

**NEWS RELEASE**  
**9 September 2019**



## **Ceramics, photography and fashion V&A Residencies announced**

[vam.ac.uk/info/residencies](http://vam.ac.uk/info/residencies) | [#vamresidencies](https://twitter.com/vamresidencies)



Aimee Lax  
Ceramics Residency  
[@aimee.lax](https://twitter.com/aimee.lax)



Moses Quiquine  
Fashion Residency  
[@mosesquiquine](https://twitter.com/mosesquiquine)



Gayle Chong Kwan  
Photography Residency  
[@gaylechongkwan](https://twitter.com/gaylechongkwan)

Three contemporary artists working in ceramics, photography and fashion will embark on a nine-month residency at the V&A next month, through the V&A Residency Programme. Starting 14 October 2019, Aimee Lax, Gayle Chong Kwan and Moses Quiquine will immerse themselves in the V&A's world-leading collections of art, design and performance and begin the process of reinterpreting them through new installations and artworks that offer contemporary perspectives. The programme offers artists and designers a platform to create new work, share their practice with the public through talks, workshops and open studio sessions, and encourage discussion on the modern meaning and civic purpose of museums in the twenty-first century.

- London-based artist and the V&A's new Fashion Resident **Moses Quiquine** seeks to disregard existing boundaries and classifications, whilst maintaining a level of craftsmanship expressing rich detail and visual narrative. Of French Caribbean descent, Quiquine grew up in London, and is interested in the emotional engagement and tension involved in transforming discarded materials to explore themes of identity, representation and mysticism related to race and culture. Known for meticulous research process, and often of inspired by museum collections, he views fashion as a symbolic language; encompassing rich historic references and juxtaposing dialogues within his contemporary archival couture, sculptural fashion, and large-scale tapestries.
- The V&A's new Ceramic Resident **Aimee Lax** presents a notion of nature that can be simultaneously threatening and beautiful. She uses a variety of clays and other materials but porcelain in particular harnesses fragile power for her when commenting on nature, both as we know and imagine it. The ceramic methods she uses in making are traditionally based and the sculptures can exist in a variety of environments, changing through installation and in response to site-specific contexts and questions. Her most recent question of the Anthropocene, takes her on a nuclear exploration of deep time, speculative mutation and communication, in this time of great uncertainty of our energy sources and our future expectations. Her award-winning work has been exhibited across

the UK at a wide range of institutions and exhibitions including the British Ceramics Biennial and the Eden Project. She completed her studies in ceramics at Bath Spa University and the Royal College of Art.

- Incoming Photography Resident **Gayle Chong Kwan** is an award-winning British artist whose photographs, installations, and public-realm events are exhibited nationally and internationally. At the core of Chong Kwan's practice is an expanded and embodied approach to photography, through which she explores simulacra, the sublime, and the politics of food, travel, and waste. Recent work includes Wastescape, Auckland Arts Festival (2019), Quarantine Archipelago, Tai Kwun Hong Kong (2019), The People's Forest, William Morris Gallery (2018), Preserved, Nuit Blanche, City of Toronto (2018), The Fairlop Oak, Barbican (2017). She is currently undertaking a PhD at the Royal College of Art on Imaginal Travel.

**Jennifer Sturrock, Senior Producer of V&A Residencies, said:** *"Each of the residents holds unique creative potential to be explored during their time at the V&A that feels timely for their current practice as well as wider cultural conversations in general. We're always looking at how we might do things differently, attract new voices and challenge perceptions. We want to keep things invigorating and inviting practitioners into the museum makes room for those dialogues to occur, as well as allowing the next generation to see the potential of careers in the creative industries. Our residencies play a critical role in evaluating and reimagining the V&A collections, ultimately facilitating space for practitioners, objects and visitors to meaningfully connect and in doing so, collectively pushing creative practice into new places."*

Since the programme's launch in 2008, the V&A Residency Programme has supported over 60 artists, designers and makers to create innovative, award-winning and beautiful works that push the respective boundaries of their fields. Notable alumni include conceptual and data artist Rachel Ara (2018/19); Julian Melchiorri (2017) – who used his residency to create the world's first living Bionic Chandelier; ceramicist Neil Brownsword (2018/19); and Phoebe Cummings (2010) – winner of the Woman's Hour Craft Prize.

**ENDS.**

**For interviews with any of the residents or V&A spokespeople, or further information, please contact the V&A Communications Office on 020 7942 2502 or email [press.office@vam.ac.uk](mailto:press.office@vam.ac.uk). Images can be downloaded from [pressimages.vam.ac.uk](http://pressimages.vam.ac.uk).**

- The Photography Residency is supported by the Young Patrons' Circle Future Fund.
- To find out more visit: [vam.ac.uk/info/residencies](http://vam.ac.uk/info/residencies) or #vamresidencies
- Since the V&A's inception, it has nurtured and promoted talent by offering space for creating, designing and making within the museum. Famous examples include the photographer Julia Margaret Cameron, who was given a space by founding Director Henry Cole so that she could set up a studio in the museum, to Godfrey Sykes, designer, metalworker and sculptor, who led a Design Studio in the V&A for six years in the museum's early history.