NATIONAL MUSEUM of AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY & CULTURE

Indigo ARTS ALLIANCE

sport, arts & culture
Department:
Sport, Arts and Culture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

iziko museums of South Africa
an agency of the
Department of Sport, Arts and Culture

EVENT GUIDE

Art In The Wake

Resistance, Liberation and Reclamation

Saturday, October 17, 2026
Iziko South African National Gallery Annexe
Cape Town, South Africa

ABOUT *Art in the Wake III: Resistance, Liberation and Reclamation*

Art in the Wake III: Resistance, Liberation and Reclamation is presented by Indigo Arts Alliance (IAA) in partnership with the Center for the Study of Global Slavery (CSGS) at the National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) and the Iziko Museums of South Africa. Engaging a multi-generational audience from the United States and South Africa, the program convenes artists, curators, educators and youth to explore how art acts both as witness to history and architect of future possibilities, demonstrating that art-making serves as a form of connection between generations. Attendees will engage in embodied exploration of themes central to the diasporic experience: healing from historical trauma, envisioning repair and restoration, preserving and reimagining memory, building resilient communities, and crafting pathways to collective freedom.

The Art in the Wake symposia series follows the traveling exhibition, *In Slavery's Wake: Making Black Freedom in the World*, curated by the Center for the Study of Global Slavery at NMAAHC. The inaugural program launched in Portland, ME, USA in 2023 with *Art in the Wake: Reckoning and Re-membering*, and re-emerged in February 2026, in Rio de Janeiro, at the Museu da História e da Cultura Afro-Brasileira & Museu Nacional de História with *Art in the Wake II: Repairing, Healing & Memory.*

SCHEDULE *Art in the Wake III: Resistance, Liberation and Reclamation*

9:30 am
Doors Open

Morning Session | Main Hall of Annexe

10:00 - 10:15 am
Invocation of Ancestors
by Bradley Van Sitters and Vuma

10:15 - 10:30 am
Welcome and Introduction
by Marcia Minter, Johanna Obenda, Gabrielle Miller and Rory Emmett

10:30 - 11:30 am:
Curators & Artist Conversation
Art is a tool for knowledge and accessibility.
Discussion and "demonstration"
with Daniel Minter and Pola Maneli
Moderated by Johanna Obenda

11:40 am - 12:40 pm
Africa Day Youth Panel: "Memory + Identity"
Africa Day youth winners will speak from their own perspectives on the themes of Memory and Identity.
Moderated by Rory Emmett and Lindsay Hendricks

12:45 - 1:15 pm
Lunch & Conversation

Creative Breakout Sessions | Various Locations

1:30 - 3:30pm
Zine Making with Pola Maneli
Location: **Breakout Room 2**

Block Printing with Daniel Minter and Ashley Page
Location: **Breakout Room 1**

Cyanotype Workshop with Lindsay Hendricks
Location: **Slave Lodge**

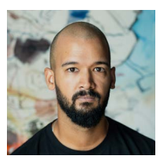
Reconvene | Main Hall of Annexe

4:00 - 4:30pm
Closing Remarks by Jordia Benjamin, Gabrielle Miller and Lindsay Hendricks

PRESENTERS *Art in the Wake III: Resistance, Liberation and Reclamation*



Jordia Benjamin has dedicated over 15 years to advancing arts as a catalyst for community transformation, memory, and equity. She is the Executive Director of Indigo Arts Alliance.



Rory Emmett is the Chief Educator of Art Collections at Iziko Museums of South Africa. As an artist and educator, he's taught art in various capacities and exhibited his work locally and internationally.

PRESENTERS *Art in the Wake III: Resistance, Liberation and Reclamation* cont.



Lindsay Hendricks is the Chief Educator: Social History at Iziko Museums of South Africa.
Her practice is situated at the intersections of history, heritage and identity.



Gabrielle Miller is a Scientific Diver, co-coordinator of the Slave Wrecks Project, and the Smithsonian's first archaeologist of the African Diaspora, at the National Museum of African American History and Culture.



Marcia Minter, PhD (h.c), is a decorated, visionary arts leader and advocate for Black and Brown creative excellence, with a career spanning over 30 years. She is the Co-Founder of Indigo Arts Alliance.



Ashley Page is the Studio and Program Manager at Indigo Arts Alliance. She is the point of contact for artists and supports the development of related public programs and special projects to connect artists and communities.



Vuma is a Sangoma and Prophet based in South Africa, whose calling is connected to water.
Her practice centers on prayer, guidance, and service, with a specialization in luck.



Pola Maneli is an animation director and illustrator based in South Africa. His work pairs bold compositions with researched concepts to tell compelling stories about people, places, and ideas.



Daniel Minter, PhD (h.c), is an acclaimed American artist and award-winning illustrator whose themes focus on African diasporic experiences. He is the Co-Founder & Artist Director of Indigo Arts Alliance.



Johanna Obenda is a curatorial specialist at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, and the lead exhibition developer of *In Slavery's Wake: Making Black Freedom in the World.*



Bradley Van Sitters is an Indigenous knowledge specialist, community historian, oral researcher, and advocate for endangered San and Khoi languages based in South Africa.

TO LEARN MORE
ABOUT THE PRESENTERS
SCAN THE QR CODE

PARTNERS *Art in the Wake III: Resistance, Liberation and Reclamation*

Indigo Arts Alliance (IAA) is an arts incubator in Portland, Maine with a mission to connect Black and Brown artists from around the world with Maine's artists of African descent through a multidisciplinary artist-in-residency program that embodies a Black-led approach to creativity, community-building, and mentoring. A place where freedom of expression and personal transformation through creativity is encouraged, Indigo Arts Alliance is rooted in two principles; that art is a key resource for healthy human communities that should be cultivated and celebrated; and that artists play a unique role in strengthening our multiracial democracy. **Visit www.indigoartsalliance.me to learn more and support their work.**

Center for the Study of Global Slavery (CSGS) at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture (NMAAHC) researches and interprets slavery, revealing its deep global connections and impact as well as recognizing the resistance and resilience of people of African descent in making freedom while resisting the dehumanizing practices of slavery, racism and its afterlives.

Through international, innovative, interdisciplinary collaborations the CSGS promotes, expands, and works to change both the research and practices of museums and other public humanities institutions around the history and legacies of racial slavery and the slave trade as well as the freedom-making practices of those who were enslaved and their descendants. **Visit nmaahc.si.edu/explore/museum-centers/center-study-global-slavery to learn more and support their work.**

Iziko Museums of South Africa operates 11 national museums, the Planetarium and Digital Dome, the Social History Centre and three collection specific libraries in Cape Town. The museums that make up Iziko have their own history and character, presenting extensive art, social and natural history collections that reflect our diverse African heritage.

Iziko is a public entity and public benefit organization that brings together these museums under a single governance and leadership structure. The organization allows *free access to all individuals on commemorative days, (*excluding the Castle of Good Hope, Groot Constantia and Planetarium and Digital Dome). **Visit www.iziko.org.za to learn more and support their work.**

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE *ART IN THE WAKE* SYMPOSIA SERIES SCAN THE QR CODE