



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## The International Center of Photography Announces Fall/Winter 2021 Exhibition Schedule

***Gillian Laub: Family Matters***

***Diana Markosian: Santa Barbara***

***INWARD: Reflections on Interiority***

### **On View**

September 24, 2021–January 10, 2022

### **Location**

79 Essex Street, New York, NY 10002

**NEW YORK, NY**—The International Center of Photography (ICP) announces the fall/winter exhibition schedule for 2021, featuring three exhibitions that highlight the work of established and emerging contemporary photographers. On view from September 24, 2021 through January 10, 2022, the exhibitions are: *Gillian Laub: Family Matters*; *Diana Markosian: Santa Barbara*; and *INWARD: Reflections on Interiority*.

The exhibitions are presented in the museum’s new building at 79 Essex Street in New York, which opened in January 2020. Designed by the international architecture firm Gensler, the space unites the museum and the school for the first time in over 20 years.

David Company, Managing Director of Programs, said, “These three upcoming exhibitions, which in their unique ways explore the interior lives of artists and their families, are appearing at ICP at an important moment when we are all looking at how to process the pandemic’s effect on our lives. I am humbled by the emotions and intimacy these artists share and the trust that they have imbued in the viewer.”

**Gillian Laub: Family Matters**



Gillian Laub, *Chappaqua backyard*, 2000. © Gillian Laub

Funny, poignant, troubled, and challenging, *Family Matters* is photographer Gillian Laub's two decade-long documentation of her family's emotional and political dramas, combining photographs and audio recordings full of telling psychological detail. Her deeply personal and unsettling images document high emotion, unexpected humor, and deep love. As it moves through time, the exhibition becomes a microcosm of a deeply conflicted nation, as the artist and her parents find themselves on opposing sides of a sharp political divide—tearing at multigenerational family ties, and forcing everyone to ask what, in the end, really binds them together. An in-depth audio guide, voiced by Laub, shares family stories behind the images. The exhibition is curated by David Company and coincides with the publication of a companion book by Aperture.

**Diana Markosian: Santa Barbara**



Diana Markosian, *A New Life*, from *Santa Barbara*, 2019. © Diana Markosian

*Diana Markosian: Santa Barbara* presents the photographer's compelling autobiographical narrative of her mother's path from Russia to America with her two children in search of a better life. The exhibition juxtaposes an idealized, Hollywood-like version of the American

dream with the often-startling reality of the immigrant experience. Curated by Sara Ickow, Manager of Exhibitions and Collections, and David Company, *Santa Barbara* features staged images, film footage, and family photographs that reimagine the past and explore themes of family and memory.

***INWARD: Reflections on Interiority***



Djeneba Aduayom, *Self-Portrait*, 2021. © Djeneba Aduayom

*INWARD: Reflections on Interiority* features newly commissioned work by five emerging artists—Djeneba Aduayom, Arielle Bobb-Willis, Quil Lemons, Brad Ogbonna, and Isaac West—who experiment with and explore aspects of their interior lives. Their work moves beyond the endless scope of the constructed selfie and documentation of events in the public realm to examine the intimate interactions and thoughts that make up their daily experiences as artists and people in a time of unprecedented change. The exhibition is curated by Isolde Brielmaier, PhD, Curator-at-Large at ICP.

**About the Artists**

**Gillian Laub, @gigilaub**

Gillian Laub (b. 1975) is a photographer and filmmaker based in New York. She received a B.A. in comparative literature from the University of Wisconsin–Madison, before studying photography at the International Center of Photography. Laub has spent the last two decades investigating political conflicts, exploring family relationships, and challenging assumptions about cultural identity. Her works include the book *Testimony* (Aperture, 2007) and the book

and HBO film *Southern Rites* (2015). Laub received a New York Foundation for the Arts fellowship in 2019. Her work is collected internationally and included in the public collections of the Harvard Art Museums, Cambridge, Massachusetts; High Museum of Art, Atlanta; Hood Museum of Art, Hanover, New Hampshire; International Center of Photography, New York; Jewish Museum, New York; and Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, among other institutions. She continues to contribute to many publications, including *The New York Times Magazine*, *TIME*, *Vanity Fair*, and *The New Yorker*.

**Diana Markosian, @markosian**

Diana Markosian (b. 1989) takes an intimate approach to her photography and video storytelling, in work that is both conceptual and documentary. Her projects have taken her to some of the remotest corners of the world, and have been featured in *National Geographic Magazine*, *The New Yorker*, and *The New York Times*. She holds a M.S. degree from Columbia University in New York. Her work is represented by Galerie Les Filles du Calvaire in Paris, France, and Rose Gallery in Los Angeles, California.

**Djeneba Aduayom, @djeneba.aduayom**

Informed by her career as a professional dancer, Djeneba Aduayom progressed into photography and brought her love of travel, movement and emotive performance into her imagery and subsequent directing work. Drawing inspiration from her cultural mix of French, Italian and African heritage, her concepts and artistic expression are rooted in her personal exploration of the inner worlds of her imagination. In 2020, Aduayom received The One Club for Creativity One Show gold award for her conceptual fashion series “A Pas de Deux” in collaboration with *New York Magazine’s* The Cut. Her portraits for *The New York Times Magazine’s* “The 1619 Project” were honored by the International Center of Photography’s 2020 Infinity Awards in the Online Platform and New Media category. The American Society of Magazine Editors’ 2020 Awards also selected Aduayom’s *Billboard* portrait of St. Vincent as “Best Profile Photograph.” Aduayom is now based just outside of Los Angeles, CA.

**Arielle Bobb-Willis, @ariellebobbwillis**

Born and raised in New York City, with pit stops in South Carolina and New Orleans, photographer Arielle Bobb-Willis (b. 1994) has been using the camera for nearly a decade as a tool of empowerment. Battling depression from an early age, Bobb-Willis found solace behind the lens and has developed a visual language that speaks to the complexities of life: the beautiful, the strange, belonging, isolation, and connection. Inspired by masters like Jacob Lawrence and Benny Andrews, Bobb-Willis applies a “painterly” touch to her photography by documenting people in compromising and disjointed positions as way to highlight these complexities. Her photographs are all captured in urban and rural cities, from the South to North, East to West. Bobb-Willis travels throughout the U.S. as a way of finding “home” in any grassy knoll, or city sidewalk, reminding us to stay connected and grounded during life’s transitional moments.

**Quil Lemons, @quillemons**

Quil Lemons (b. 1997) is a New York-based photographer with a distinct visual language that interrogates ideas around masculinity, family, queerness, race, beauty, and popular culture. His inaugural series *GLITTERBOY* (2017) introduced Lemons to the world and started a dialogue that would act as a common thread through much of his work to come. In it, he dusted black men with glitter to combat the stereotypes and stigmas placed upon their bodies. This concept of challenging what is acceptable for the black male body developed even further in *BOY PARTS* (2020). Simultaneously, Lemons began an exploration of the black family portrait with his series *PURPLE* (2018) and project *WELCOME HOME* (2018). Images from both projects gave an intimate glimpse into his home life and the modern black American family structure in Philadelphia. Lemons has previously exhibited at Contact Festival, Toronto, 2018; Kuumba Festival, Toronto, 2019; and Aperture, NY 2019. His work has appeared on the cover of *Vanity Fair*, and publications including *Variety*, *Vogue*, and the *New York Times*.

**Brad Ogbonna, @bradogbonna**

Brad Ogbonna (b. 1988) was born and raised in Saint Paul, MN, and currently lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. A first generation Nigerian-American and a self-taught photographer, his work focuses on the black experience: his own, as well as the many different iterations he has seen while traveling domestically and abroad as a member of the diaspora. His work has appeared in publications such as *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *Forbes*, *Bloomberg BusinessWeek*, and *New York* magazine, and he frequently collaborates with the artist Kehinde Wiley. In 2019, Ogbonna's work was featured at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis.

**Isaac West, @isaacwest**

Isaac West (b. 1990) is a Liberian-born, U.S.-based photographer, artist, and creative director who specializes in conceptual art and minimalism. West's luminous portraits evoke a contemporary regality. In 2018, West photographed two issues for *Paper* magazine, "Higher Ground" (web issue) and "West's World" (Spring print issue). In 2019, West photographed the actress Zendaya for the cover of the Summer print "Extreme" issue of *Paper*, and West was also named one of *Paper* magazine's "100 People Taking Over 2019." West photographed Parker Kit Hill for the Spring 2019 print issue cover of *Funk Magazine*, a magazine dedicated to the LGBT community. *Vogue Italia* featured West's third-biggest photography project called "8Minutes & 46Seconds" as a full spread in their 2020 Summer print issue. West's work was featured in the Aperture Foundation's 2020 exhibition *The New Black Vanguard* in New York, NY, which then traveled to Australia and Qatar in 2021.

**Exhibition Access**

Fall exhibition hours are Wednesday through Monday, 11 AM to 7 PM, and until 9 PM on Thursdays. Admission: Adults \$16; Seniors (62 and Over), Students (with Valid ID), Military, Visitors with Disabilities \$12 (caregivers are free); SNAP/EBT card holders \$3; ICP members, ICP students, and all visitors 16 years old and under are free.

Admission to ICP is by timed ticketed entry only to ensure limited capacity and other safety standards are met. Tickets can be reserved online at [icp.org/tickets](https://icp.org/tickets). Visitors are asked to arrive

during the 30-minute window of your timed ticket to help us ensure a safe flow of people in the lobby. For more information about how we are welcoming you back safely, read our updated [Visitor Information](#) and [Accessibility](#) guidelines and policies.

### **Exhibition Support**

Exhibitions at ICP are supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. Additional exhibition support is provided by the Joseph and Joan Cullman Foundation for the Arts, Inc.



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*Diana Markosian: Santa Barbara* has been made possible through the generous support of an Anonymous Donor.

### **About the International Center of Photography**

The International Center of Photography is the world's leading institution dedicated to photography and visual culture. Cornell Capa founded ICP in 1974 to champion "concerned photography"—socially and politically minded images that can educate and change the world. Through our exhibitions, education programs, community outreach, and public programs, ICP offers an open forum for dialogue about the power of the image. Since its inception, ICP has presented more 700 exhibitions, provided thousands of classes, and hosted a wide variety of public programs. The International Center of Photography (ICP) launched its new integrated center on Manhattan's Lower East Side in January 2020. Located at 79 Essex Street, ICP is the cultural anchor of Essex Crossing, one of the most highly anticipated and expansive mixed-use developments in New York City. Visit [icp.org](http://icp.org) to learn more.

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### **Press Contacts:**

Nicole Straus Public Relations

Amanda Domizio, 347-229-2877, [amanda@domiziopr.com](mailto:amanda@domiziopr.com)

Margery Newman, 212-475-0252, [MargeryNewman@gmail.com](mailto:MargeryNewman@gmail.com)