FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 8, 2019

SCD international studio & curatorial program

Julie Mehretu and Ugochukwu-Smooth C. Nzewi in Conversation

Event Date and Time: Thursday, April 4, 6:30-8:30pm

For ticket purchase, visit this event page on ISCP's website at iscp-nyc.org

For more information, contact Houda Lazrak: hlazrak@iscp-nyc.org The International Studio & Curatorial Program announces its 25th Anniversary Spring Fundraiser with Julie Mehretu and Ugochukwu-Smooth C. Nzewi in conversation, on Thursday, April 4, from 6:30–8:30pm.

Hosted by ISCP Trustee Sophie O. Riese, the conversation will be held in the home of Tracey and Phillip Riese, designed by Morris Adjmi Architects, in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. The private collection of Tracey and Phillip Riese, acquired over 40 years, with a focus on contemporary and emerging artists, will be on view.



Julie Mehretu, photo by Anastasia Muna, image courtesy of Julie Mehretu Studio (left); Ugochukwu-Smooth C. Nzewi, image courtesy of the Cleveland Museum of Art (right)

Drinks will be provided courtesy of Grimm Artisanal Ales and hors d'oeuvres by Pistache NYC will be served throughout the evening.

Tickets are now available for purchase for \$180 each on ISCP's website.

Julie Mehretu is a world renowned artist, born in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in 1970, she lives and works in New York City. She is a graduate of Kalamazoo College, and RISD and is the recipient of many awards, including The MacArthur Award (2005) and the U.S. Department of State Medal of Arts Award (2015), and she is a co-founder of Denniston Hill, a multidisciplinary residency program. Ms. Mehretu is known for her paintings and drawings that often allude to topography of built and political landscapes, and most recently the deliberate incorporation of abstracted elements of photographic and filmic documentation of international and national conflict, war and injustice as a point of departure in her paintings. This year her work will be included in the 58th Venice Biennale exhibition *May You Live in Interesting Times*, and this November a major solo survey exhibition will open at Los Angeles County Museum of Art, (LACMA), and continue on tour to: The Whitney Museum, New York; The High Museum, Atlanta; and the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis. Ms. Mehretu is represented globally by Marian Goodman Gallery, and she is a member of The Academy of Arts and Letters.

Ugochukwu-Smooth C. Nzewi is an artist, art historian, and Curator of African Art at the Cleveland Museum of Art. Nzewi will join the Museum of Modern Art in New York as a curator in its department of painting and sculpture in July 2019. Previously, he served as the curator of African art and oversaw global contemporary art at Dartmouth College's Hood Museum of Art. He has co-curated major international exhibitions including the Dak'Art Biennale in Dakar, Senegal. His writing has appeared in important academic journals and art magazines. He is co-editor of *New Spaces for Negotiating Art (and) History in Africa* (2015), and his most recent book is *Emeka Ogboh: Lagos Soundscapes* (2019). As an artist, Nzewi has participated in major artists' residencies and workshops including Art Omi (2007); he was also the Critic-in-Residence at Art Omi in 2018. He trustee of ISCP.

Proceeds from this event will go towards the Dennis Elliott Founder's Fund, supporting residencies for African artists, and towards ISCP's overall work, which includes other ways to support residencies for artists and curators from culturally underfunded parts of the world.

ISCP thanks Sophie, Tracey, and Phillip Riese for hosting this event, and Marian Goodman Gallery for making this conversation possible.

1040 Metropolitan Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11211 t: (718) 387 2900 www.iscp-nyc.org info@iscp-nyc.org #iscp25 Special thanks to the 25th Anniversary Spring Fundraiser Committee: Yng-Ru Chen, Karen E. Jones, and Arthur Zegelbone.

ISCP is grateful to Grimm Artisanal Ales for their sponsorship of the event.

About Dennis Elliott Founder's Fund

The Dennis Elliott Founder's Fund, named in honor of the founder and first director of ISCP, supports residencies for artists and curators from countries without extensive government arts infrastructures, continuing to make ISCP a truly international program accessible to all. Dennis Elliott founded the International Studio Program in Lower Manhattan in 1994 to establish an international community of artists in New York City, and to help develop their professional careers. As an artist himself, Elliott recognized the importance and merit of having studio space and time to develop a creative practice. He stepped down as Executive Director in 2015, and this funds serves to sustain his life mission of supporting artists' and curators' professional and creative development.

About ISCP

Founded in 1994 and celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, ISCP is now the fourth-largest visual arts residency program in the world and a global leader in the field of visual arts residency programs. ISCP supports the creative development of artists and curators, and promotes exchange through residencies and public programs. Housed in a former factory in Brooklyn, with 35 light-filled work studios and two galleries, ISCP is New York's most comprehensive international visual arts residency program. ISCP organizes exhibitions, events and offsite projects, which are free and open to all, sustaining a vibrant community of contemporary art practitioners and diverse audiences.

