

// FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE //

December 19, 2023

Press Contact:

High Concept Labs

press@highconceptlabs.org

HIGH CONCEPT LABS ANNOUNCES 2024 RESIDENT ARTISTS

CHICAGO, December 19, 2023 — High Concept Labs (HCL), a Chicago-based artist residency program that centers experimentation, discovery, exchange, and risk, announces the 2024 Artists in Residence: **Bradford Chin, Christopher Knowlton, Haruhi Kobayashi, Carissa Lee, and KT Shivak.**

The Artist in Residence (AIR) program is HCL's flagship, 12-month residency that supports artists to develop time-based work. Artists receive a stipend, no-cost studio space, and professional photo and video documentation, along with tailored curatorial, development, and marketing support. The AIR program is juried by a panel of [Artistic Advisory Council](#) members, which includes arts practitioners, critics, writers, and thinkers, including many HCL alumni.

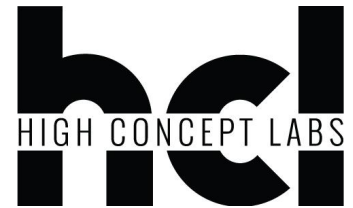
These five Artists in Residence are joining five Fellow Artists in Residence (FAR): **Sofía Gabriel del Callejo, Helen Lee, Regina Martinez, Allen Moore, and Rigo Saura.** The FAR program invites alumni of our Artist in Residence program to continue for a second full year to further their projects and deepen their practice.

This cohort includes artists working across a variety of disciplines including movement, performance art, dance, puppetry, sound, new media, augmented reality, and multimedia. While the research interests and creative practice of each artist are unique, there are many shared concerns such as the ethical use of emerging technologies and the integration of access tools into the creative development of new work.

"At HCL we are very fortunate to be a resource for, and have interest from, such a wide range of amazing artists who are at a particular point in their process at which they come to us for additional support. We only host a few artists at a time, but place high value on showing up where we can for the community with great care in the processes involved in making great art," shares HCL's Artistic Director, Aquil Charlton.

Throughout 2024, these artists will receive support as they move through the various stages of developing new work: from research to rehearsals to presentation. Charlton states, "Each year we have the opportunity to deepen our investment in the arts community in Chicago and beyond, and we look forward to rising to that call every time."

With HCL's mission grounded in promoting visibility for the creative process, resident artists will be able to meaningfully connect with public audiences through Open Labs, a platform



for artists to share developing projects, test ideas, and gain perspective on their work through conversations with audiences.

Additionally, in conjunction with their 15th Anniversary, HCL will present a variety of work-in-progress presentations, premieres, and public engagements throughout 2024 inviting audiences to witness the creative process and innovative work of these artists.

2024 Artistic Advisory Council AIR Review Panel

[Majel Connery](#)

[Juelle Daley](#)

[Douglas R. Ewart](#)

[Miranda Gonzalez](#)

[Rika Lin](#)

[Meida Teresa McNeal](#)

[Zachary Whittenburg](#)

2024 Artist In Residency Recipients



Bradford Chin

With support from HCL, Bradford Chin, will be exploring the use of Audio Description (“AD”) as the primary generative device in creating and presenting a dance work. Using text-based, non-body-specific movement instructions (“descriptors”) to construct the choreographic arc and the narrative and emotional landscape of the performance, Bradford will facilitate efforts toward a Disability Justice politic.



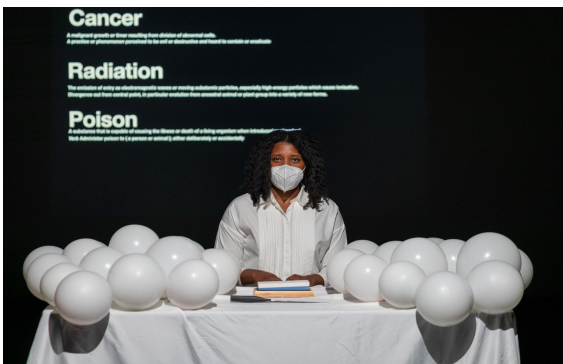
Christopher Knowlton

With support from High Concept Labs, Christopher Knowlton is exploring the deification of new technologies, the implications of artificial intelligence (AI) for dance, and the distinction between generative and extractive AI.



Haruhi Kobayashi

HCL is supporting Haruhi Kobayashi in the development of *Sonic Playground*, an evolving multi-channel sonic sculptural artwork. Haruhi's explorations will revolve around the pursuit of acoustically intricate sonic sculptural forms, enriched by collaboration and cultural diversity. Through extensive experimentation, she will probe the acoustic properties of spaces to find balance between content and environment.



Carissa Lee

HCL will be supporting Carissa Lee in the development and expansion of a performance art piece that centers around the experiences of women. Building on work initially performed at Steppenwolf Theater, Carissa will use this residency as an opportunity to deepen the narrative, introduce new themes, and expand the scope of the work. Carissa's research will center around her family archive.



KT Shivak

HCL will support KT in the development of *The One Horn*, a piece featuring a lifesize rhinoceros puppet based on a real animal from history that sparked an obsession both to possess it and to consume its image. The piece is inspired by the paradox of a rhino in Renaissance Europe, stolen from its habitat and transplanted on a sailing ship, to a palace, a combat arena, and eventually sent to its final destination: Vatican City.

2024 Fellow Artist In Residency Recipients



Sofía Gabriel del Callejo

HCL is supporting Sofía to develop a series of collective performances with collaborators from Mexico City and Chicago. A project with [Sofía Fernández Díaz](#) is anticipated to use movement, painting, ritual, and ancestral textile traditions from Mexico.



Helen Lee

As a dancemaker and artist, Helen is curious about the ways she can interact with the audience as part of the dancemaking process and/or performance. In her second year with HCL, Helen will use curiosity to pull apart and lean into joy and grief and find proliferation within them.



Regina Martinez

HCL continues to support Regina in developing an audio-visual live performance series guided by the name, holding stones. Each gathering presents a sound story set to experimentations with multi-channel light, shadow and video projection.



Allen Moore

HCL supports Allen Moore in the ongoing development of The Black Arcade Collaborative, a groundbreaking audio and visual exploration delving into themes of grief, black mortality, afrofuturism, and the sonic aesthetic of the black imagination. The project encompasses a multifaceted approach, incorporating the merging of sound and visual elements.



Rigo Saura

As Rigo transitions to a Fellow Artist in Residence, HCL will be supporting the continued development of his Research Lab series. This innovative initiative, informed by Rigo's seasoned experiences as a facilitator, strives to be a haven for artistic movers driven by curiosity and a passion for uninhibited self-expression.

About High Concept Labs

High Concept Labs (HCL) strengthens the creative sector by providing accessible flexible residencies for artists across disciplines interested in experimentation, discovery, exchange, and risk. HCL meets artists where they are with programming that raises visibility and provides critical investment across every stage in the development of new work.

HCL is supported in part by the generosity of Ruth Arts Foundation, The Walder Foundation, The Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, The National Endowment for the Arts, Illinois Arts Council Agency, The Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, The Martha Struthers Farley and Donald C. Farley, Jr. Family Foundation, The Norwottock Charitable Trust, Susan A. Manning and Doug A. Doetsch, Harris Theater for Music and Dance, The National Performance Network Creation & Development Fund and individual donors. HCL and the Monira Foundation are in Joint Residency at Mana Contemporary.

For more information, visit highconceptlabs.org.

###