



For Immediate Release

JEREMY O. HARRIS TO CO-CURATE MULTI-DAY FESTIVAL ON THE HIGH LINE THIS SUMMER

New York, NY (January 17, 2020) —Playwright Jeremy O. Harris will co-curate Out of Line this summer with High Line associate curator of public programs, Diya Vij. Out of Line is the High Line’s site-specific summer performance series that features a wide range of contemporary artists from all over New York City. Past performers include Narcissister, A.R.M. (Alexandro Segade, Robbie Acklen, and Malik Gaines), Brendan Fernandes, Shaun Leonardo, Antonio Ramos, and Yara Travieso.

“We’re excited to partner with Jeremy O. Harris on Out of Line,” says Diya Vij, associate curator at the High Line. “Jeremy’s commitment to unapologetically examining race and class through his boundary-pushing work and audience-inclusion will undoubtedly bring a fresh and critical perspective to Out of Line. Artists are always in dialogue with other artists. Reimagining Out of Line as an artist-led performance festival is an exciting opportunity to see the artist-to-artist dialogue come to life. Together, Jeremy and I will commission New York City-based artists to excavate and explore the history, political dynamics, and architecture of the High Line.”

In 2020, Out of Line will be, for the first time, a multi-day festival. For three days in July, audiences will be invited to experience a set of original commissioned performances on the High Line, with an emphasis on the interdisciplinary and experimental.

Harris says, “Working with Diya to curate a swath of never before seen collaborations is an opportunity to reflect on the High Line’s unique potential for artistic collisions and intellectual entanglements that mirror the West Side’s incredible legacy. In doing so, we hope that visitors to the High Line performance festival will feel emboldened by the past’s relationship to our fraught present in order to mobilize innovative futurities.”

ABOUT JEREMY O. HARRIS

Full-length plays include: *Slave Play* (New York Theatre Workshop, NYT Critics Pick, Winner of the 2018 Kennedy Center Rosa Parks Playwriting Award, the Lorraine Hansberry Playwriting Award, and The Lotos Foundation Prize in the Arts and Sciences); *Daddy* (Vineyard Theatre/The New Group); *Xander Xyst*, *Dragon: 1*; and *water sports; or insignificant white boys*



(published by 53rd State Press). His work has been presented or developed by Pieter, JACK, Ars Nova, The New Group, New York Theater Workshop, Performance Space New York, and Playwrights Horizons. In 2018, Jeremy co-wrote A24's upcoming film *Zola* with director Janicza Bravo. He is the 11th recipient of the Vineyard Theatre's Paula Vogel Playwriting Award; a 2016 MacDowell Colony Fellow; an Orchard Project Greenhouse artist; a resident playwright with Colt Coeur; and is under commission from Lincoln Center Theater and Playwrights Horizons. Jeremy is a graduate of the Yale MFA playwriting Program.

Jeremy is currently developing a pilot with A24 for HBO.

ABOUT DIYA VIJ

Diya Vij is the associate curator of public programs at the High Line, where she oversees adult programs including performances, festivals, talks, walks, community partnerships, and offsite events. Prior to the High Line, Diya led special projects for the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. In that role, she created the department's Public Artists-in-Residence program, a municipal artist residency that brings artists into the city's civic sector as a way of applying their artistic practices to some of today's most pressing challenges in New York. Participating artists included Tania Bruguera, Tatyana Fazlalizadeh, Onyedika Chuke, Ebony Noelle Golden, and Mary Miss. In addition, she helped lead the Agency's citywide Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiative; public monument efforts; CreateNYC, New York City's first cultural plan, and various arts-based projects for Gracie Mansion and City Hall. She organized several large-scale programs including "What Can We Do? Immigration Summit for Cultural Organizations" in October 2018 with Art Space Sanctuary and No Longer Empty. She was previously a curatorial fellow and communications manager at the Queens Museum. Diya received her MA in art history from Hunter College in 2015 and her BA from Bard College in 2008.

ABOUT THE HIGH LINE

The High Line is both a nonprofit organization and a public park on the West Side of Manhattan. Through our work with communities on and off the High Line, we're devoted to re-imagining public spaces to create connected, healthy neighborhoods and cities.

Built on a historic, elevated rail line, the High Line was always intended to be more than a park. You can walk through the gardens, view art, experience a performance, enjoy food or beverage, or connect with friends and neighbors—all while enjoying a unique perspective of New York City.

Nearly 100% of our annual budget comes through donations. The High Line is owned by the City of New York and we operate under a license agreement with NYC Parks.

For more information, visit thehighline.org and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#).



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