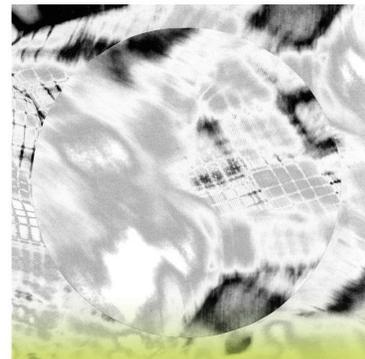
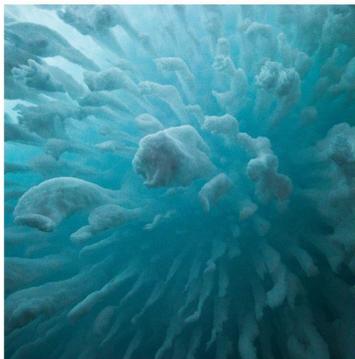
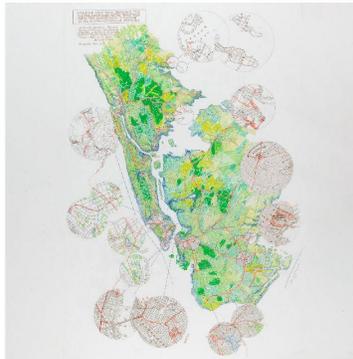


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SKOWHEGAN SCHOOL OF PAINTING & SCULPTURE
ANNOUNCES A BLOCK PARTY FEATURING OVER 40 ARTISTS AS A PART OF ITS
75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS & SPECIAL EVENTS**



Large-scale photo backdrops that will be installed during Skowhegan's Block Party. Top row (l-r): Xander Wrencher, Simonetta Moro, Lily Prince; Bottom row (l-r): Helen Glazer, Tricia Townes, Vabianna Santos.
Artwork images courtesy of the artists and Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture.

New York, NY – [September XX, 2021] – Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture, one of the country's foremost educational experiences for artists, marks its 75th Anniversary with a public Block Party and series of events and special projects.

On Saturday, October 9, 2021, a Block Party will be held in front of Skowhegan's New York space on West 22nd Street between 6th and 7th Avenues from 12:00pm–5:00pm. The event is organized by the Alumni Alliance—a diverse group of recent alumni who spearhead Skowhegan's off-campus alumni programming—and the Skowhegan Council, a group of supporters and alumni dedicated to advancing Skowhegan's mission and program. The Block Party, performances, and activations will be free of charge, and food and drinks will be available on a donation basis.

The outdoor festival will celebrate Skowhegan's expansive artistic community and will feature work from over 40 participating alumni artists. Outfitted with picnic tables and benches, a main stage will offer live performances including a drag show by **Anthropussy (Eli Hill ^{A'19})** and a rotation of live DJ sets by **Ashley Teamer ^{A'14}**, with more to be announced. Visitors can view and participate in various site-specific installations that include a fully interactive badminton set handmade by **kg ^{A'17}**; an artist interview project over tea by **Michele Brody ^{A'96}**; a durational performance filmed in Bangladesh by **Kabir Ahmed**

Masum Chisty^{A'15}; plastic bag portraits by **Nobutaka Aozaki**^{A'15}; a modular installation by **Maya Hayuk**^{A'11}; and a haircut performance by **Finn Schult**^{A'17} and **Tommy Coleman** with Nancy Regan the Roomba.

Visitors will also have the opportunity to take photos in front of several commissioned large-scale backdrops featuring artwork by **Helen Glazer**^{A'75}, **Simonetta Moro**^{A'03}, **Lily Prince**^{A'91}, **Vabianna Santos**^{A'13}, **Tricia Townes**^{A'98}, and **Xander Wrencher**^{A'18}. Displayed along the block will be an installation featuring digitally printed flags by artists **Brian Alfred**^{A'99}, **Jonathan Ehrenberg**^{A'11}, **Rachel Frank**^{A'05}, **Michelle Hauser**^{A'81}, **Sarah Hotchkiss**^{A'10}, **Gary Jameson**^{A'72}, **Jim Leach**^{A'15}, **Juliet Karelsen**^{A'96}, **Liu Kincheloe**^{A'13, '21}, **Anna Kunz**^{A'09}, **Jennifer McCandless**^{A'96}, **Perry Meigs**^{A'98}, **Paolo Morales**^{A'15}, **Birgit Rathsmann**^{A'04}, **Edra Soto**^{A'00}, **Christopher Sproat**^{A'63}, **Fabian Tabibian**^{A'10} along with handmade flags by **Karlos Carcamo**^{A'98}, **Gabriela Salazar**^{A'10}, and **Jessica Segall**^{A'10}.

Two limited run items will be available only at the Block Party: a Costume Party Zine with illustrations by **Michele Brody**^{A'96}, **Lauren Cohen**^{A'10}, **Jonathan Ehrenberg**^{A'11}, **Linda Ford**^{A'02}, **Baris Gokturk**^{A'16}, **Sarah Haviland**^{A'85}, **Wayne Hodge**^{A'06, '21}, **Jack Hogan**^{A'19}, **Tim Hutchings**^{A'96}, **Frank Hyder**^{A'73}, **Megan Marlatt**^{A'85, '21}, **Tracy Miller**^{A'92}, **Alicia Paz**^{A'98}, **Kuldeep Singh**^{A'14}, **Furong Zhang**^{A'98, '21}; and an enamel pin by **Laylah Ali**^{A'93}.

Block Party packages are available on Skowhegan's [website](#), beginning at \$75, and include one ticket to the after-party at The Fleur Room featuring DJ April Hunt from 5:00pm–7:00pm. Proceeds from the event support Skowhegan's program and mission.

75th Anniversary Ephemera Box and Editions

Throughout 2021, Skowhegan has released special artworks and projects in conjunction with its 75th Anniversary. A collection of Skowhegan ephemera, inspired by Fluxes Boxes, conceived by Skowhegan Governor **Marc Swanson**^{A'00, F'14} will be available in the fall. This follows the sold-out launch of a new print by **Christina Quarles**^{A'16} produced in partnership with Artspace & Phaidon in honor of David Beitzel^{A'82} and Darren Walker; and a new limited edition by **Rodrigo Valenzuela**^{A'13} published by Universal Limited Art Editions (ULAE).

75th Anniversary Benefit Dinner

Skowhegan's **75th Anniversary Benefit Dinner** will be held on **Monday, April 4, 2022** at the Rainbow Room. The dinner will include a special toast to **Ann Gund**, Chair, Board of Trustees (1998–present) for her exceptional service to Skowhegan. The evening will be hosted by 75th Anniversary Campaign Co-Chairs, **Eleanor Acquavella**, **Donald Moffett**^{F'04} and **Paula J. Volent**, as well as Board President **Alan Wanzenberg**, and longtime Governor **Howardena Pindell**^{F'80}. Proceeds from the dinner supports Skowhegan's program and ensures that it remains a singular experience for the next generation of artists.

ABOUT SKOWHEGAN

Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture is one of the country's foremost educational experiences for artists. Located on a 350-acre campus in Maine, the nine-week program provides 65 emerging artists and 11 faculty artists with a collaborative and rigorous environment that is shaped by risk-taking, mentorship, and peer-to-peer exchange. Skowhegan's merit-based admissions process ensures that we accept the most promising and cutting-edge artists of any generation, regardless of financial, or educational backgrounds. Its exceptionally diverse population of artists go on to become leaders in the field, as evidenced by the global presence of the alumni and faculty and their countless exhibitions, teaching positions, and awards, including 24 MacArthur "genius" grants. Founded in 1946 *by artists, for artists*, Skowhegan provides an

atmosphere that is intentionally responsive and adaptive in its programmatic model to encourage participants to occupy a space in contrast to market or academic expectations.

For further information on Skowhegan, visit 75.skowheganart.org.

In adherence to [Key to NYC](#) and under the guidance of CDC recommendations, anyone attending the Block Party over age 2 who is unvaccinated must wear a mask when interacting with the public or cannot maintain at least 6 feet of distance from others. Anyone attending the After-Party is required to provide proof of a FDA authorized and/or approved COVID-19 vaccination. Proof of vaccination may include the NYC COVID Safe App; the [Excelsior Pass](#); CDC Vaccination Card (or photo); NYC Vaccination Record; or an official immunization record from outside NYC or the U.S.

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MEDIA CONTACT

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