FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

American Academy in Rome
Announces New Rome Prize Winners
and Italian Fellows

Virtual event features Sir David Adjaye OBE and Avinoam Shalem

ROME AND NEW YORK (April 23, 2021) – The American Academy in Rome (AAR) today announced the winners of the 2021–22 Rome Prize and Italian Fellowships. These highly competitive fellowships support advanced independent work and research in the arts and humanities. This year, the gift of ‘time and space to think and work’ was awarded to thirty-five American and five Italian artists and scholars. They will each receive a stipend, workspace, and room and board at the Academy’s eleven-acre campus in Rome, starting in September 2021.

The Rome Prize and Italian Fellowship winners were presented virtually during the annual Arthur and Janet C. Ross Rome Prize Ceremony, via Zoom. The event also featured a Conversations/Conversazioni between acclaimed architect Sir David Adjaye OBE (2016 Resident) and AAR Director Avinoam Shalem (2016 Resident), with a special introduction by Andrew Heiskell Arts Director Elizabeth Rodini. The video can be viewed on the Academy’s YouTube channel.

“We welcome these Rome Prize winners and Italian Fellows who enter an increasingly global and diverse residential community, reflecting the complexity of US culture abroad,” said AAR President Mark Robbins (1997 Fellow). “The support for these scholars, artists, writers, composers, and designers strengthens the arts and humanities at a time when this is ever more critical.”

Rome Prize winners are selected annually by independent juries of distinguished artists and scholars through a national competition. The eleven disciplines supported by the Academy include: ancient studies, architecture, design, historic preservation and conservation, landscape architecture, literature, medieval studies, modern Italian studies, music composition, Renaissance and early modern studies, and visual arts.

Nationwide, the Rome Prize Competition received 874 applications, representing 46 US states and 22 different countries. This group of Rome Prize winners is one of the most diverse in the Academy’s history. Approximately 44 percent of the winners identify as BIPOC, and 62.5 percent are women, representing a new high for each demographic, respectively. Ages of the incoming group range from 27 to 74, with an average age of 43.

In addition to the Rome Prize winners, the Academy announced the recipients of five Italian Fellowships, through which Italian artists and scholars live and work in the Academy community, pursuing their own projects in a collaborative, interdisciplinary environment with their American counterparts. The Italian Fellows are also selected through a national jury process.
A full list of the 2021–22 Rome Prize winners and Italian Fellows, as well as the international jurors who selected them, is attached.

**American Academy in Rome**

Established in 1894, the American Academy in Rome (AAR) is America’s oldest overseas center for independent studies and advanced research in the arts and humanities. The Academy has since evolved to become a more global and diverse base for artists and scholars to live and work in Rome. The residential community includes a wide range of scholarly and artistic disciplines, which is representative of the United States and is fully engaged with Italy and contemporary international exchange. The support provided by the Academy to Rome Prize and Italian Fellows, and invited Residents, helps strengthen the arts and humanities.

To learn more about the American Academy in Rome, please visit [aarome.org](http://aarome.org).

**Media Inquiries**

Marques McClary  
Director of Communications  
212-751-7200, ext. 342  
m.mcclary@aarome.org

Christopher Howard  
Communications Manager  
212-751-7200, ext. 340  
c.howard@aarome.org
INTRODUCING:

The 2021–2022 Rome Prize winners and Italian Fellows

Meet the American Academy in Rome’s newest group of scholars, artists, writers, and composers, representing some of the most talented minds in the United States and Italy.

ANCIENT STUDIES

National Endowment for the Humanities/Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Rome Prize
Sasha-Mae Eccleston
John Rowe Workman Assistant Professor, Department of Classics, Brown University
Epic Events

Samuel H. Kress Foundation/Helen M. Woodruff-Archaeological Institute of America Rome Prize
Kevin Ennis
PhD Candidate, Department of Classics, Stanford University
Towards an Economic History of Women’s Work: The Archaeology of Weaving in Sicily from Prehistory to the Republic

Emeline Hill Richardson/Arthur Ross Rome Prize
Grace Funsten
PhD Candidate, Department of Classics, University of Washington
En versus facio: Rewriting Augustan Elegy in Latin Epitaphs, Maximianus, and Louise Labé

Millicent Mercer Johnsen Rome Prize
John Izzo
PhD Candidate, Department of Classics, Columbia University
Tironian Notes: Literary and Historical Studies on Marcus Tullius Tiro

Andrew Heiskell/Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Rome Prize
Adriana Maria Vazquez
Assistant Professor, Department of Classics, University of California, Los Angeles
Window Reception: Brazilian Neoclassical Poetry and Lusophone Classics Across the Atlantic

ARCHITECTURE

Rome Prize in Architecture
Germane Barnes
Assistant Professor, School of Architecture, University of Miami
Structuring Blackness in Rome

Arnold W. Brunner/Frances Barker Tracy/Katherine Edwards Gordon Rome Prize
Mireille Roddier and Keith Mitnick
Associate Professors, Taubman College, University of Michigan
Six Architectures in Search of an Author

DESIGN

Cynthia Hazen Polsky and Leon Polsky Rome Prize
Mary Ellen Carroll
Principal, MEC, studios, New York
PUBBLICA UTILITÀ DUE (Designing and Architeciting the Invisible—Radio Frequency in the 21st Century)

Mark Hampton/Jesse Howard Jr.
Rome Prize
Jennifer Pastore
Executive Photography Director, WSJ.
(Wall Street Journal Magazine), New York
Do You Know? Italian Storytelling Traditions and Emotional Resilience

HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION

Suzanne Deal Booth Rome Prize
Carol Mancusi-Ungaro
Melva Bucksbaum Associate Director for Conservation and Research, Whitney Museum of American Art
Artist/Conservator Nexus

Adele Chatfield-Taylor Rome Prize
Sarah Nunberg
Visiting Professor, Department of Mathematics and Science, Pratt Institute
Advancing Sustainable Practices in Cultural Heritage Preservation

Suzanne Deal Booth Rome Prize
Ellen Pearlstein
Professor, UCLA/Getty Interdepartmental Program in the Conservation of Archaeological and Ethnographic Materials and Department of Information Studies, University of California, Los Angeles
Conservation consultation around Indigenous American materials—the view from Europe

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Prince Charitable Trusts/Kate Lancaster Brewster Rome Prize
Michael Lee
Reuben M. Rainey Professor in the History of Landscape Architecture, Department of Landscape Architecture, University of Virginia
Ganymede’s Garden: Homoeroticism and the Italian Landscape

Garden Club of America Rome Prize
Phoebe Lickwar
Associate Professor, School of Architecture, University of Texas at Austin
Promiscuous Cultures: Agroecology and the Orto Urbano
LITERATURE
John Guare Writers Fund Rome Prize, a Gift of Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman
Jessica Hagedorn
Poet, novelist, playwright, and multimedia artist, New York
Saturday Night At Lung Fung’s

Joseph Brodsky Rome Prize, A Gift of the Drue Heinz Trust
Robin Coste Lewis
Writer in Residence, Department of English, University of Southern California
To the Realization of Perfect Helplessness

Rome Prize in Literature
Valzhyna Mort
Assistant Professor, Department of Literatures in English, Cornell University
A Girl from Pravda Avenue

MEDIEVAL STUDIES
Samuel H. Kress Foundation/Donald and Maria Cox Rome Prize
Erene Rafik Morcos
PhD Candidate, Department of Art and Archaeology, Princeton University
Mirroring the Reflections of the Soul: The Greco-Latin Psalter

Paul Mellon/Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Rome Prize
Randall Todd Pippenger
Lecturer, Department of History, Princeton University
Left Behind: Veterans, Widows, and Orphans in the Era of the Crusades

MODERN ITALIAN STUDIES
Rome Prize in Modern Italian Studies
Mary Jane Dempsey
PhD Candidate, Department of Romance Studies, Cornell University
Remember to Forget: Migration, Gender, and Transnational Identities in Twentieth Century Italy

Rome Prize in Modern Italian Studies
Elena Past
Professor, Department of Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, Wayne State University
#FilmsAlive: Ferrania and the Lives of Analog Film in the Digital Age

Rome Prize in Modern Italian Studies
SA Smythe
Assistant Professor, Department of Gender Studies and African American Studies, University of California, Los Angeles
Where Blackness Meets the Sea: On Crisis, Culture, and the Black Mediterranean

MUSICAL COMPOSITION
Samuel Barber Rome Prize
Igor Santos
Composer, Chicago
Ebb and Flow, Past and Present

Frederic A. Juilliard/Walter Damrosch Rome Prize
Tina Tallon
Fellow, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University
Shrill

RENAISSANCE AND EARLY MODERN STUDIES
Marian and Andrew Heiskell/Anthony M. Clark Rome Prize
Lillian Datchev
PhD Candidate, Department of History, Princeton University
The Mercantile Origins of Early Modern Antiquarian Scholarship

National Endowment for the Humanities Rome Prize
Eugenio Refini
Associate Professor, Department of Italian Studies, New York University
Ariadne’s Echo: Voice, Memory, and the Performance of Reception

VISUAL ARTS
Phillip Guston Rome Prize
Firelei Báez
Artist, Bronx
To see beyond it and to access the places that we know lie outside its walls

Nancy B. Negley Rome Prize
Autumn Knight
Artist, New York
Attention Economy

Phillip Guston Rome Prize
Eric N. Mack
Artist, New York
In Austerity the work will be stripped from its support and worn as a sarong

Abigail Cohen Rome Prize
Daniel Joseph Martinez
Donald Bren Professor of Art, Department of Art, University of California, Irvine
Forum Romanum of Dissent or To See The World Without Time

Rome Prize in Visual Art
La Nietas de Nonó (Mapenzi Chibale Nonó and Mulowayi Iyaye Nonó)
Artists, Carolina, Puerto Rico
Foodtopia: después de todo territorio

Jules Guerin/Harold M. English Rome Prize
William Villalongo
Associate Professor, School of Art, Cooper Union
In Search of Black Atlantis

TERRA FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP
Julia A. Sienkiewicz
Associate Professor, Fine Arts Department, Roanoke College
Forms of White Hegemony: Transnational Sculptors, Racialized Identity, and the Torch of Civilization, 1836–1865

Additional leadership grant support for the Rome Prize program is provided by:
The Brown Foundation
The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation

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Miss Edith Bloom Fund
Frank E. and Jaquelin G. Brown Fund
Clarke & Rapuano Fund
Phyllis W. G. Gordan
Graham Foundation
Andrew W. Imbrie Memorial Fund
Henry E. and Marian T. Mitchell Fellowship Fund
Irene Rosenweig Fund
C. V. Starr Scholarship Fund
Charles K. Williams II Fund
2020–2021 ITALIAN FELLOWS

Enel Foundation Italian Fellow in Architecture, Urban Design, and Landscape Architecture

Alessio Battistella
Architect, ARCo – Architettura e Cooperazione, Milan
The Sustainable Lightness of the Limit

Franco Zeffirelli Italian Fellow in Modern Italian Studies

Beatrice Falucci
PhD Candidate, Department of Letters and Philosophy, Università degli Studi di Firenze
Exhibiting the Empire: colonial collections in Piedmont

Enel Foundation Italian Fellow in Architecture, Urban Design, and Landscape Architecture

Valerio Morabito
Architect and Professor, Università Mediterranea di Reggio Calabria and University of Pennsylvania
Imagining American Cities

Italian Fellow in Modern Italian Studies

Rosa Sessa
Research Fellow in History of Architecture, Department of Architecture, Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II
Architecture as Cultural Bridge: Reception and Dissemination of the Italian Architecture in the Italian–American Discourse of the Postwar Era

2020 ROME PRIZE JURORS

Ancient Studies

Mary Ann Eaverly (Jury Chair)
Professor of Classics and Department Chair, Department of Classics, University of Florida

Sarah Levin-Richardson, 2015 Fellow
Associate Professor, Department of Classics, University of Washington

Jackie Murray, 2012 Fellow
Associate Professor of Classics, Department of Modern and Classical Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, University of Kentucky

Historic Preservation and Conservation

Rahul Mehrotra, 2017 Resident (Jury Chair)
John T. Dunlop Professor in Housing and Urbanization, Graduate School of Design, Harvard University; Founding Principal, RMA Architects, Mumbai and Boston

Nicholas Watson
Henry B. and Anne M. Cabot Professor of English Literature, Department of English, Harvard University

Modern Italian Studies

Anna Harwell Celenza (Jury Chair)
Thomas E. Caestecker Professor of Music, Department of Performing Arts, Georgetown University

2020–2021 ITALIAN FELLOWS

Dan-El Padilla Peralta
Associate Professor, Department of Classics, Princeton University

Verity Platt
Professor, Department of Classics and Department of Art History, and Chair, Department of Classics, Cornell University

Design

Mark Lee, 2017 Resident (Jury Chair)
Founder and Partner, Johnston MarkLee, Los Angeles

Irma Boom, 2018 Resident
Founder and Principal, Irma Boom Office, Amsterdam

Stephen Burks
Founder and Principal, Stephen Burks Man Made

Mikyoung Kim
Founding Principal, Mikyoung Kim Design, Boston

Leslie Lokko
Professor, Founder, and Director, African Futures Institute

Anuradha Mathur
Professor, Landscape Architecture Department, Stuart Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania

Mabel O. Wilson
Nancy and George Rupp Professor of Architecture, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, Columbia University

Historic Preservation and Conservation

Valerio Morabito
Architect and Professor, Università Mediterranea di Reggio Calabria and University of Pennsylvania
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Nicholas Watson
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Modern Italian Studies

Anna Harwell Celenza (Jury Chair)
Thomas E. Caestecker Professor of Music, Department of Performing Arts, Georgetown University

Mark I. Choate
Associate Professor, Department of History, Brigham Young University
Mark Chu
Professor, Department of Italian, University College Cork

Vivien M. Greene, 2004 Fellow
Senior Curator, 19th- and Early 20th-Century Art, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum

Joseph Luzzi
Professor of Comparative Literature and Faculty Member in Italian Studies, Bard College

Musical Composition

Suzanne Farrin, 2018 Fellow (Jury Chair)
Frayda B. Lindemann Professor of Music, Hunter College and the Graduate Center, City University of New York

Andy Akiho, 2015 Fellow
Composer, New York and Portland, Oregon

Jonathan Berger, 2017 Fellow
Denning Family Provostial Professor in Music, Department of Music, Stanford University

Tania J. León, 1998 Resident
Distinguished Professor Emerita, City University of New York; and Composer, Conductor, Founder, and Artistic Director, Composers Now

Lei Liang, 2012 Fellow
Chancellor’s Distinguished Professor of Music, Department of Music, University of California, San Diego

Renaissance and Early Modern Studies

Lisa Pen (Jury Chair)
Professor, Dornsife Department of Art History, University of Southern California

Renée Baernstein, 1991 Fellow
Professor of History and Senior Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Science, Miami University

Virginia Cox
Professor of Italian, Department of Italian Studies, New York University

Anthony M. Cummings, 2012 Resident
Professor of Music and Coordinator of Italian Studies, Lafayette College

Anthony Grafton, 2004 Resident
Henry Putnam Professor, Department of History Princeton University

Visual Arts

Adam D. Weinberg, 2020 Resident (Jury Chair)
Alice Pratt Brown Director, Whitney Museum of American Art

Teresita Fernández, 1999 Affiliated Fellow, 2018 Resident
Artist, Brooklyn

Ann Hamilton, 2017 Resident
Artist and Distinguished University Professor, Ohio State University

Byron Kim
Artist, Brooklyn

Glenn Ligon, 2020 Resident
Artist, Brooklyn

Helen O’Leary, 2019 Fellow
Artist and Professor of Art, School of Visual Arts, Pennsylvania State University

Walid Raad
Artist and Professor, Cooper Union

Terra Foundation Affiliated Fellowship in Rome

Winners of this award are selected through a joint effort of the Terra Foundation Fellowship jury (listed below) and the Rome Prize Jury for Modern Italian Studies.

Mark D. Mitchell (Jury Chair)
Holcombe T. Green Curator of American Paintings and Sculpture, Yale University Art Gallery

Silvia Bottinelli
Senior Lecturer, Visual and Material Studies Department, School of the Museum of Fine Arts–Tufts University

Erica E. Hirshler
Croll Senior Curator of American Paintings, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Crawford Alexander Mann III
Curator of Prints and Drawings, Smithsonian American Art Museum