



## CITY OF SYRACUSE PUBLIC ART APPLICATION

All applications for the installation of public art will be evaluated based on the seven (7) criteria enumerated below. It is understood that some criteria will have more relevance than others depending on the proposed artwork. This will be taken into account and the criteria weighted accordingly.

- Artistic merit and quality, as substantiated by an artist's past history of exhibitions or sales, awards or other recognition, or an outstanding first work, as well as the inherent quality in terms of timelessness of vision, design, aesthetics and excellence;
- Intentionality of the artist, concerning the meaning and proposed or desired effect of the work as Public Art upon the viewing public, as rationalized and elaborated upon in the project description;
- Local significance, creating a sense of excitement in public spaces and presenting fresh ways of seeing the community and city reflected;
- Representation of styles and tastes within the public art collection, acknowledging existing works in the public art collection and striving for diversity of style, scale and media;
- Safety and durability, including the ability of the artwork to withstand weather conditions, as well as structural and surface integrity;
- Unrestricted public viewing, primarily the opportunity for public access, but also suitability for public participation, social and political attitudes, and functional considerations; and
- Installation and maintenance of the work, from practicality of fabrication and transport, to installation and long-term care.

**PROJECT NAME:** *The Past Keeps Happening*, Christopher Harris

**PROJECT TYPE:** Temporary installation, September 6-October 27, 2018.

**LOCATION:** Urban Video Project, Everson Museum of Art (permissions have been granted)

**ARTWORK TYPE:** Looping video projection

**ARTWORK DESCRIPTION:**

Light Work's Urban Video Project is applying for approval of the exhibition of several short works by award-winning filmmaker Christopher Harris, which read African American historiography through the poetics and aesthetics of experimental cinema. His work employs manually and photo-chemically altered appropriated moving images, staged re-enactments of archival artifacts and interrogations of documentary conventions.

The works in this selection each explore the cosmological ramifications and resonances of the seemingly mundane.

***Sunshine State (Extended Forecast) (2007), 16mm***

*16mm, 2007, 8 minutes*

Somewhere in a quiet outer suburb of the Milky Way galaxy, we live our lives in the pleasant warmth of our middle-of-the-road star, the Sun. Slowly but surely we will reach the point when there will be one last perfect sunny day. The sun will swell up, scorch the earth and finally consume it.

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***28.IV.81 (Bedouin Spark) (2009), 16mm***

*16mm, 2009, 3 minutes*

Approximates a small child's fantasy world in the dark. In a series of close-ups, the nightlight is transformed into a meditative star-spangled sky. An improvisation, edited inside the camera and shot on a single reel. The stars swirl in silence.

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***Descending Figures (28.IV.81)***

*16mm double projection, 2011, 3 minutes*

*28.IV.81 (Descending Figures)* is comprised of footage Harris shot at a performance of Christ's Passion, staged as an attraction at a Florida amusement park.

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***Distant Shores***

*16mm-to-HD, 2016, 3 minutes*

A sunny afternoon on a tour boat in Chicago is haunted by the specter of other voyages.

**LINKS TO VIEW WORK:**

***Sunshine State (Extended Forecast) (2007), 16mm***

<https://vimeo.com/165142119>

pw: beach ball

***28.IV.81 (Bedouin Spark) (2009), 16mm***

<https://vimeo.com/25208619>

pw: ROSEGRA09

***Descending Figures (28.IV.81)***

<https://vimeo.com/25208803>

pw: ROSEGRA11

***Distant Shores***

<https://vimeo.com/189703115>

pw: voyage

**ARTIST'S BIOGRAPHY:**

Christopher Harris has exhibited widely at venues throughout North America and Europe including solo exhibitions and screenings at MICROSCOPE Gallery in Brooklyn,

Autograph ABP in London, the Gene Siskel Film Center in Chicago and the Wexner Center for the Arts in Columbus, Ohio; group exhibitions at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Art Institute of Chicago and the Artists' Film Biennial at the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London and festivals including the Ann Arbor Film Festival, the International Film Festival Rotterdam, the VIENNALE-Vienna International Film Festival and the Edinburgh International Film Festival, among many others. Most recently, his work was featured in the 2018 Flaherty Film Seminar, *The Necessary Image*. Harris is the recipient of a 2015 Creative Capital grant and a 2017 Alpert/MacDowell Fellowship.

**APPLICANT:**

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