

Still from Ania Freer's Raised by Water, Held by Land, 2025



**SCREENING: *The River Within*, selection of AIRIE.
Foundation Artist Reflections
Ania Freer, Cornelius Tulloch, Sasha Wortzel
January 31 - March 28, 2026**

In conjunction with Ema Ri's installation, *This Too Shall Pass*, Locust Projects is proud to present a selection of videos by past AIRIE Foundation artists in honor of the organization's 25th anniversary year.

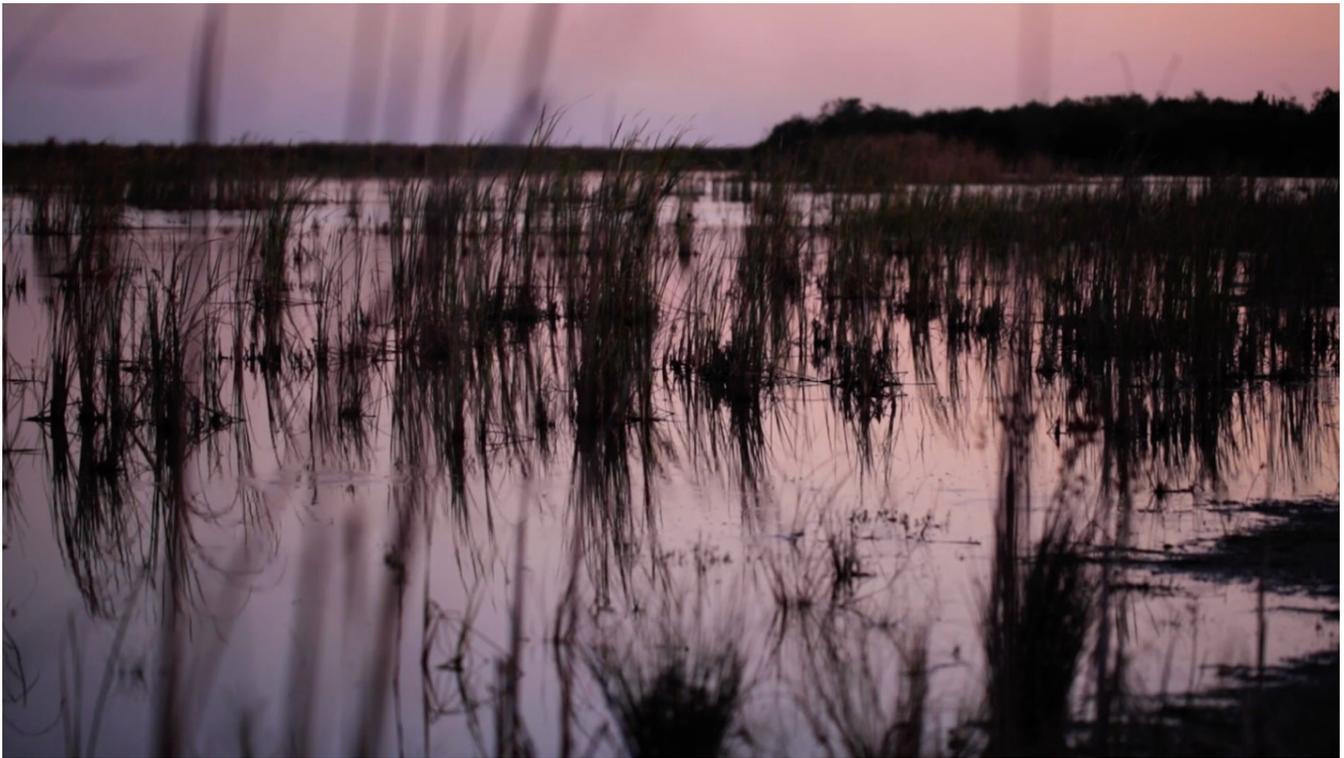
ABOUT AIRIE.Foundation

In 2026 AIRIE.Foundation celebrates 25 Years of Art, Environment, and Imagination. AIRIE.Foundation is dedicated to supporting artists whose work explores the deep connections between art and the environment. For more than a quarter century, AIRIE has operated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization funding and fostering creative research and dialogue through residencies and public engagement.

The AIRIE.Foundation mission remains steadfast: artists are essential problem solvers. Through artistic storytelling, they reveal new narratives and innovative solutions for social and environmental change.

AIRIE.Foundation is stepping into an exciting new chapter in 2026—one that engages with diverse voices and stories into new environments across the globe.





Still from Ania Freer's *Raised by Water, Held by Land*, 2025

ANIA FREER

Raised by Water, Held by Land, 2025 | 19:28 min

Commissioned by AIRIE.Foundation. Includes interviews with Dr. Wallis Tinnie, Dinizulu Gene Tinnie, and Daniel Tommie

Raised by Water, Held by Land is an immersive, multi-sensory installation inspired by the tree island sanctuaries of the Everglades—landforms shaped by water and elevated just above it. The installation features three short films created during Ania Freer's 2022 AIRIE residency and subsequent visits to the Everglades. The installation invites reflection on the fragility of the environments that sustain us, highlighting the intersecting pressures of climate change, colonialism, and systemic imbalance that continue to endanger these ecosystems.

"During my AIRIE residency, I found myself drawn back to the same places—returning at different times of day to listen, to feel. Moving through the park, I felt cared for, as if a gentle, nurturing energy was watching over me. There was a deep sense of being held by the land. That feeling of safety, of reciprocity with the environment, became the foundation for this installation."

– Ania Freer



Still from Cornelius Tulloch's *Elements of Being*

CORNELIUS TULLOCH

Elements of Being | 9:43 min

Creative Direction: Cornelius Tulloch (AIRIE) & Klay Enos (WOVEN)

Curatorial Team: Cornelius Tulloch & Tracey Robertson Carter

Artists: Gentry Isaiah George, Arsimmer McCoy, Kunya Rowley, Cornelius Tulloch, Errollyn Wallen, Diana Wege, Jeff Beal, Eve Beglarian, & Sophy Him

Production Team: Alexa Caravia, Givanete Castillo, Kristina Reinis

“Elements of Being” is an immersive, multisensory experience fusing art and activism through a narrative-based installation. Presented by AIRIE.Foundation x We Oppose Violence Everywhere Now (WOVEN), this groundbreaking collaboration intertwines diverse voices and art forms as catalysts for environmental, social, and racial justice.

AIRIE.Foundation x WOVEN invites viewers to an affirming space where diverse narratives of climate change and underrepresented voices intersect to create intersectional environmental dialogue. The experience explores the convergence of interdisciplinary choral music, painting, opera, performance, and dance. Inspired by the regenerative power of fire, symbolizing both destruction and renewal, the installation delves into the Everglades ecosystem and the prescribed burns conducted by the National Park Service to mitigate wildfires and foster regrowth. Through this exploration, fire becomes a multifaceted metaphor for humanity’s role in addressing ecological crises and fostering collective action for environmental stewardship.

“Elements of Being,” curated by AIRIE Artistic Director Cornelius Tulloch with support from T. Robertson Carter, blends evocative soundscape compositions with recordings from the Everglades, an original opera piece by Kunya Rowley, as well as spoken word by Arsimmer McCoy, immersing audiences in a symphony of sounds. A dance composition from Gentry Isaiah George explores the power of movement as a narrative of environmental preservation and equality.

Earth Requiem, an interdisciplinary performance and installation conceived by Diana Wege, is presented as the nexus between environmental and social justice orchestrated by WOVEN Creative Director Klay Enos

with four movements written by composers Errollyn Wallen, Eve Beglarian, Jeff Beal, and Sophy Him. Earth Requiem seeks to unify all people through a shared love for the planet.

AIRIE. Foundation x WOVEN “Elements of Being” explores a transformative course toward an environmentally sustainable and socially equitable future for the planet and under-acknowledged communities through collective action, inviting all to ignite meaningful change in the urgent dialogue unfolding in the artistic landscape.



Still from Sasha Wortzel's *Geologic Time (RIVER OF GRASS)*

SASHA WORTZEL

Geologic Time (RIVER OF GRASS), 2025 | 3:38 min

RIVER OF GRASS is a present-day reimagining of environmentalist Marjory Stoneman Douglas's celebrated book, "The Everglades: River of Grass," (1947), which forever changed the public's understanding of the area from worthless swamps to an essential source of freshwater, enabling the ecosystem to endure, just barely, today. In the wake of a hurricane, Douglas visits filmmaker Sasha Wortzel in a dream, catalyzing a prismatic journey across the Everglades with Miccosukee educator and activist Betty Osceola. Interweaving Douglas's writing, personal narration, present-day vérité, and archival footage, RIVER OF GRASS reveals how this country's origin story haunts and inextricably shapes contemporary American life, while asking how we might weather coming storms better together.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS



Ania Freer is an Australian-Jamaican artist, filmmaker, cultural researcher, and curator based between New York City and Jamaica. Working in installation, film and curating, Ania uses oral histories to explore identity through themes of resistance, labour, folklore, craft traditions, race and class. Her films disrupt imperialist narratives by recentering marginalized voices and archiving lesser-known histories. Ania's installations have been exhibited at galleries and institutions including the National Gallery of Jamaica and her short film "Strictly Two Wheel" won Best Documentary Short at Trinidad and Tobago Film Festival. She has received fellowships from Creative Time New York, Caribbean Film Academy, New Local Space Kingston and residencies with Lighthouse Works, Art Omi, Ox-Bow and Artist in Residence in Everglades. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and Film Theory from the University of Sydney. **WEBSITE | goatcurrygallery.org**



Cornelius Tulloch is a Miami-based interdisciplinary artist and architect. His work transcends the boundaries of photography, fine art, and architecture, exploring the importance of cultural identity within built environments and how space shapes culture, which in turn cultivates landscapes. Many of Tulloch's projects have been grounded in his upbringing and communities in Miami, as well as inspired by his Jamaican and African-American heritage. His work expresses the ways in which bodies exist between cultures and borders. Tulloch's multidisciplinary practice seeks to redefine and reshape the boundaries of art and space.

Tulloch's work has been shown in institutions such as CUE Art Foundation, New York; Locust Projects; Orlando Museum of Art; and the MAXXI, Rome. His work is presented as part of the permanent collection of the Studio Museum in Harlem. Tulloch has won numerous prizes and residencies; including the Emerging Visionary Grant by Instagram and the Brooklyn Museum and 2024 Artist Laureate for the Bakehouse x Cité internationale des Arts residency in Paris, France. **WEBSITE | corneliustulloch.cargo.site**



Photo credit: Camilo Godoy

Sasha Wortzel is an award-winning filmmaker and interdisciplinary artist using video, installation, sculpture, and sound to explore how past and present are inextricably linked through resonant spaces and their hauntings. Raised in Southwest Florida and based in New York, Wortzel specifically attends to sites and stories systematically erased or ignored from these regions' histories. Wortzel is a recipient of a 2023 Guggenheim Fellowship in Film-Video. Wortzel received an MFA in Integrated Media Arts from Hunter College.

Her films have screened at venues world-wide including at MoMA DocFortnight, CPH:DOX, True/False, Hot Docs, San Francisco International, and Dokufest. Her expanded cinematic work has been exhibited at the New Museum, The International Center for Photography, The Kitchen, and the Douglas F. Cooley Memorial Art Gallery. *RIVER OF GRASS* (2025) is her first feature documentary.

The film won the Pare Lorentz Award from IDA, Hot Docs Joan VanDuzer Special Jury Prize - International Feature Documentary, and Mead Audience Award, among others. The film received institutional support from Sundance, Ford Foundation, Sandbox Films, Knight Foundation, Doc Society, Field of Vision, and Chicken & Egg Pictures.

Her short films include *HOW TO CARRY WATER* (2023), an IDA Awards nominee for best short documentary and currently streaming on Criterion Channel; *THIS IS AN ADDRESS* (2020) distributed by Field of Vision; and *HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MARSHA!* (2018; co-director Tourmaline) which won special mention at Outfest and is in the permanent collection of the Studio Museum of Harlem. Her artwork is in the permanent collections of the Brooklyn Museum, Leslie Lohman Museum of Art, and Miami-Dade County Art in Public Places. She has participated in residencies at MacDowell, Fine Arts Work Center, and Artists in Residence in the Everglades (AIRIE). **WEBSITE | sashawortzel.com**

ABOUT LOCUST PROJECTS

Founded by artists for artists in 1998, Locust Projects is Miami's longest running nonprofit alternative art space. We produce, present, and nurture ambitious and experimental new art and the exchange of ideas through commissioned exhibitions and projects, artist residencies, summer art intensives for teens, and public programs on contemporary art and curatorial practice. As a leading incubator of new art and ideas, Locust Projects emphasizes boundary-pushing creative endeavors, risk-taking and experimentation by local, national and international artists. We invest in South Florida's arts community by providing artists with project grants and empower creative careers by supporting the administrative work of being an artist through professional development resources.



Locust Projects Receives Major Support from: The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation; The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts; The Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners; the State of Florida through the Division of Arts and Culture and the National Endowment for the Arts; The Jorge M. Pérez Family Foundation at The Miami Foundation; Robert Moss; Diane and Werner Grob; Susan and Richard Arregui; Ruth Foundation for the Arts; VIA Art Fund; María Bechily and Scott Hodes; Sarah Arison / Arison Arts Foundation; WEGE Foundation; Funding Arts Network; Hillsdale Fund; Cowles Foundation, Kirk Foundation; and the INCUBATORS.

ART HAPPENS HERE.

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