



Lower Manhattan Culture Council

Media Contacts:

Liz Brown

Communications Manager

Lower Manhattan Cultural Council

Tel: (212) 219-9401 x119

Fax: (212) 219-2058

Email: ebrown@lmcc.net

Amanda Dora Riesman

Press Attaché

Cultural Services of the French Embassy

Tel: (212) 439-1417

Fax: (212) 439-1455

Email: press@frenchculture.org

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**IN A GESTURE OF SOLIDARITY WITH NEW YORK CITY IN THE WAKE OF SEPTEMBER 11, THE
CITY OF PARIS HAS AWARDED A SIX-MONTH RESIDENCY IN PARIS TO
THREE NEW YORK ARTISTS**

**Recipients will be announced at a press conference at
the Cultural Services of the French Embassy on Friday, June 28, at 10:00 am**

The City of Paris, in collaboration with The Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, and with the support of the Cultural Services of the French Embassy in New York, have created a special six-month residency in Paris, France to help mitigate the effects of the events of September 11 on New York's artistic community. The three New York artists who have been chosen to receive this honor are **Yasser Aggour, Patty Chang, and Jennie C. Jones**. The residency includes a live-work space at the Cité Internationale des Arts, a monthly stipend, and will culminate in a public exhibition.

The jury selected the three artists from a list of 125 proposals based primarily in the visual arts, photography, and film/video, but also in music and multimedia. Eric Corne, director of Le Plateau, a new exhibition space in Paris; Béatrice Parent, curator at the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris; Antoine Vigne, Director of Visual Arts and Architecture at the Cultural Services of the French Embassy in New York; Moukhtar Kocache, Director of Visual Arts at The Lower Manhattan Cultural Council; and Carole Prat and Juliette Salzmänn, in charge of International Cultural Affairs for the City of Paris made up the jury. There were many strong proposals, and other shortlisted artists include Xenobia Bailey, Matthew Bakkom, Beth Campbell, Tim Hailand, Nancy Hwang, Patrick Meagher, and James Sheehan.

The Cultural Services of the French Embassy will host a press conference and reception on Friday June 28 where members of the press will have an opportunity to meet with the artists and hear more about this unique residency program sponsored by the city of Paris.

Yasser Aggour's diverse art reflects his wide-ranging interests in economics, intellectual history, dandyism, identity, and the legacies of performance and conceptual art. Direct critiques of globalization and societal taboos are overlaid with pathos, vulnerability, and humor in complex works "calibrated to frustrate expectations of flatfooted polemics."

In the tradition of endurance-based performance artists from the 70s, **Patty Chang** creates highly charged performances (often exhibited as video or photographs) that address myriad issues, including stereotypes of Asian submissiveness and propriety, memory, individual struggle and failure, seduction, and illusion. She is currently working on a performance project dealing with faith and pain, two things that she says "cannot be trusted, only believed."

Jennie Jones's site-specific installations incorporate wall drawings, audio, found objects, and works on paper. Her work links the languages of abstract visual art and the modernist jazz movement. Jones is interested in bringing together black history and art history and is particularly sensitive to Paris's historic role and ongoing influence on the development of jazz.

City of Paris

Since Bertrand Delanoë was elected mayor in April 2001, the City of Paris has launched initiatives to increase international cultural exchanges by creating opportunities for foreign artists to live and work in Paris. This residency program is one of the first of these projects to come to fruition. For more information, visit www.mairie-paris.fr.

Lower Manhattan Cultural Council

In the wake of the World Trade Center disaster, the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's role in the community has become more important than ever. LMCC was founded 30 years ago to develop the area's cultural life, while creating a fertile and nurturing environment for arts groups and artists. For more information, visit www.lmcc.net.

Cité Internationale des Arts

The Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris is situated on the right bank of the Seine river, close to Notre Dame on the Ile de la Cité, and within easy walking distance of all the main Paris galleries. The Cité complex has approximately 300 studios, which are owned by universities and arts organizations worldwide, and include common rooms, a library, a large gallery, and a concert hall. A residency at the Cité carries with it free and unlimited access to virtually all art museums in France. For more information, visit www.myweb.worldnet.fr/~fst/CiteInternationaledesArts.html.

The Cultural Services of the French Embassy

Dedicated to the promotion of French Culture and the French language throughout the United States, the Cultural Services is headquartered in New York City with regional offices in the major metropolitan areas. Through collaborative efforts such as the Paris residency program, the Visual Arts department encourages cultural exchange between French and American artists. In the US, the focus has been the presentation of work by contemporary French artists. For more information, visit www.frenchculture.org.

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