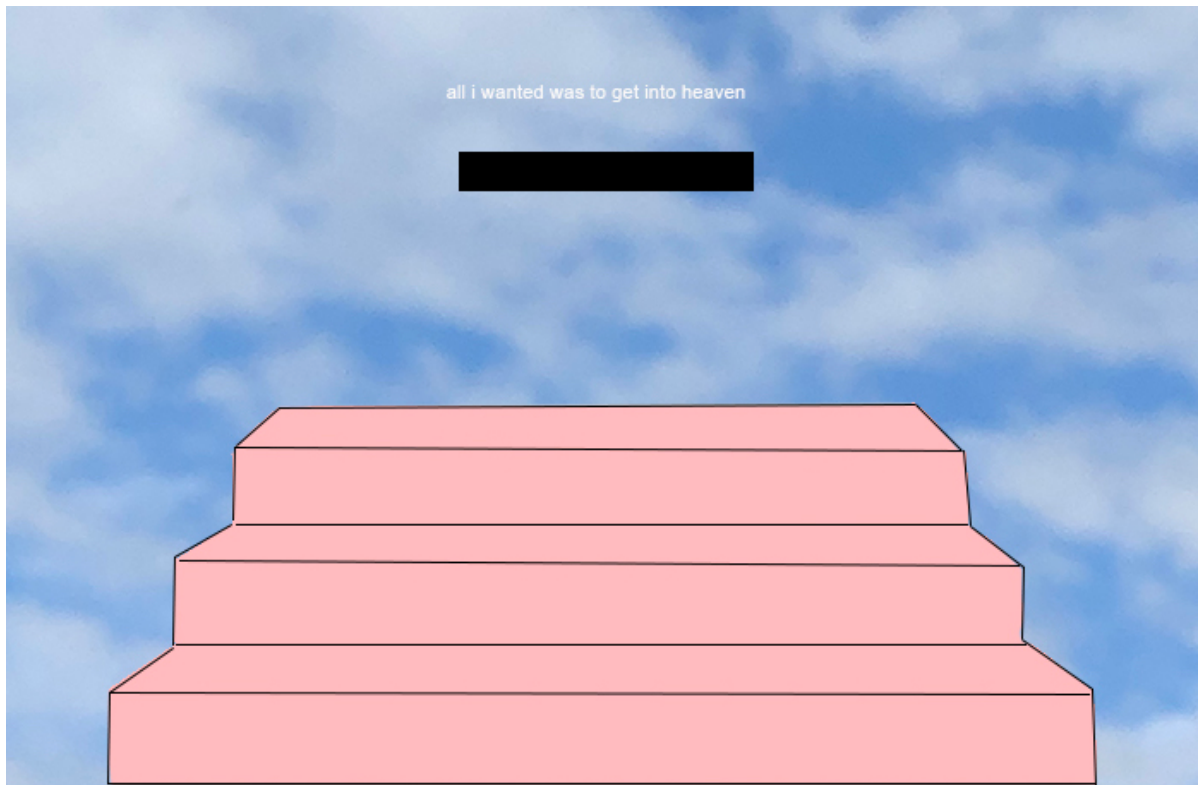


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Gi (Ginny) Huo, Rendering from project proposal, 2021, Courtesy the Artist and Socrates Sculpture Park.

Artists Awarded *The 2021 Socrates Annual*/Fellowship to Create New Work for the Exhibition *Sanctuary* at Socrates Sculpture Park

New York City, April 20, 2021 – Socrates Sculpture Park is delighted to announce the artists selected for *The 2021 Socrates Annual: Sanctuary* fellowship and exhibition:

Rachel Frank**
Moko Fukuyama
Gi (Ginny) Huo
Anina Major
Jeffrey Meris*
Levan Mindiashvili
Andrea Ray
LJ Roberts
Yvonne Shortt, Jenna Boldebuck, & Kelly Li
Monica Torres*
Monsieur Zohore*

*2021 New York Community Trust Van Lier Artist Fellow

**2021 Devra Freeland Artist Fellow

Since its inception in 1986, Socrates Sculpture Park has been a sanctuary for artists and the public. Applicants to the 2021 open call were asked to submit proposals that addressed the many meanings of sanctuary – as spaces of rest and protection; as holy sites; and as supportive environments.

Over 350 artists submitted proposals, which were reviewed by a jury composed of Socrates staff members – Executive Director John Hatfield, Curator & Director of Exhibitions Jess Wilcox, and Curatorial Assistant Danilo Machado – as well as two curatorial advisors: Emma Enderby, Chief Curator at The Shed and Lauren Zelaya, Director of Public Programs at the Brooklyn Museum.

The eleven projects selected represent a range of interpretations of the theme, drawing from diverse communities, traditions, and artistic strategies to create unique sculptures and installations of sanctuary. The artist(s) for each project are awarded a \$6,000 production grant, \$1,500 honorarium, and three-months of access to the resources and fabrication facilities of the Park's outdoor artist studio. The fellowship culminates in *The 2021 Socrates Annual: Sanctuary* exhibition, opening in October 2021.

John Hatfield, Socrates' outgoing Executive Director says, "I am so pleased to welcome another cohort of Socrates Artist Fellows and proud of the role Socrates plays in supporting artists with commissions and presenting their work to a diverse audience in Queens. This year's theme is perfect for the Park, which has served as a sanctuary of nature and art for so many visitors during the Covid-19 pandemic. "

Support

This exhibition is organized by Socrates Sculpture Park and curated by Jess Wilcox, Curator & Director of Exhibitions. Major support for The Socrates Annual Fellowship & Exhibition comes from the New York Community Trust Van Lier Fellowships, the Devra Freeland Artist Fund, the Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation, and public funds from the National Endowment for the Arts. Additional support is provided by Bloomberg Philanthropies, the Cowles Charitable Trust, the Jerome Foundation, the Charina Foundation, the Sidney E. Frank Foundation, Maxine and Stuart Frankel Foundation, Agnes Gund, Lambent Foundation, Ivana Mestrovic, and Spacetime C.C. The exhibition is funded, in part, by public funds from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, and the New York State Council on the Arts with support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

About the Park

For over 30 years, Socrates Sculpture Park has been a model of public art production, community activism, and socially inspired place-making. Over 1,000 artists have created and exhibited new works on its five waterfront acres and outdoor studio facilities. Socrates is free and open to the public 365 days a year from 9am to sunset. It is located at 32-01 Vernon Boulevard (at Broadway) in Long Island City, New York. Socrates Sculpture Park is a not-for-profit organization licensed by NYC Parks to manage and program Socrates Sculpture Park, a New York City public park. Covid-19 Updates: Socrates remains open to the public at regular hours, 9am – sunset, with free admission. Park policies and updates regarding health and safety can be found at socratessculpturepark.org/Covid19.

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