota venue. The hour-long outdoor event will feature both of these remarkable performers and creators sharing excerpts from their original works-in-process.

(Full program details for all events are provided below below.)

While the Hermitage’s nationally renowned residency program brings leading artists from across the United States and around the world to create work on its beachfront Manasota Key campus, the Hermitage also seeks to enrich the incredible and growing arts scene in Sarasota, as showcased by performing arts institutions such as **Florida Studio Theatre** and **Westcoast Back Theatre Troupe**, along with others in future seasons.

“We wanted to offer this one-of-a-kind opportunity to some of the leading artists in Sarasota, creating space for a talented performer to focus on being a generative artist,” said Hermitage Artistic Director and CEO **Andy Sandberg**. “There are actors, dancers, musicians, and performing artists working amidst our circle of collaborators who have passion projects waiting in the wings. This could be an actor writing a play between productions, a cellist composing a symphony after rehearsals, a dancer yearning to expand into the choreographer’s space – or someone looking to work across an entirely new genre. This residency is designed for an artist who is hungry to expand their creative practice and explore a new ‘hat’ within the arts and entertainment space.” Sandberg added that this new Cross Arts Collaborative initiative would not be possible without the generous support of the Koski Family Foundation, longtime supporters and champions of the Hermitage.

“We are proud of our long history of collaboration with the Hermitage and the collective impact we have on the Sarasota community,” said Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe Founder and Artistic Director **Nate Jacobs**. “The Cross Arts Collaborative is an exciting new way to gather resources in service of wonderful artists like Derric who consider Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe their creative home.”

“Every time we partner with the Hermitage, the result is a unique look into the creative process of making theater through the eyes of a leading artist in the field,” added Florida Studio Theatre Founder and Artistic Director **Richard Hopkins**. “I’m so

pleased we are able to collaborate once more to provide this opportunity to Tsebiyah who is quickly making a name for herself as one of those leading artists. We are honored to call her an FST creative family member and cannot wait to see what this dedicated time and space to delve into her richly varied artistry has produced.”

On Saturday, November 12th, the Hermitage hosts the annual **Artful Lobster: An Outdoor Celebration**. Now in its 14th year, this signature event raises valuable funds for the Hermitage. In the aftermath of Hurricane Ian, proceeds from the 2022 Artful Lobster will go toward campus repairs, in addition to providing support for the Hermitage’s internationally renowned artist residency initiative and free community programming. The Artful Lobster is the only Hermitage benefit to take place on the grounds of the historic Gulf front campus – outdoors from 11:30am to 2pm beneath a large tent – located at 6660 Manasota Key Road in Englewood. Michael’s On East offers a lobster feast, this year with performances from award-winning Hermitage Fellows **Adam Gwon** and **Reggie Harris**. Adam Gwon’s Hermitage residency is generously sponsored by the Huisking Family Foundation. Tickets for this fundraiser and sponsorship details can be found at **HermitageArtistRetreat.org**.

Nearly all Hermitage programs are free and open to the public (with a \$5/person registration fee), offering Gulf Coast audiences a chance to engage and interact with some of the world’s leading talent. Due to capacity limitations and social distancing, **registration is required** at **HermitageArtistRetreat.org**.

The Hermitage hosts artists on its Gulf Coast Manasota Key campus for multi-week residencies, where diverse artists from around the world and across multiple disciplines create and develop new works of theater, music, visual art, literature, and more. As part of their residencies, Hermitage Fellows participate in free community programs, offering audiences in the region a unique opportunity to engage with some of the world’s leading artists and to get an authentic “sneak peek” into extraordinary projects and artistic minds before their works go on to major galleries, concert halls, theaters, and museums around the world. These free and innovative programs include performances, lectures, readings, interactive experiences, open studios, school programs, teacher workshops, and more, serving thousands in our regional community each year.

See below for complete program details and artist bios.

For more information about the Hermitage and upcoming programs, or to support the Hermitage's hurricane repair efforts, visit **HermitageArtistRetreat.org**.

FULL PROGRAM DETAILS

Newly announced program descriptions:

- **“Cross Arts Collaborative: New Voices and New Work” Wednesday, November 30 @ 5pm:** Designed to inspire and encourage generative work created by some of the best and brightest performers in our vibrant performing arts community, the inaugural year of the Cross Arts Collaborative celebrates the work of Tsebiyah Misheal Derry and Derric Gobourne Jr. Join these two remarkable performers as they share excerpts from the songs, poems, and other works that were developed during their residency at the Hermitage Artist Retreat. ***Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org (\$5/person registration fee). Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe, 1012 N Orange Ave, Sarasota, FL 34236***

Previously announced program descriptions:

- **“Richard Kennedy: Performance and Conversation” Wednesday, November 2 @ 6pm:** Returning Hermitage Fellow **Richard Kennedy** is a genre-defying creator working across dance, opera, and visual art. Just as their career has spanned Broadway and gallery spaces, museums and clubs, New York and Berlin, their interdisciplinary work is “...at once light with a sensual joy and heavy with mournful emotion” (ARTnews). Their wide variety of skills challenges and invites an audience to reimagine more traditionally defined boundaries of art. In a program combining performance and conversation, Kennedy reveals selections of past and upcoming work while also providing contextual insight. ***Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org (\$5/person registration fee). The Ringling Museum of Art, Historic Asolo Theater, 5401 Bay Shore Rd, Sarasota, FL 34243***
- **“Hermitage @ Booker: Reggie Harris and the Power of Music” Friday, November 4 @ 5:30 pm:** Returning Hermitage Fellow **Reggie Harris** believes that music has the power to unite, the power to uplift, and the power to heal. An international leader in the folk and acoustic music scene for more than 40 years, Harris brings all his skill and charm to Booker High School and is inviting the community along for the joyful ride. Join this incredible musician and storyteller to rediscover the essential power of music to move us all. Presented outdoors and socially distanced in the Booker Highschool courtyard in partnership with Booker High School VPA. Reggie Harris' Hermitage residency generously sponsored by Sondra and Gerald Biller. ***Registration is required at***

HermitageArtistRetreat.org (\$5/person registration fee). **Booker High School Courtyard, 3201 N Orange Ave, Sarasota, FL 34234**

- **NEWLY Announced Partnership with Oak Street Stage “Keyed In: A Piano Performance and Conversation” featuring Hermitage Fellow Conrad Tao Thursday, November 17th @ 6pm:** In this piano performance and discussion, Hermitage Fellow and consummate pianist Conrad Tao pushes the boundaries of how we hear the sound of classical music. In an exploration of the full range of sound the piano is capable of, including its nuanced harmonics and resonances between notes, Conrad is working to make the piano sing beyond the keys; drawing attention to the inherent sound of the piano beyond how we ordinarily perceive it. Don't miss this award-winning musician transforming the artform in front of our eyes and ears. *Presented in Partnership with Oak Street Stage. Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org* (\$5/person registration fee). **Oak Street Stage on the campus of First Presbyterian Church, 2050 Oak Street, Sarasota, FL 34237**
- **“Radio Opera Workshop” featuring Hermitage Fellow Yvette Janine Jackson Friday, November 18th @ 2:30pm at New College of Florida:** Hermitage Fellow and acclaimed composer **Yvette Janine Jackson** creates narrative and entire worlds out of sound. Whether radio opera or sound installation, her work has been described as “immersive, nonvisual films” by *The Guardian*. Hear selections of work inspired by cultural and historical events from this innovative creator and dive into the imaginative process of creating a world purely out of sound. *Presented in Partnership with New College of Florida. Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org* (\$5/person registration fee). **5800 Bay Shore Rd, Sarasota, FL 34243**
- **“Multihyphenate Multimedia: Music, Visual Art, and Theater” featuring Hermitage Fellows Raquel Acevedo Klein and Guadalís Del Carmen Friday, December 2nd @ 5pm on the Hermitage Beach:** Join us for a sunset beach program featuring two Hermitage Fellows whose talents cannot be contained in a single medium, style, or language. **Raquel Acevedo Klein** was named by *The Washington Post* as one of “2022’s Classical Composers and Performers to Watch,” and she is also an immensely talented visual artist. Award-winning playwright and screenwriter **Guadalís Del Carmen** creates original work across stage, screen, and film that doesn’t shy away from the multifold perspectives of contentious issues, giving her audiences “no easy answers and no one to hate” while leaving them “more than a little entertained and a whole lot wiser,” (*ChicagoOnStage*). See and hear works from this incredible duo and dive into the unique, intersectional voices driving their work. **Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org** (\$5/person registration fee). **Hermitage Beach, 6660 Manasota Key Rd, Englewood, FL 34223**
- **“Angélica Negrón: Playing a Plant” featuring Hermitage Greenfield Prize Winner Angélica Negrón Friday, December 9th @ 5pm on the Hermitage**

Great Lawn: 2022 Hermitage Greenfield Prize Winner **Angélica Negrón** is inspired by nature and the music all around her. Her wide-ranging performance and compositional practice extends beyond the traditional repertoire to include unconventional instruments such as plants and found objects, often layering in vocals and other electronics. Be among the first to hear a demonstration from this revolutionary artist and learn about her creative process before the outdoor orchestral string presentation of her Hermitage Greenfield Prize commission in Sarasota in 2024. *Presented in partnership with CreArte Latino, ensembleNew SRQ, UnidosNow, and New Music New College.* **Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org** (\$5/person registration fee). **Hermitage Beach, 6660 Manasota Key Rd, Englewood, FL 34223**

- **“Notes: On Writing and Music” featuring Hermitage Fellows Chigozie Obioma and Levy Lorenzo Thursday, December 15th @ 5pm on the Hermitage Beach:** Featuring two artists who both bring an international perspective, the program spans literature and music. Nigerian-born **Chigozie Obioma**, whose two novels *The Fisherman* and *An Orchestra of Minorities* were both shortlisted for the Booker Prize in Fiction, reads selections of his work and discusses his creative process. He is joined by Filipino-American musician, instrument designer, and returning Hermitage Fellow **Levy Lorenzo**, whose quirky and innovative work has been described as “a potent force on the side of exuberance, pleasure and awe of virtuosity” by *The New York Times*. Join these two incredible artists as the sun goes down on the Hermitage Beach. *Presented in partnership with The Johann Fust Library Foundation.* **Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org** (\$5/person registration fee). **Hermitage Beach, 6660 Manasota Key Rd, Englewood, FL 34223**

About the Hermitage Artist Retreat:

The Hermitage is a non-profit artist retreat located in Manasota Key, Florida, inviting accomplished artists across multiple disciplines for residencies on its beachfront campus, which is on the National Register of Historic Places. Hermitage artists are invited to interact with the local community, reaching thousands of Gulf Coast residents and visitors each year with unique and inspiring programs. Hermitage Fellows have included 15 Pulitzer Prize winners, Poets Laureate, MacArthur ‘Genius’ Fellows, and multiple Tony, Emmy, Grammy, Oscar winners and nominees. Works created at this beachside retreat by a diverse group of Hermitage alumni have gone on to renowned theaters, concert halls, and galleries throughout the world. Each year, the Hermitage awards the \$30,000 Hermitage Greenfield Prize for a new work of art, the newly announced \$35,000 Hermitage Major Theater Award for an original theater commission, and the Aspen Music Festival’s Hermitage Prize in Composition.

For more information, visit HermitageArtistRetreat.org.

The Hermitage is supported by:

Hermitage programs are supported, in part, by Sarasota County Tourist Development Tax Revenues; the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the National Endowment for the Arts; as well as the Gulf Coast Community Foundation, Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation, and the Community Foundation of Sarasota County.

ALL ANNOUNCED HERMITAGE PROGRAMS:

Wednesday, November 2 @ 6pm, “Richard Kennedy: Performance and Conversation” with Hermitage Fellow **Richard Kennedy** in the Historic Asolo Theater at The Ringling Museum (Live and indoors)

Presented in partnership with The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art

Friday, November 4 @ 5:30pm, Hermitage @ Booker Series – “Reggie Harris and the Power of Music,” with Returning Hermitage Fellow **Reggie Harris** (Live and outdoors at Booker High School)

Presented in partnership with Booker High School VPA

HERMITAGE FALL BENEFIT: “The 2022 Artful Lobster: An Outdoor Celebration”
Saturday, November 12 @ 11:30am; Sponsorships and tables now available; support will help with the Hermitage’s hurricane repair efforts.

Thursday, November 17th @ 6pm, “Keyed-In: A Piano Performance and Conversation,” with Hermitage Fellow **Conrad Tao** (Live in Sarasota, Location to be Announced)

Friday, November 18 @ 2:30pm, “Radio Opera Workshop,” with Hermitage Fellow **Yvette Janine Jackson** (Live at New College of Florida)

Presented in partnership with New College of Florida

Wednesday, November 30 @ 5pm, “Cross Arts Collaborative: New Voices and New Works,” with Hermitage Cross Arts Fellows **Tseboyah Misheal Derry** and **Derric Gobourne Jr.** (Live on the Rooftop Terrace of Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe, Sarasota)

Presented in partnership with Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe and Florida Studio Theatre

Friday, December 2nd @ 5pm, “Multihyphenate Multimedia: Music, Visual Art, and Theatre” with Hermitage Fellows **Raquel Acevedo Klein** and **Guadalís Del Carmen** (Live and outdoors on the Hermitage Beach)

Friday, December 9th @ 5pm, “Angélica Negrón: Playing a Plant,” with Hermitage Grenfield Prize Winner Angélica Negrón (Live and outdoors on the Hermitage Great Lawn)

Presented in partnership with ensembleNewSRQ, CreArte Latino, UnidosNow, and New Music New College

Thursday, December 15th @ 5pm, “Notes: On Writing and Music,” with Hermitage Fellows **Chigozie Obioma** and **Levy Lorenzo** (Live and outdoors on the Hermitage Beach)

Presented in partnership with the Johann Fust Library Foundation

CROSS ARTS COLLABORATIVE BIOS

Tsebiyah Misheal Derry (Florida Studio Theatre)

Tsebiyah Misheal Derry is an actor, singer, and poet from New York. She is a graduate of Sarah Lawrence College, where she studied devised theater, history, literature, and at the British American Drama Academy in London. Recently, Tsebiyah worked at Florida Studio Theatre on the development of “Carry Me,” a new play by Rachel Lynett. She also does yoga and sings in a rock band. In 2021, she received a NYC Artist Corps grant for her solo music. Favorite acting credits include *SKiNFoLK: An American Show* (The Bushwick Starr), which received a *NY Times* Critic’s Pick, *Collective Rage: A Play in 5 Betties* (Trinity Repertory Company), *Nina Simone: Four Women* (People’s Light), and *Romeo & Juliet* (Hypokrit Theatre Co). TV: *Hit & Run* (Netflix). Tsebiyah’s music, including “Coastline,” is available on all music platforms. Tsebiyah.com

Derric Gobourne Jr. (Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe)

Derric Gobourne Jr. is a new jack swing artist from Sarasota, Florida. He has been a troupe member of Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe for nine years, starting with starring as Young Stevie in the *Best of Stevie Wonder*. In 2018, Derric completed his fifteen-city *Love is My Message* tour and released his debut album *Supremacy*, with tracks “Love Don’t Live Here Anymore” and “Call You Tonight” charting internationally. In 2019, Derric released his single “11:11 (sadboyhaus),” which also hit No. 1 on the New Hot 941 Music Chart. 2020 saw Gobourne release a collaboration with DJ Nobody titled “Sweet Dreams,” which reached the iTunes charts in Germany and the release of a single called “Make Time from Love,” which featured over thirty artists from around the world. The single was released to raise money for organizations who help abused and neglected children. He released his sophomore album, *Oh What Fun*, a collaboration for Toys-for-Tots Sarasota in 2020, which garnered international attention in Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Taiwan, Germany, and Italy. He is currently working on his follow-up album, *SH!NE*.

COMPLETE ARTIST BIOS FOR HERMITAGE FALL PROGRAMS

(in chronological order of upcoming programs)

Richard Kennedy

Hermitage Fellow **Richard Kennedy** (b. 1985, Long Beach, CA) is an artist living and working in Brooklyn, New York. He has choreographed for SSION & Chino Amobi as well as collaborated on projects with NOWNESS, Nicopanda, and Hercules & Love Affair. Richard wrote *You Can Shine* (MR. INTL) and *For Some Reason* (Crew Love) before releasing his debut EP *Open Wound in a Pool of Sharks* (Sweat Equity, 2016). He presented two operas, *Black Rage* and *Comeuppance* at Signal in 2016. In 2017, he presented the ballet *Both* at Artists Space, *From.Under.Above* at MoMA PS1, and *Everything is gonna be Ok* at Danspace. In 2019 he received his M.F.A. from the Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts at Bard College in Music & Sound.

Reggie Harris

Hermitage Fellow **Reggie Harris** has been a vital part of international folk and acoustic music circles for over 40 years. He is a songwriter, a storyteller, songleader, educator and a Kennedy Center teaching artist who travels the world presenting over 300 performances a year spreading hope and light through song to audiences of all ages. As Co-President and Music Education Director for the Living Legacy Project, he leads pilgrimages to sites of the Modern Civil Rights movement in the southern US. Reggie's solo CD *Ready To Go* was the #5 CD on the Folk DJ charts for 2018 and his collaboration *Deeper Than the Skin* with fellow artist Greg Greenway has led to a growing movement of "courageous conversations on race and history across the nation. He is an artist who entertains, educates and builds community throughout the world. For a full bio, visit: ReggieHarrisMusic.com

Conrad Tao

Hermitage Fellow **Conrad Tao** has appeared worldwide as a pianist and composer and has been dubbed "the kind of musician who is shaping the future of classical music" by *New York Magazine*, and an artist of "probing intellect and open-hearted vision" by *The New York Times*. He is the recipient of the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant and was named a Gilmore Young Artist — an honor awarded every two years highlighting the most promising American pianists of the new generation. As a composer, he was also the recipient of a 2019 New York Dance and Performance "Bessie" Award, for Outstanding Sound Design / Music Composition, for his work on *More Forever*, his collaboration with dancer and choreographer Caleb Teicher. Conrad Tao has recently appeared as soloist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Cleveland Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, and Boston Symphony. As a composer, his work has been performed by orchestras throughout the US; his first large scale orchestral work, *Everything Must Go*, was premiered by the New York Philharmonic in 18-19, and by the Antwerp Symphony in 21-22. In the same season, his violin concerto, written for Stefan Jackiw, premiered at the Atlanta Symphony under Robert Spano, and the Baltimore Symphony under Kirill Karabits.

Yvette Janine Jackson

Hermitage Fellow **Yvette Janine Jackson** is a composer and installation artist who brings attention to historical events and social issues through her radio operas. She developed her tactile approach to composition as a student at the Columbia-Princeton Electronic Music Center during its transition into the Computer Music Center. In 2020, she established the Radio Opera Workshop, a scalable intermedia ensemble, to experiment with sound and narrative performance. Yvette's work has been presented at Audiorama, Fylkingen, Museumsquartier Tonspur Passage, Borealis Festival, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, and in residence at Stockholm EMS. She has presented on soundscape and memory at the Goethe-Institut Boston. Her album *Freedom*, produced by the Fridman Gallery, debuted as Contemporary Album of the Month in the January 2021 issue of *The Guardian*, and "Destination Freedom" won the Giga-Hertz Production Award 2021. Yvette is an assistant professor in Creative Practice and Critical Inquiry in the Department of Music and teaches for the Theater, Dance & Media program at Harvard University. YvetteJackson.com

Raquel Acevedo Klein

Named by *The Washington Post* as one of "2022's classical composers and performers to watch" and a "force to be reckoned with," Hermitage Fellow **Raquel Acevedo Klein** finds her greatest joy creating with other like-minded artists. Acevedo Klein has premiered works and operas by Philip Glass, Caroline Shaw, John Adams, Nico Muhly, Paola Prestini, Bryce Dessner, and George Lewis, to name only a few. She has recorded and performed with dozens of artists, including Anthony Roth Costanzo, Glen Hansard, Arcade Fire, Bon Iver, The National, Grizzly Bear, Sufjan Stevens, and the New York Philharmonic. In 2021, as part of the NY PopsUp initiative, Acevedo Klein curated a four-week festival entitled NYC FREE, celebrating the opening of the Pier 55 public park, Little Island. As part of that festival, she premiered her original, audience-interactive vocal symphony "Polyphonic Interlace," made from 40 recorded layers of her voice that audiences could accompany using their phones. Some of the other highlights of Acevedo Klein's live music history include vocal and instrumental performances at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Radio City Music Hall, The Town Hall, BAM, St. Ann's Warehouse, the Celebrate Brooklyn! Festival, the NYC Guggenheim, Rockefeller Center, The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon, WNYC, National Sawdust, and Bard Fisher Center. She counts the Grammy Award-winning Brooklyn Youth Chorus, Beth Morrison Projects, and the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra among the many groups and orchestras that she conducts for. Over the course of her young career, Acevedo Klein's performances and curations have already caught the attention of *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Time Out New York*, *The Wire*, and *Hyperallergic*. RaquelAcevedoKlein.com

Guadalís Del Carmen

Hermitage Fellow **Guadalís Del Carmen** (she/her/ella) is a Black Dominican playwright and screenwriter from Chicago, based in NYC. She is an Ars Nova Resident Artist, and

a 2020 Steinberg Playwriting Award recipient. She's the Founder and Co-Artistic Director of the Latinx Playwrights Circle. Her plays include *Not For Sale* (UrbanTheater Company, Joseph Jefferson Award New Play Nominee 2019), *My Father's Keeper* (part of Steppenwolf Theatre's The Mix, The Kilroys Honorable Mention 2019), *Bees and Honey* (MCC Theatre/SOL Project 2023), *Daughters of the Rebellion* (Montclair State University 2019, The Kilroys Honorable Mention 2017, 50Playwrights Project Best Unproduced Latinx Plays 2017), *A Shero's Journey or What Anacaona and Yemayá Taught Me* (Yale Magazine 2019, The Parsnip Ship Podcast Season 4), *Blowout* (Aguijón Theater 2013). She was a Co-Producer of Atlantic Theater Company's African Caribbean MixFest 2021. She's worked for HBO, FX, and Amazon Studios. Guadalís has performed as an actor in Chicago, NYC, and St. Louis.

Angélica Negrón

Puerto Rican-born composer and multi-instrumentalist **Angélica Negrón** is the winner of the 2022 Hermitage Greenfield Prize. She writes music for accordions, robotic instruments, toys, and electronics as well as for chamber ensembles, orchestras, choir, and film. Her music has been described as “wistfully idiosyncratic and contemplative” (WQXR/Q2), while *The New York Times* noted her “capacity to surprise.” Negrón has been commissioned by the Bang on a Can All-Stars, Kronos Quartet, loadbang, Prototype Festival, Brooklyn Youth Chorus, Sō Percussion, the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra, Opera Philadelphia, and the New York Botanical Garden, among others. Negrón received an early education in piano and violin at the Conservatory of Music of Puerto Rico where she later studied composition under the guidance of composer Alfonso Fuentes. She holds a master's degree in music composition from New York University where she studied with Pedro da Silva and pursued doctoral studies at The Graduate Center (CUNY), where she studied composition with Tania León. Also active as an educator, Negrón is currently a teaching artist for New York Philharmonic's Very Young Composers program. She has collaborated with artists like Sō Percussion, Lido Pimienta, Mathew Placek, Sasha Velour, Cecilia Aldarondo, Mariela Pabón, Adrienne Westwood, Tiffany Mills and has written music for films, theater and modern dance. She was recently an Artist-in-Residence at WNYC's The Greene Space working on *El Living Room*, a 4-part offbeat variety show and playful multimedia exploration of sound and story, of personal history and belonging. Recent and upcoming premieres include works for the Seattle Symphony, LA Philharmonic, Louisville Orchestra and NY Philharmonic Project 19 initiative and multiple performances at Big Ears Festival 2022. | AngelicaNegrón.com

Chigozie Obioma

Hermitage Fellow **Chigozie Obioma** was born in Akure, Nigeria. His two novels, *The Fishermen* (2015) and *An Orchestra of Minorities* (2019), were shortlisted for The Booker Prize, making him one of only two novelists to be shortlisted for multiple works. They have won awards including the inaugural FT/Oppenheimer Award for Fiction, the NAACP Image Award and the LA Times Book Prize, and been nominated for many others. His books have been translated into more than 29 languages. *The Fishermen* was adapted into an award-winning stage play by Gbolahan Obisesan that played in the UK and South Africa between 2018-2019. He was named one of Foreign Policy's “100 Leading Global Thinkers of 2015.” His works have been published in *The Guardian*, *VQR*, *Paris Review*,

New York Times, and elsewhere. He is the James E. Ryan Associate Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and divides his time between the US and Nigeria. ChigozieObioma.com

Levy Lorenzo

Born in Bucharest, Filipino-American **Levy Marcel Ingles Lorenzo, Jr.** works at the intersection of music, art, and technology. On an international scale, his body of work spans custom electronics design, sound engineering, instrument building, installation art, free improvisation, and classical percussion. With a primary focus on inventing new instruments, he prototypes, composes, and performs new electronic music. Lorenzo's work has been featured at MoMA PS1, MIT Media Lab, STEIM, pitchfork.com, BBC, Burning Man, and *The New York Times* which named him an "electronics wizard." A core member of the acclaimed International Contemporary Ensemble, he fulfills multiple roles as sound designer, electronics performer, and percussionist. Other performance engagements include Claire Chase's *Density 2036* project, and the Peter Evans Ensemble. Dr. Lorenzo holds a position as Assistant Professor of Creative Technologies at The New School, College of Performing Arts. LevyLorenzo.com

HermitageArtistRetreat.org