



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Hi res images available upon request

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Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens and Dance Place announce site-specific performance commission

Krystal Collins/new growth collective selected for movement-based work

Washington, D.C.—Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens and Dance Place are thrilled to announce the recipient of a site-specific, movement-based performance commission and presentation to premiere at Hillwood. Congratulations to Krystal Collins/new growth collective!

This summer, from July 21-25, 2021, Krystal Collins/new growth collective will present a movement-based performance work that is in dialogue with incoming sculpture installation *Rich Soil* by Kristine Mays, a California-based sculpture artist.

The exhibition features 29 life-size sculptures capturing bodies in motion. Mays said her sculptures were inspired by Alvin Ailey's famed work, *Revelations*, and the way Ailey explored the historical African American experience through movement. Mays apportioned *Rich Soil* into seven beautiful groupings, including "Not Just Happenstance," "Ancestral Spin," "Conjuring," "Little Worlds Within Us," "Celestial Prayer Meeting," "Soon and Very Soon," and "All Night Worship Service." The installations are accompanied by narratives written by Mays inspired by African-American sayings, culture, and folklore.

In dialogue with the exhibition, Krystal Collins/new growth collective's commissioned work has an artistic vision that amalgamates many lenses of Blackness, including: queerness, girl/womanhood, popular culture, joy, ancestral, and spiritual practices. This inaugural work as Krystal Collins/new growth collective will leverage these themes with the goal of creating a sustainable artistic practice that is community centered.

Stay tuned for more information on the physically distant gathering, including show dates, times, and ticket information.

The selection committee for this commission was composed of:

Ronya-Lee Anderson, dancer, choreographer, scholar, singer, songwriter, educator, and recipient of past Dance Place physically distant commission

Ben Levine, Director of Production at Dance Place

Jessica Malcom, Grants Manager at Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens

Ashlee McKinnon, artist, teacher, company manager for BREatheDance Project, and exhibition committee member for *Rich Soil* at Hillwood

About Krystal Collins/new growth collective

Hailing from the Midwest, Krystal Leniece Collins (she/they) captivated their first audience in the produce section of the local Moo & Oink (may the beloved Chicago grocery chain rest in power). A graduate of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (BFA '18), Krystal has performed in many works during their matriculation and throughout the DMV area. They have performed with Contradiction Dance Theatre, darlingdance, Heart Stück Bernie, A.J. Collabs, and Revision Dance Company. new growth collective is a decentralized movement and dance education incubator that champions fluidity, world building, and movement as mutual aid.

About Hillwood

When art collector, businesswoman, social figure, and philanthropist Marjorie Merriweather Post left to the public her northwest Washington, D.C. estate, she endowed the country with the most comprehensive collection of [Russian imperial art](#) outside of Russia, an [exquisite 18th-century French decorative art collection](#), and 25 acres of serene landscaped gardens and natural woodlands. Opened as a public institution in 1977, today Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens offers a gracious and immersive experience unlike any other. Highlights of the collection include Fabergé eggs, Russian porcelain, Russian orthodox icons, Beauvais tapestries, and Sèvres porcelain, and Post's personal collection of apparel, accessories, and jewelry. Thirteen acres of enchanting formal gardens include a [japanese-style garden](#), [rose garden](#), [French parterre](#), and an orchid-filled [greenhouse](#).

General Information

Location: 4155 Linnean Avenue, NW, Washington, DC
Metro: Van Ness/UDC, Red Line (20 minute walk)

Information/Tickets: 202-686-5807 for information or www.HillwoodMuseum.org
Facebook.com/HillwoodMuseum

Hours: Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Mondays, most holidays, and for several weeks in January.

Café: Merriweather To Go, featuring a quick selection of sandwiches, salads, snacks, and beverages, is available Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to

4 p.m.

Suggested
Donation:

Advanced reservations are required to minimize physical contact and practice social distancing. No reservations will be taken on site. Reservations are by timed entry and are limited in order to manage safe capacity.

\$18, \$15 seniors, \$10 college students, \$5 for visitors age 6 to 18.

No donation is suggested for children under 6.

Adults and seniors receive \$3 off the suggested donation for weekday visits and \$1 off for weekend visits when reservations are made online.

Members receive free admission to visit the estate during regular operating hours. To join visit <http://www.hillwoodmuseum.org/join>

For more information visit <http://www.hillwoodmuseum.org/hours-and-tickets>

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