



Residents

2027

Villa Albertine's 2027 Residents

Villa Albertine is an institution of the French Embassy in the United States, supported by the French government and the Albertine Foundation. It operates under the authority of the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, with the support of the Ministry of Culture.

Welcome to the 2027 Villa Albertine Residency Cohort!

Villa Albertine is delighted to introduce the sixty residents who will be hosted in nearly 25 cities across the United States. Among them are choreographers, musicians, designers, writers, and filmmakers whose backgrounds and artistic sensibilities are as diverse as they are distinctive. Through their creativity and excellence, these artists will help foster a dynamic dialogue between France and the United States. Conceived as opportunities for research, exchange, and exploration, their residencies will be enriched by meaningful engagement with local communities. Rooted in the unique realities of each region and attentive to the pressing issues of our time, these experiences will encourage new perspectives, collaborations, and creative discoveries.

Villa Albertine extends its gratitude to Societe Generale Foundation, major partner of Villa Albertine's residency program.

The 2027 Villa Albertine season, developed in partnership with the Albertine Foundation, benefits from the support of the Bettencourt Schueller Foundation, founding patron of the Crafts & Design residencies

and post-residency program; Fidji Simo; the Ford Foundation; the Recanati-Kaplan Foundation; the Florence Gould Endowment for Literary Exchange; the Fonds de Dotation Transatlantique; GRoW @ Annenberg; Catherine and Mamadou-Abou Sarr; Judith and Leah Pizar; Esther Chui-Chao and Andrea Chao-Kharma; ADIAF; and the French Ministry of Culture.



Composer, pianist

★ Los Angeles

Harry Allouche

In Los Angeles, Harry Allouche will explore the emotional resonances of sound cinema, celebrating its centenary. Drawing on archival research and sensory experiences, his investigation will trace the genealogy of Hollywood's orchestral sound.

Maison des Arts et de la Création (Sciences Po Paris); Semaine de la Critique du Festival de Cannes; Margaret Herrick Library – Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, Los Angeles



Choreographer

★ New York

Philippe Almeida

Philippe "Physs" Almeida, a dancer and choreographer from the underground hip-hop scene, will explore in New York the dialogue between hip-hop and jazz through the music of John Coltrane, envisioning a choreographic ritual merging both forms.

Auditorium de Seynod



Designer, visual artist

★ Los Angeles

Clémence Althabegoïty

In Los Angeles, Clémence Althabegoïty will draw on archival documents, observations of nocturnal environments, and scientific exchanges to examine the environmental and cultural effects of light pollution.

Observatoire de l'environnement nocturne (CNRS), Toulouse; Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles; LACMA, Los Angeles; Bettencourt Schueller Foundation, Paris



Filmmakers

★ Washington, D.C.

Bertrand Amiot & Julien Gaurichon

In Washington, D.C., Bertrand Amiot and Julien Gaurichon will explore the archives of Alan Lomax, the ethnomusicologist who recorded the blues across the segregated American South, retracing his films and African American memory.

Talweg production, Grand-Champ



Designer

★ Los Angeles

Wendy Andreu

In Los Angeles, Wendy Andreu will develop a research project on cotton and silicone to imagine sustainable design pieces. Through this work, she proposes rethinking furniture production through a single-material, zero-waste approach.

Maison et Objet, Paris; Bettencourt Schueller Foundation, Paris



Writer, cultural critic

★ Atlanta

Christelle Bakima Poundza

Christelle Bakima Poundza will meet with Black diaspora communities and third culture kids in Atlanta. Their dreams and aspirations will help shape the protagonist of her forthcoming novel: a Black Parisian fashion photographer.

Institut Français de la Mode, Paris; MansA - Maison des Mondes Africains, Paris; Agence Words in Progress, Ivory-sur-Seine

Multidisciplinary artist,
director

★ San Francisco

Nelly Ben Hayoun Stépanian

In San Francisco, Nelly Ben Hayoun Stépanian will develop *Heartsnatcher*, a queer and free adaptation of Boris Vian's *L'Arrache-Cœur*, blending drag, space sciences, and immersive experiences to imagine new forms of collective peace.

Palais de Tokyo, Paris; Frameline, San Francisco; SETI Institute, Mountain View



Singer, poet

★ Chicago, New York

Nawel Ben Kraïem

In New York and Chicago, Nawel Ben Kraïem will develop an album project inspired by Rachid Taha. Through an exploration of local scenes, she will weave a dialogue between North African oral poetry and African American cultures.

Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris



Musician

★ Boston, New York,
Washington D.C.

Alix Boivert

In the Northeast of the United States, Alix Boivert will study American popular music, rooted not only in Anglo-Scottish traditions but also in African and Indigenous ones, in order to develop a new musical program.

Harmonia Mundi, Arles; Musicancy, Ancy-le-Franc;
Societe Generale Foundation, Paris



Artists

★ New Orleans

Candice Chemel & Raphaël-Bachir Osman

In contact with stakeholders in the gastronomic scene and production networks, Candice Chemel and Raphaël-Bachir Osman will study the plural culinary identity of Louisiana, in an attempt to dissolve the boundaries between cuisine and artistic gestures.

La Kunsthalle, Mulhouse



Cabinetmaker

★ New York

Jean-Brieuc Chevalier

Jean-Brieuc Chevalier will collaborate with artisans in New York to deepen his practice of marquetry and wood embroidery. In their workshops, he will engage with the challenges of passing on craft knowledge, between tradition and innovation.

Campus MaNa, Champignelles; Bettencourt Schueller
Foundation, Paris; WantedDesign, New York

Head of collections
and research

★ Texas

Louise Contant

In Texas, Louise Contant will study the wreck of *La Belle* (17th century), its role in French-American historical and museum narratives, and the challenges involved in preserving and shining light on a submerged, transnational heritage.

Musée national de la Marine, Paris; CNRS, Paris



Artist, designer

★ Los Angeles,
San Francisco

Clara Daguin

Clara Daguin will explore the connections between embroidery and neuro-robotics in Los Angeles and San Francisco. Her research into the transformation of artisanal gesture in the era of brain-machine interfaces will inform a visual manifesto.

Google France, Paris; EnsadLab, Paris; Bettencourt Schueller Foundation, Paris



Filmmaker, visual artist

★ New Orleans

Sylvaine Dampierre

In New Orleans, Sylvaine Dampierre will examine archives on African American soldiers from the Civil War to develop *Black Soldiers, the Suspended Image*, an immersive installation on erased memories.

Memorial ACTe / Centre caribéen d'expression et de mémoire de la traite et de l'esclavage, Pointe-à-Pitre (Guadeloupe)



Sociologist, ethnographer; ★ Austin
Composer, pianist

Jean Daniélou & Camille El Bacha

In Austin, Jean Daniélou and Camille El Bacha will develop a practice at the intersection of ethnography and sound art, making the climate crisis audible by identifying the acoustic signatures of oil infrastructures.

Premier Parallèle, Paris; Outhere music, Paris; University of Texas, Austin



Documentarian

★ Atlanta

Romain de Becdelièvre

In Georgia, Romain de Becdelièvre will investigate the buried history of Lake Lanier, where the submerged town of Oscarville lies, to develop an immersive podcast blending archives and narratives around the erased memories of the American South.

France Culture, Paris



Author, curator, dramaturge ★ Los Angeles

Marie de Brugerolle

Marie de Brugerolle will continue her *Film as Performance* research in Los Angeles, exploring the subtle connections between cinema, performance, and living archives through California's experimental art scenes.

Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris;
Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles



Artist, writer, researcher, ★ Chicago
professor; Artist,
scenographer, miniaturist

Stéphane Degoutin & Juliette Terreaux

Stéphane Degoutin and Juliette Terreaux will study Hugh Hefner's Playboy Mansion in Chicago as an architectural system of predation, in order to develop an essay film based on a miniature reconstruction of the building.

DROP! La chambre des méthodes, Saint-Étienne;
Laboratoire LIAT, Paris; The Art Institute of Chicago



Author ★ North Carolina, Kentucky,
Montana, Wyoming,
Washington, D.C.

Timothée Demeillers

In Atlanta, Chicago, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C., Timothée Demeillers will carry out an investigation among libertarians and sovereign citizens, studying contemporary forms of rejection of state authority and challenges to the legal system.

Les Éditions Marchialy, Paris



Artist ★ Los Angeles

Cécile di Giovanni

In Los Angeles, Cécile di Giovanni will develop *Star Gates*, a research-based installation exploring domestic thresholds and transitional interfaces, where popular fiction, access technologies, and intimate experiences intersect.

Text and Graphics (TaG), Paris; Fidji Simo



Author

★ New York

Asya Djoulaït

In New York, Asya Djoulaït will explore multilingualism and its impact on urban space. This research will inform a children's book at the intersection of literature, sociolinguistics, and geography.

Gallimard, Paris; Festival des littératures urbaines, Paris



Artist

★ Boston

Garance Früh

In Boston, Garance Früh will explore the emergence of American Spiritualism in the 19th century as a paradoxical space of female emancipation, in order to develop a reflection on forms of control over women's voices and bodies.

Palais de Tokyo, Paris



Musician, composer, visual artist; Dancer, cultural projects manager ★ New Orleans

Lunel Gabon & Lunyse Gabon

Lunel and Lunyse Gabon will create a dialogue between Guadeloupean and Louisianan Creole cultures in New Orleans, informing their practice, inspired by Gwoka, at the intersection of music, dance, and the embodied transmission of languages.

Arts Au Pluriales, Baie Mahault (Guadeloupe); Tekrema Center, New Orleans



Musician

★ New York

Salomé Gasselín

Fascinated by a viola da gamba made by Barak Norman and preserved in New York, Salomé Gasselín will bring together instrumental practice, archives, and contemporary creation to explore the contemporary resonances of the viola repertoire.

L'Agence management, Paris; Societe Generale Foundation, Paris



Photographer; Researcher, ★ San Francisco
sound artist

Pauline Gouablin & Mélia Roger

Pauline Gouablin and Mélia Roger will document and map practices of listening to the living environment in fragile ecological contexts, by studying DIY field recording practices in Northern California.

Enceladus Press, Rambouillet; University of California, Berkeley



Artist ★ Los Angeles

Jeff Guess

In Los Angeles, Jeff Guess will focus on American team sports as testing grounds for AI and statistical analysis, where the algorithmization of the game fuels sports betting and predictive markets.

École Nationale Supérieure d'Arts Paris-Cergy;
MA: Aesthetics and Politics - CalArts, Valencia;
Fidji Simo



Artist, filmmaker, author ★ Los Angeles

Vir Andres Hera

Vir Andres Hera will delve into Chicano queer and Mexican memories in California in a film and multidisciplinary project titled *In the Premonition of a Global Chicanismo*.

Bétonsalon, Paris; Institut d'Art Contemporain
Villeurbanne-Rhône-Alpes; Vincent Price Art Museum,
Los Angeles



Agent, consultant ★ Chicago

Binkady-Emmanuel Hié

Founder of the Black Archives Fund of France, Binkady-Emmanuel Hié examines contemporary forms of collecting, curating, and transmitting Afro-descendant memories, and will conduct research in Chicago on local initiatives.

MansA - Maison des Mondes Africains, Paris



Artist-researcher

★ Maine

Martin Hiltenbrand

In Maine, Martin Hiltenbrand will examine the earliest recordings of the Passamaquoddy communities. Through listening, interviews, and translations, he will question these colonial archives and their community-based reappropriation.

EUR ArTeC, Saint-Denis



Painter

★ New York

Anton Hirschfeld

Anton Hirschfeld, a neurodivergent painter, will engage with the city that has always inspired him, New York, transforming his sensory, musical, and urban perceptions into paintings shaped by direct experience of the place.

Galerie Christian Berst Art Brut, Paris

Art historians, curators,
professors

★ New York

James Horton & Pascaline Morincôme

In New York, James Horton and Pascaline Morincôme will retrace the trajectory of Ann Wilson, a figure of the American avant-garde, by studying her archives and her patchwork practice, as groundwork for a future monograph and a group exhibition.

Bétonsalon, Paris



Author

★ Houston

Célia Houdart

Célia Houdart will immerse herself in Karankawa Indigenous culture, exploring its archives, poetic traces, and petroglyphs in order to produce translations and a micro-publication, and to trace the enduring presence of this people of Texas.

Editions P.O.L, Paris



Filmmaker

★ Los Angeles,
San Francisco

Lou Jeunet

In San Francisco and Los Angeles, Lou Jeunet will develop a film freely inspired by M. F. K. Fisher, a pioneer of food writing and the food memoir genre, exploring the connections between the Californian and Burgundian terroirs.

Paradise City, Paris



Creative technologist,
artist, architect (PhD)

★ Atlanta, North Carolina

Mete Kutlu

Mete Kutlu will develop an immersive video essay at the intersection of Cherokee myths and the geology of Spruce Pine, North Carolina, in order to reveal the mineral origins of digital technologies, from quartz to microchips.

Comet Lab, Paris; Fidji Simo



Visual artist, director

★ San Francisco

Maisha Maene

In San Francisco, Maisha Maene will further explore the tensions between technology and resource extraction. Her film research will examine imaginaries and the contemporary ecology of energy and its uses.

Kaani Films, Bégrolles-en-Mauges



Artists collective

★ Houston

mountaincutters

The duo mountaincutters will bring the legacy of American Land Art into resonance with the Texan landscapes and geological forces, through the study of fulgurite, a natural glass formed by lightning strikes.

Palais de Tokyo, Paris; Corsicana Artist & Writer Residency



Artist, photographer,
videographer

★ Los Angeles, New York,
Hawaii

Youssef Nabil

From New York to Hawaii, Youssef Nabil will dedicate a film and photography project to jazz and hula dance, creating a dialogue between these traditions that carry memory, identity, and cultural transmission.

Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Paris



Filmmaker

★ Chicago, Houston,
Los Angeles

Euzhan Palcy

From Chicago to Houston and Los Angeles, Euzhan Palcy will follow in the footsteps of Bessie Coleman, the first Black female aviator, to develop a film that will highlight the challenge of segregation and stories of African American resistance.

Yo30, Rivière Salée



Independent curator

★ Boston

Valentina Peri

In Boston, Valentina Peri will conduct curatorial research on forms of automated intimacy, in order to examine how affective artificial intelligences are transforming relationships, emotions, and practices of care.

Le Cube Garges, Garges-lès-Gonesse; MIT Media Lab -
Advancing Humans with AI, Cambridge



Artist

★ Puerto Rico

Louis Pierre-Lacouture

For a film and choreographic installation, Louis Pierre-Lacouture will immerse himself in the Puerto Rican tradition of the Paso Fino horse, bringing it into dialogue with the music of the minimalist composer Moondog.

Unexpected Films, Paris



Designer, jeweler

★ New York

Élia Pradel

In New York, Élia Pradel will develop a research project on reused metal and assemblage practices, between jewellery and sculpture, in order to examine the links between material memory, fragmentation, and Afro-diasporic narratives.

Francéclat, Paris; Bureau du Design, de la mode et des Métiers d'art, Paris; Bettencourt Schueller Foundation, Paris; WantedDesign, New York



Radio producer, dancer,
author, translator

★ New York, Durham

Myriam Rabah-Konaté

In New York and Durham, North Carolina, Myriam Rabah-Konaté will develop a project on somatic practices and Contact Improvisation from Black perspectives, exploring touch as a vehicle of memory and resistance.

Parallèle - Pratiques artistiques émergentes
internationales, Marseille; Transplantation, Paris



Artist

★ New York

César Augusto Ramírez

Combining artificial intelligence and botany, César Augusto Ramírez will draw inspiration from the plants of Central Park to imagine a herbarium of chimerical plant species, questioning the boundaries between nature and ecological fiction.

École des Arts de la Sorbonne, Paris; Fidji Simo



Artist photographer

★ Miami

Adeline Rapon

In Florida, Adeline Rapon will focus on Afro-descendant memories between the Caribbean and the Haitian diaspora, in order to explore mechanisms of mourning and forgetting, as well as contemporary gestures aimed at repairing ties with ancestors.

La Station Culturelle, Fort-de-France (Martinique); Women Photographers International Archive (WOPHA), Miami



Artist

★ Washington, D.C.

Louis-Cyprien Rials

Louis-Cyprien Rials will draw on U.S. military archives on the Iraq and Afghanistan wars in Washington, D.C., in order to develop a visual essay on the regimes of representation and memory surrounding conflicts.

Galerie Eric Mouchet, Paris; Cadence Films, Paris



Filmmaker

★ Miami

Simon Rouby

In Miami, Simon Rouby will study the Saharan Air Layer, a transatlantic migration of desert dust. In dialogue with choreographer Onye Ozuzu, he will reveal its poetic, scientific, and memorial dimensions.

Centre Pompidou, Paris; Miyu Productions, Paris; OzuzuDances, Gainesville



Réalisateurice

★ New York

Lucia Sanchez

In New York, Lucia Sanchez will conduct cinematic research dedicated to Victoria Kent and Louise Crane, reviving the traces of a transatlantic Spanish Republican exile where political engagement, intimacy, and erased memory intertwine.

Elda production, Paris



Composer, artistic director ★ New York

Benoît Sitzia

In New York, Benoît Sitzia will transcend the notion of voice by also exploring its gestural and cultural dimensions, in order to rethink the relationships between orality, writing, and transmission in contemporary creation.

Ars Nova ensemble instrumental, Poitiers; Societe Generale Foundation, Paris



Visual artist

★ Atlanta

TILT

TILT, will document Atlanta's graffiti as well as the traces of their erasure, in order to map the city's urban transformations through its visual, social, and mnemonic layers.

Musée des Beaux-Arts de Rouen; Toulouse city Hall; Lieu-Commun, Toulouse



Artist

★ Minnesota

Mickaël Vis

Around Walnut Grove (Minnesota), Mickaël Vis will lead a photographic project on the American rural imaginary, which idealizes a pioneering, white, and family-centered America, and its confrontation with contemporary migratory transformations.

Ateliers Médicis, Clichy-sous-Bois



Author

★ South Dakota

Romain Weber

In South Dakota, just a few minutes from Mount Rushmore, Romain Weber will focus on Crazy Horse Memorial, carved directly into the cliff by Korczak Ziolkowski, in order to explore the tensions between the American myth and Indigenous memory.

Les éditions Rivages, Paris



Visual artist

★ San Francisco

Xie Lei

Xie Lei will enrich his visual language with signs drawn from the history of Asian and LGBTQIA+ communities in San Francisco, where he will explore convivance—the process of absorbing another culture while preserving one's own.

ADIAF, Paris

Villa
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