

## PARTICIPANT'S BIOGRAPHIES

**Yussef Agbo-Ola** is the founder and creative director at Olaniyi Studio based in London, Ibadan, and the Amazon Forest. Born in rural Virginia in a multi-heritage Nigerian, African-American, and Cherokee household, his work reflects hybrid identities and relationships to different landscapes, ecologies, and cultural rituals. His multidisciplinary architectural and artistic practice is focused on interpreting natural energy systems, through interactive experiments that explore the connections between an array of sensory environments, from the biological and anthropological, to the perceptual and microscopic. His aim is to use diverse multidisciplinary research methods and design components, to reinterpret local knowledge and its environmental importance cross-culturally. His research outcomes manifest through architectural pavilions, material alchemy, interactive performance, experimental sound design, and conceptual writing.

**Aouefa Amoussouvi** is a research scientist based in Berlin, Germany. She is currently researching the history and alternative narratives of science through the prism of intersectional feminism and coloniality. She is especially interested in exploring how technology creates opportunities as well as ethical challenges within Western and non-Western contexts.

**Maria Arnal** is a Barcelona-based artist, singer, and composer. She has garnered recognition for her unique fusion of avant-garde pop, electronics, and traditional polyphonic music. Arnal's work is characterized by an exploratory spirit that delves into the realms of sound, technology, and art. Over the years, Arnal has received numerous awards and accolades, and has performed at iconic festivals and prestigious events, such as the Sónar Festival and TED Talks, among many others. Her diverse projects, ranging from generative compositions to interactive sound installations, reflect her commitment to pushing boundaries and exploring new artistic frontiers through sound and music.

**Marina Avia Estrada** is Head of Exhibitions and Public Programs at TBA21 Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary. She holds a Master in Critical and Curatorial Studies from Columbia University and a Master in Contemporary Art History and Visual Culture from Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. She has previously worked at institutions such as IPCNY New York, Wallach Art Gallery, Tabacalera Promoción del Arte, and AECID. She is a regular contributor to the Spanish art magazine *Exit Express*.

**Diego Blas** is a Spanish physicist and researcher, ICREA research professor at the IFAE (Institute de Física d'Altes Energies). His research focuses on theoretical cosmology, gravitational physics and the study of dark matter and gravitational waves.

**Carolina Bustamante (La Parcería)** is a researcher, curator, and cultural manager with a degree in Art Conservation from Universidad Externado de Colombia and a Master's in Contemporary Art History and Visual Culture from Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. Her work focuses on two main research areas: anti-colonial and anti-racist critique and motherhood, childhood, and play from a political and public perspective. She is a co-founder and member of La Parcería.

**José Antonio Caballero** holds a PhD in astrophysics and is a favorite son of El Escorial. His research encompasses a wide array of celestial objects including stars of all types, brown dwarfs, and exoplanets, alongside developing cutting-edge instrumentation for both ground-based and space telescopes. As a graduate of the Complutense University of Madrid and holding a PhD from the Institute of Astrophysics of the Canary Islands, Caballero was honored with the award for the best doctoral thesis in astronomy in Spain for the year 2006-2007. Subsequently, he served as a support astronomer at the Roque

de Los Muchachos Observatory. His career has included prestigious postdoctoral positions at the Max Planck Institute for Astronomy, the University of Heidelberg, the Complutense University, and the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC). Moreover, he has been a tenured scientist at the National Institute of Aerospace Technology. Presently, he is a research scientist at the CSIC's Center for Astrobiology and actively participates in science communication, particularly linking it to the arts and music. His contributions can be experienced on Radio Clásica and Radio 3, seen in Astronomy magazine, and through his performances on stage with members of Lagartija Nick, Lori Meyers, and Los Planetas.

**Conciencia Afro** is a cultural initiative founded in 2016 focused on reclaiming, celebrating, and disseminating the realities and knowledge of the Black, African, and Afro-descendant communities in Spain.

**Fernando Cucchiatti** leads the Data Analytics and Visualization Group at the Barcelona Supercomputing Center. He holds a PhD in quantum computing, and he currently focuses his work on artificial intelligence and data visualization applied to industrial and urban problems within the digital twin paradigm, as well as for dissemination and artistic exploration.

**Rufino Ferreras Marcos** is an artist with degrees in educational sciences and Spanish history. Since 1995, he has been an educator and later the head of educational development with projects such as EducaThyssen.org, Nubla, Nosotras, and Musaraña. He has taught at several universities, trained different educational institutions and official bodies, and participated in several research projects.

**José Ramón Hernández** is a graduate of the University of the Arts of Cuba and the founder of Osikán – Vivero de Creación. His interdisciplinary work encompasses artistic practice, curating, and cultural management, with his creative research exploring Afro-descendant rituals, marginalized bodies, memory, migration, and spirituality.

**OSIKÁN** is a creative incubator for research and action, bringing together artists, specialists, activists, and communities. It serves as a space for encounters and participation, imagining sensitive strategies to foster critical dialogues and heal social wounds in today's living and working contexts. OSIKÁN aims at activating creation with the desire to engage with the earth – germinating collective learning, curatorial projects, partnerships, critical thought, wanderings, and dreams.

**Bouchra Khalili** is a Moroccan-French visual artist. Khalili utilizes film, video, installation, photography, and printmaking to explore themes of imperialism, colonialism, and memory politics. Her work, influenced by Morocco's artistic traditions, examines migration, anti-colonial struggles, and marginalized communities.

**Raisa Maudit** (artist, curator, writer, and director of Storm And Drunk) was born in La Palma. She has a background in contemporary art, classical music and composition, programming, and video game development. Through multidisciplinary processes, she resorts to multiple systems of representation to analyze and show the contradictions and blind spots in the dominant narratives of the system. From a transfeminist approach, she builds a particular universe in which popular culture and the performative possibilities of identity result in polyhedral works where music, scenography, performance, text, theory-fiction, video, sculpture, installation, robotics or curatorship intermingle to raise other possible realities that give way out of those blind spots of the system. Her work aims to provide a genealogy of dissent offering possible social transformations from revising forgotten knowledge.

**Madrid Negro** is an artistic research group based on the memory of Black and Afro-descendant people in the city of Madrid.

**Silvia Ramírez (La Parcería)** holds a PhD in Fine Arts and her interdisciplinary research explores the intersections of history, art, and memory, with a focus on the political dimensions of artistic practices. Her work delves into historical and biographical narratives related to displacement, disappearance, and absence, using language and archives to rewrite the past through a personal and experimental lens. She has participated in various group exhibitions in Spain and curated the series *Artists in the Interstices* (2023). She is a member of La Parcería.

**Tabita Rezaire's** paths as an artist, devotee, doula, and cacao farmer are all geared toward manifesting the divine in herself and beyond. Her yearning for connection finds expression in her cross-disciplinary practice, which envisions network sciences as healing technologies to facilitate a shift toward heart consciousness. Embracing digital, corporeal, and ancestral memory, she digs into scientific imaginaries and mystical realms to tackle the colonial wounds and energetic misalignments that affect our bodies, minds, and spirits.

**Marina Rodríguez Baras** has a PhD in astrophysics from the Autonomous University of Madrid with honors. She is a researcher at the Real Observatorio de Madrid, part of the State Astronomers Corps. Her research focuses on astrochemistry in stellar formation processes, providing insights into the origins of life. She is involved in the SUL4LIFE project, funded by the ERC Advanced Grants.

**Tania Safura Adam** is a researcher, curator, and founder of Radio Africa, focusing on Black diasporas and African popular music. She has curated notable exhibitions like *Microhistorias de la Diáspora* and *Blue Black Futures*. She is currently directing the research project *España Negra* and leading the Iberian Black Studies seminar at Museo Reina Sofía. Adam also hosts the Radio Africa program on betevé and recently published the essay *Voces negras: Una historia oral de las músicas populares africanas Vol. 1*.

**Miguel Querejeta** studied physics and Hispanic philology, and has a PhD in astrophysics from the University of Heidelberg. Since 2017, he has been a researcher at the Real Observatorio de Madrid and part of the State Astronomers Corps. He has more than 150 scientific publications and has received several awards throughout his career. His research focuses on galaxy structure and evolution.

**Joël Vacheron** is a professor and researcher at the École Cantonale d'Art de Lausanne (ECAL) where he teaches visual arts and the sociology of media. As an independent journalist, he regularly collaborates on editorial projects in the areas of art and photography.

**Alba Vidal García** completed her PhD in astronomy and astrophysics from the Sorbonne University in Paris. She started working at the Real Observatorio de Madrid in 2022, where she develops her research works and assists as a support astronomer. She has been part of two projects funded by the ERC Advanced Grants, on top of having received several excellence grants. Her research focuses on galaxy formation and evolution.