

*Power and Democracy: Inspiring Action through Digital Tools*

Presented in partnership with Eyebeam

Participant Bios:

Burak Arian is a New York and Istanbul based artist working with complex networks. He takes the obvious social, economic, and political issues as input and runs through custom abstract machinery, which generates network maps and algorithmic interfaces, results in performances, and procreates predictions to render inherent power relationships visible and discussable. Arian's software, prints, installations, and performances have been featured in numerous exhibitions internationally. Arian is the founder of *Graph Commons*, a collaborative platform for mapping, analyzing, and publishing data-networks. Arian completed his master's degree at the MIT Media Laboratory in the Physical Language Workshop (PLW) led by John Maeda. Prior to MIT, he received an MA degree in Visual Communication Design from Istanbul Bilgi University in 2004, and a BS degree in Civil Engineering from Yildiz Technical University in 2001.

Salome Asega is an artist and researcher based in New York. She is the Technology Fellow in the Ford Foundation's Creativity and Free Expression program area, and a director of POWRPLNT, a digital art collaboratory in Bushwick. Salome has participated in residencies and fellowships with Eyebeam, New Museum, The Laundromat Project, and Recess Art. She has exhibited and given presentations at the 11th Shanghai Biennale, Performa, EYEO, and the Brooklyn Museum. Salome received her MFA from Parsons at The New School in Design and Technology where she also teaches.

Idris Brewster (Movers and Shakers) is a creative technologist, from Brooklyn, NY. He is the CTO of Movers and Shakers, a coalition that executes direct action and advocacy campaigns for marginalized communities using virtual reality, augmented reality and the creative arts. He works for Google, as a Computer Science Instructor for Code Next, an incubator that strives to provide computer science and engineering education for black and brown youth. As a creative technologist Idris spends the majority of his time focusing on blending his work in social activism and virtual reality/augmented reality. Idris's other passions include hip-hop production and filmmaking! Recently, he was the subject of the documentary, "American Promise" winner of the Special Jury Award at the Sundance Film Festival.

Stephanie Dinkins is a transdisciplinary artist interested in creating platforms for ongoing dialog about artificial intelligence as it intersects race, gender, aging and our future histories. She is particularly driven to work with communities of color to develop deep-rooted AI literacy and co-create more culturally inclusive equitable artificial intelligence. Professor Dinkins teaches digital and interactive media at Stony Brook University. Dinkins' holds an MFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art. She is also an alumna of the International Center of Photography and the Independent Studies Program of the Whitney Museum of American Art. Her artwork is exhibited internationally at a broad spectrum of community, private and institutional venues – by design. These include Institute of Contemporary Art Dunaujvaros, Hering Kunstmuseum, Spelman College Museum of Fine Art, Contemporary Art Museum Houston Wave Hill, the Studio Museum in Harlem, and Spedition Bremen.