

The Kitchen

Center for experimental art and the avant-garde since 1971

Fall 2022 Season

Upcoming Fall 2022 / Winter 2023

The Kitchen's Fall 2022 season launches our organization beyond the walls of our Chelsea building as it undergoes renovations and moves us temporarily to another location with a rich avant-garde history: Westbeth. Throughout the fall and into next year, The Kitchen partners with numerous other peer organizations and collectives; engages artists in residencies with a durational programming model; and presents exhibitions and performances at Westbeth, at partner venues in New York, and in the digital realm. Treating place as a flexible medium that transcends the containment of given platforms, The Kitchen expands its history of deconstructing and challenging formal categories to expand possibilities for artistic futures. In tandem with this multi-layered season of programming, we are proud to announce the launch of an engaging digital guide for both in-person and online visitors on Bloomberg Connects—a free mobile app created by Bloomberg Philanthropies built to centralize access to programs from cultural institutions around the world.

Stay tuned for our Winter/Spring 2023 Season announcement in the coming weeks!

Upcoming:

Tyler Morse and Nia Nottage:
NYC Performance Archive 1980–2005
Throughout Fall 2022

June Canedo de Souza:
Every Memory Belongs to a Myth
The Kitchen OnScreen
October 2022 ongoing

Will Lee: *All it does is turn*
The Kitchen OnScreen
November 2022 ongoing

Ongoing Collaborations:

School for Poetic Computation
Various Sites
September 2022—September 2023

Montez Press Radio
Various Sites
September 2022—September 2023

Dia Art Foundation
Various Sites
September 2022—September 2023

The Kitchen presents

Samora Pinderhughes: *GRIEF*

November 10, 2022–January 24, 2023
Westbeth, 163B Bank Street, 4th Floor Loft

Samora Pinderhughes: *GRIEF* is organized by Legacy Russell, Executive Director & Chief Curator, with Angelique Rosales Salgado, Curatorial Assistant.

Samora Pinderhughes: *GRIEF* is made possible with generous support from Arison Art Foundation, Agnes Gund, and Ford Foundation; endowment support from Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust; annual grants from The Amphion Foundation, Inc., The Aaron Copland Fund for Music, Howard Gilman Foundation, and The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation; and in part by public funds from New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

Special thanks to Yamaha for providing the piano used in performances.

Season programming is made possible in part with support from The Kitchen's Board of Directors and The Kitchen Leadership Fund.

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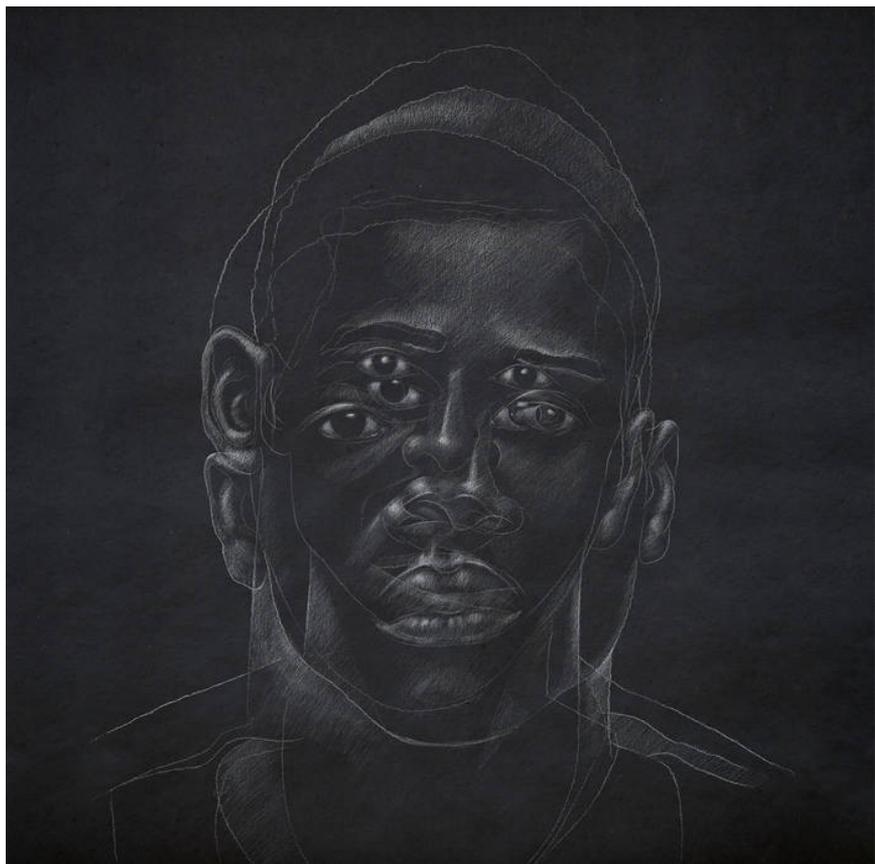
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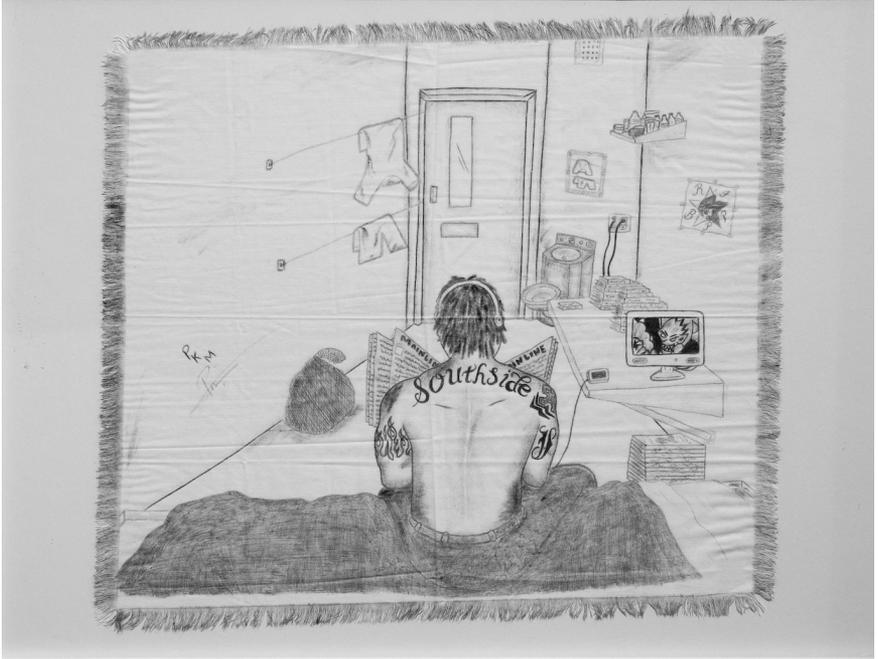
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Samora Pinderhughes, *GRIEF*, April 2022

Titus Kaphar, *The Jerome Project, Asphalt and Chalk IV*, 2014. Graphite on asphalt paper, 49 x 35.5 in. Courtesy of the artist.



Peter Mukuria also known as Pitt Panther, *Selected Works from Pitt Panther 1*, 2022. Pencil and pen on paper, 15 x 19 in. Courtesy the artist.

PROGRAM NOTES

Samora Pinderhughes: *GRIEF*

Acclaimed pianist-vocalist-composer and multidisciplinary artist Samora Pinderhughes uses music, visual arts, film, language, and creative process as abolitionist action. On the heels of his world premiere of *The Healing Project*, a multi-pronged work that springs from interviews the artist conducted with people of color in 15 states surrounding experiences of incarceration and structural violence across the United States, Pinderhughes further expands his work of creating communal space for grieving and healing. One element of *The Healing Project* is his latest album, *GRIEF*. At Westbeth, Pinderhughes and collaborators will perform newly reimagined selections from the album within the installation, creating bold new performances that meld songcraft, ritual, and conversation alongside a rotating presentation of moving image works to be screened at intervals between live performances. The films serve as companion pieces to the *GRIEF* album, and present Pinderhughes's work with his collective RSCK (alongside Christian Padron, Kassim Norris, and Ray Neutron), as well as the result of long-standing collaborations with filmmakers Christian Padron, Josh Begley, Vashni Korin, and Daniel Pfeffer.

Screening and installation hours on select dates (7-9pm):

November 17 and November 29

December 6 and December 15

January 24

PERFORMANCES

In conjunction with the exhibition **Samora Pinderhughes: *GRIEF***, The Kitchen presents a series of monthly, commissioned performances set into three "chapters." Throughout the exhibition, moving image pieces will rotate every four weeks in direct conversation with, and alongside, the premiere of three distinct live shows featuring Pinderhughes and a unique lineup of collaborators who will perform live within the installation.

Samora Pinderhughes, *On Living*

November 10, 2022, 7pm, doors at 6pm

Created by Samora Pinderhughes

Performers: Samora Pinderhughes, Elliott Skinner, Nio Levon, Jehbreal Muhammad Jackson, June McDoom, Dani Murcia, Meshell Ndegeocello
Choreographer: Amanda Krische

Visuals: Samora Pinderhughes and Christian Padron

Samora Pinderhughes, *Rituals for Abolition*

December 10, 2022, 4:30pm, doors at 4pm

Created by Samora Pinderhughes, Saudade Toxosi and Amanda Krische

Performers: Nio Levon, Jehbreal Muhammad Jackson, Dani Murcia, Saudade Toxosi, Savannah Harris, Immanuel Wilkins, Vijay Iyer, Elena Pinderhughes, Jack DeBoe, Nia Drummond, Boom Bishop, Chris Pattishall, and Vuyo Sotashe

Choreographer: Amanda Krische

Costumes: Ade Dehye

Visuals: Samora Pinderhughes, Saudade Toxosi, Christian Padron, Daniel Pfeffer

Samora Pinderhughes, *Grief & Process*, co-presented with Winter Jazzfest

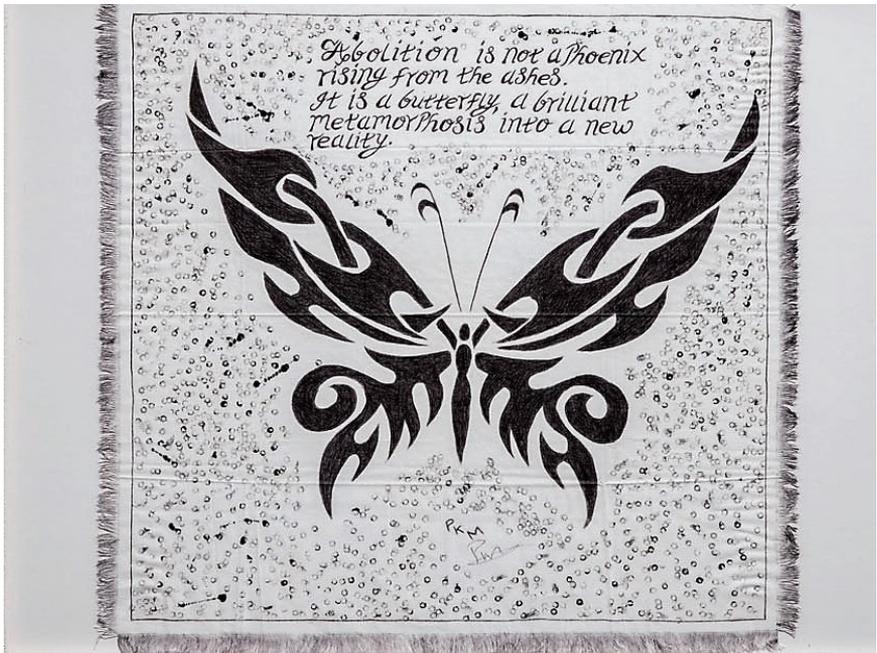
January 17, 2023, 6pm, doors 5:30pm and 9pm, doors at 8:30pm

Created by Samora Pinderhughes, Jack DeBoe and Jesse Sachs

Performers: Samora Pinderhughes, Joshua Crumbly, Argus Quartet, Elliott Skinner, Nio Levon, Jehbreal Muhammad Jackson, Dani Murcia, Jack DeBoe, Nia Drummond

Choreographer and Herbalist: Amanda Krische

Visuals: Samora Pinderhughes and Christian Padron



Peter Mukuria also known as Pitt Panther, *Selected Works from Pitt Panther* 2, 2022. Pencil and pen on paper, 15 x 19 in. Courtesy the artist.

SET LIST

Samora Pinderhughes, *Grief & Process* January 17, 2023, 6pm and 9pm

“Save the Children” - Marvin Gaye

“Hope” (Excerpt) - Samora Pinderhughes

“Intro to Hope” - Samora Pinderhughes

“Holding Cell” - Samora Pinderhughes

“The Round / Sign of the Judgment” - McIntosh Country Singers

“Kingly” - Samora Pinderhughes

“Hold That Weight” - Samora Pinderhughes

“Someday We’ll All Be Free” - Donny Hathaway

“Recalling” - Elliott Skinner

“Masculinity” - Samora Pinderhughes

“GRIEF” - Samora Pinderhughes

“The Cry” - Samora Pinderhughes

“Hum a Prayer” - Samora Pinderhughes

“Forgive Yourself” - Samora Pinderhughes

“Process” - Samora Pinderhughes

CREDITS

Samora Pinderhughes, *Artist, Filmmaker, Composer, Pianist, Vocalist*

Joshua Crumbly, *Bass*, Jack DeBoe, *Drums*, Nia Drummond, *Vocals*, Elliott Skinner, *Guitar and Vocals*, Jehbreah Muhammad Jackson, *Vocals*, Amanda Krische, *Choreography*, Nio Levon, *Vocals*, Dani Murcia, *Vocals*, Argus Quartet, *String Quartet*, Christian Padron, *Visuals*

Artwork by Pitt Panther

Legacy Russell, *Executive Director & Chief Curator*

Angelique Rosales Salgado, *Curatorial Assistant*

Zack Tinkelman, *Production Manager*

Tassja Walker, *Production Supervisor*

Nneka Irobunda, *Videographer*

Walter Wlodarczyk, *Photographer*

Ania Washington, *Lighting Supervisor*

Aaron Robinson, Lily Wen, *Audio Supervisors*

Jason Chandler, *Video Tech*

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Joe Wakeman, *Installation Crew*

Neal Medlyn, Nico Grelli, Mo Lioce, Sacha Yanow, *House Managers*

ARTIST AND PERFORMER BIOS

SAMORA PINDERHUGHES is a composer, pianist, vocalist, filmmaker, and multidisciplinary artist known for striking intimacy and carefully crafted, radically honest lyrics alongside high-level musicianship. He is also known for using his music to examine sociopolitical issues and fight for change and works in the tradition of the black surrealists, those who bend word, sound, and image towards the causes of revolution. Pinderhughes is a prison abolitionist and an advocate for process over product. His music is renowned for its emotionality, its honesty about difficult and vulnerable topics, and its careful details in word and sound. As an artist, Pinderhughes' goal is that people will LIVE DIFFERENTLY after experiencing what he makes—that it will affect how they think, how they act, how they relate to others, how they consider their daily relationships to their country and their world. Pinderhughes has collaborated with many artists across boundaries and scenes including Herbie Hancock, Common, Glenn Ligon, Sara Bareilles, Daveed Diggs, Titus Kaphar, and Lalah Hathaway. He works frequently with Common on compositions for music and film, and is featured as a composer, lyricist, vocalist, and pianist on the new albums August Greene and Let Love with Common, Robert Glasper, and Kariem Riggins.

JOSHUA CRUMBLY's multi-faceted career could be described in one word, you couldn't do any better than the one he's chosen to title his debut album: "Rise." Since making his professional debut at age 10 alongside his saxophonist father, the gifted bassist has continued on a remarkable trajectory. With the release of "Rise" and latest album "ForEver" he takes the next bold leap, unveiling a stunning, uplifting vision that embraces the full spectrum of his musical experiences. After being mentored by such iconic bassists as Reggie Hamilton, Al McKibbon, and Victor Bailey, Crumbly went on to study at the prestigious Juilliard School. By the end of his freshman year he'd been recruited to join the Terence Blanchard Quintet and recorded on the band's acclaimed album "Magnetic." Since then he's recorded and toured with a staggering list of genre-blurring artists including Kamasi Washington, Lizz Wright, Stefon Harris, Ravi Coltrane, Anthony Wilson, Leon Bridges and Bob Dylan.

JACK DEBOE is an American producer, engineer, songwriter, and musician who has spent decades crafting musical infrastructures and fostering unique creative expressions. He is called on for his ability to recognize where an artist sees limitations by funneling their vision through experience and expertise. The result is a project that exceeds expectations by helping artists break through the invisible boundaries they set for themselves. As a drummer, Jack has supported countless artists and bands, including Emily King, Lucius, Lizz Wright, Megan Hilty, and Nick Hakim, and has various creative credits on records for artists such as Tyler the Creator, Jon Batiste, Yebba, Samora Pinderhughes, Solo Woods, and Trixie Whitley. Through his work with Marcus Strickland, he was introduced to Meshell Ndegeocello, with whom he worked as studio and production manager, engineer, and collaborator. Based in Brooklyn, New York, DeBoe is currently producing music at the Late Show with Stephen Colbert, teaching production and mixing techniques at the New School, and creating music for and with distinctive artists.

NIA DRUMMOND is a Voice Performance major and Native of Brooklyn studying with Shinobu Takagi at the State University of New York at Fredonia. She has appeared as a solo performer at the Apollo Theater in New York City and the New World Center in Miami. She also appeared in Renée Fleming's "American Voices," which aired on PBS, singing gospel, jazz, and classical music. Earning positive reviews in both the *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal*, Drummond has been described as a "moving and electrifying performer." In addition to her credits as a solo artist, Ms. Drummond has performed with award-winning ensembles such as the Grammy honored Brooklyn Youth Chorus and Young People's Chorus of New York City. She has also appeared as a background vocalist for the likes of Sir Elton John, Bette Midler, Fantasia Barrino, John Legend, and in choruses under the direction of Michael Tilson Thomas, the late Lorin Maazel, James Levine, and others.

ELLIOTT SKINNER is a 27-year-old Texas-raised, Brooklyn-based artist with a multi-faceted approach to folk and soul music. Skinner's multiple avenues of music-making include singing, guitar, bass, producing, and arranging. Improvisation plays a large role in Skinner's compositions; He wishes to reflect the history, texture, and roots of Black culture in his music. Skinner's industry introduction came in 2015 with the trio Thirdstory – a group of singer-songwriters that garnered the attention of millions with their approach to harmony. In the last few years, Skinner has held residencies across New York and Brooklyn, opened for Anthony Ramos, and Kamasi Washington. He also appeared on the BET Hip Hop Awards with Chance the Rapper. Elliott has released only a handful of music as a solo artist, but plans on expanding his contemporary blend of folk, rock, soul and blues. Continuing to experiment with a variety of artists, themes, and sounds will define his new material as he takes his solo output to unexpected places.

JEHBREAL MUHAMMAD JACKSON is an artist and scholar who writes, choreographs, and directs story ballets for film. In his scholarship and artistic practice, Jackson interrogates the histories of ballet and early modern theatrical practices, and their debt to Africanist and Islamic art as he explores and derives inspiration from the intersections of art, science, and spirit in the cosmological compositions of William Shakespeare, the Moors of al-Andalus, and the Shabaka Stone of ancient Kush. Jackson danced professionally with Dance Theater of Harlem before freelancing in New York, Europe and Mexico and has danced the works of William Forsythe, Francesca Harper, Alvin Ailey, George Balanchine, Donald Byrd, Alex Ekman, Sidra Bell, Jerome Robbins, Jill Johnson, Tania Perez Salas, Matthew Brookoff, Seth Gerstacov, August Bournonville, and Ohad Naharin. He is also a vocalist featured on Samora Pinderhughes's *Transformations Suite* and *GRIEF* albums after having also performed with Jon Batiste and Kris Bowers. Jackson received a BFA in dance from The Juilliard School, an MFA in dance from UC Irvine, and is currently pursuing a PhD in Theater at Columbia University.

AMANDA KRISCHE is a dancer, choreographer, teaching artist, and herbalist creating interdisciplinary movement modalities and performance practices that center the body as an archive of collaborative ecosystems, memory, and mythology. Her work expands the concept of performance practice to re-wild the sites of space and the body, troubling concepts of tradition that separate audience from performer, performance from community, and theater from public settings. Krische has performed in such venues as the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Place des Arts, New York Live Arts, Dan-space and the Joyce Theater. She is a graduate of LaGuardia Arts High School and graduated summa cum laude from Purchase College, SUNY with a BFA in Dance, including a semester abroad at Amsterdamse Hoogeschool voor de Kunsten. She has collaborated with choreographers such as Teresa Fellion, Loni Landon, Nicole von Arx, and Nicole Wolcott.

NIO LEVON is a 1990s baby born and raised in the DC/MD/VA area. Her influences include artists such as Luther Vandross, Michael Jackson, Prince, Lisa Fischer, Brandy, Justin Timberlake and so many more. She comes from a musical family that introduced her to all genres of music from a young age. Her first solo took place in church at the age of 4. After performing in numerous recitals, talent shows and sports functions through out elementary and middle school Norwood was accepted to the Duke Ellington School of the Arts high school in DC for Vocal Performance. Her first year she was also accepted into the Ellington Showchior where she performed with greats such as Stevie Wonder, Smokey Robinson, Earth Wind & Fire, Patti Labelle, John Legend, Sting and more. The Showchior performed for the President and First Lady on numerous occasions and has toured the East coast, California and France. Levon attended American University where she studied Musical Theater and now attends Berklee College of Music studying Professional Music and Songwriting with a minor in Drama. Goals are to perform and tour as much as possible to establish a valued reputation, save money and support her budding business REI; Real Entertainment Industries. REI will soon thereafter be developed into a business that will act as an agency and an educational institution that will cater to artists of all facets.

DANI MURCIA was raised by Colombian parents in the eccentric, warm, and care-free city of Miami. She is now expanding her artistry in the more cold and sped up city of New York, all which has helped shape her distinctive soundscape. After losing her father to alcoholism and suicide, Murcia made it her goal to share her stories and innermost dialogues to offer an achingly honest perspective into the journey through grief and loss. With each song, Murcia creates unique worlds through lush harmonies and haunting melodies, in an attempt to stimulate curiosity and open conversation about topics often stigmatized. Murcia covers these subjects in her last project "Breaking Light," which was recorded and released in March 2019 while attending Berklee College of Music. She co-produced all five songs with Koa Ho of Shenzi. She is also part of a women-run collective, Her Songs, that she co-created alongside four other artists from around the world: Marie Dahlstrom, Emily C. Browning, The Naked Eye and Emmavie. Their projects *Los Angeles* and *Toronto Vol 1* and *2* are available on all streaming platforms. She is currently a teaching artist with Beats By Girlz NYC. Murcia's debut album was released in February 2022, where she continues to explore these themes in an ethereal, orchestral ocean of sounds and stories.

CHRISTIAN PADRON is a filmmaker and photographer based in Harlem. A Parsons photographic scholar and MFA graduate, Christian's work is known for its complex, gorgeous, and intimate portrayals of people of color, and for its brilliant uses of movement and music. Christian's film *Process*, with artist and composer Samora Pinderhughes, is about grieving and loss in our tumultuous times, amidst the pandemic and premature death caused by systems of

white supremacy. It won Best Experimental Film at the Blackstar Film Fest. Christian directed the short film *Grief*, commissioned by Carnegie Hall for their “Voices of Hope” festival, and wrote and directed *The Veil* for the Magnum Foundation and *Music Is Black History*. In 2017, Christian won the Redefining the Image of Black Masculinity Aperture competition organized with the Campaign for Black Male Achievement. In music, Christian has made clips for Alicia Keys, The Lox, Cousin Neighbour’s JGivens, and John Givez.

ARGUS QUARTET’S “vivacious foursome” (The New Yorker) is committed to bringing thoughtful and personal programs to both seasoned listeners and audiences new to classical music. The Quartet enjoys projects that celebrate collaboration, community, and risk-taking in venues of all shapes and sizes. Praised for playing with “supreme melodic control and total authority” and “decided dramatic impact” (Calgary Herald), Argus has quickly emerged as one of today’s most dynamic and versatile ensembles. Formed in Los Angeles in 2013, the Quartet has performed in some of the country’s most prestigious venues and festivals, including Lincoln Center’s Alice Tully Hall, Chamber Music Society of Detroit, the Ravinia Festival, the Albany Symphony’s American Music Festival, and Music Academy of the West. In 2017, Argus won First Prize at both the M-Prize Chamber Arts Competition and the Concert Artists Guild Victor Elmaleh Competition. Highlights of the 2022-23 concert season include two appearances at Carnegie Hall, a return to Columbia University’s Miller Theatre for its Pop-Up Concerts series, the beginning of a multi-year recording project of the string quartets of Donald Crockett, and the launch of a new program consisting of works by Indigenous composers. This program will feature a new composition by Pulitzer Prize finalist Anne Leilehua Lanzilotti, commissioned as a National Performance Network Creation & Development Fund Project. The Quartet will premiere the program in San Diego, Long Beach, and Denver in spring 2023.

PETER MUKURIA, better known by his artist name “**PITT PANTHER,**” is currently incarcerated at Red Onion State Prison. While imprisoned, he vocalizes the blatant racism that takes place in his correctional facility: he has been threatened, not given the haircut service offered to white prisoners, and denied facilities such as access to water. He has also been placed in solitary confinement as retaliation against his self-advocacy. Mukuria was born in Nairobi, Kenya, and is currently the Minister of Labor for the Revolutionary Intercommunal Black Panther Party (RIBPP). He is also on the steering committee with the Industrial Workers of the World Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee (IWW IWOC). Mukuria writes on a variety of topics, from abolition to the COVID-19 pandemic and more. Mukuria is also a brilliant artist whose work is featured in exhibition *GRIEF*. He draws and collages with paper, pencils, and materials he can find given his incarceration. Follow Mukuria’s art on Instagram at @pittpanther_art and support his organization the Revolutionary Intercommunal Black Panther Party at @revolutionaryintercommunalbpp.

The Kitchen

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