

t r a n s f o r m e r

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BUCOLIA – an exhibition of new artworks by MK Bailey
February 3 – March 16, 2024

Visionary Leaders Circle Preview Reception: Friday, February 2, 5-7pm

Artist Talk: Saturday, February 3, 1- 2pm

Washington, DC - Transformer is honored to announce *BUCOLIA*, an exhibition of new artworks by DC based artist MK Bailey. An immersive examination of *The Garden* as a site of both immense beauty and tragedy, Bailey's installation uses quietly terrifying gardenscapes as the backdrop for complex, dreamlike narratives. *BUCOLIA* is the follow up to Bailey's participation in the Liana Paredes Fellowship Program, a six-week long residency at the beautiful Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens this past summer, organized in collaboration with Transformer.



"We are thrilled to have partnered with Transformer to open our 2023 Liana Paredes Fellowship Program to visual artists. Welcoming MK Bailey at Hillwood was a wonderful experience. Her work illustrates how artists get inspired from Hillwood's beautiful gardens, unique collections, and rare archives." – Wilfried Zeisler, Deputy Director & Chief Curator of Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens. (hillwoodmuseum.org)

"Transformer is honored to further expand our mission of connecting, promoting and advancing emerging artists through special collaborations with peer organizations, curators and institutions like Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens. We are thrilled to have been able to arrange this opportunity for MK Bailey, and are excited to present the fruits of her summer research at Hillwood through her upcoming exhibition at Transformer." – Victoria Reis, Founder & Director of Transformer.

MK Bailey is a Washington, DC based painter. Her work deals with the more tragic aspects of the feminine experience and is informed by her understanding of nostalgia as a dark force. Bailey is currently in residence at S&R Evermay's Fillmore Studios as a 2023 Washington Awardee. She has had residencies at the Hillwood Museum and the Peter Bullough Foundation, and was a finalist for the 2023 Trawick Prize. Her solo shows include *Secret Garden* at IA&A Hillyer, which was reviewed by *The Washington Post*, and *Ghosts* at Workhouse Arts Center.

Exhibition Programming:

Saturday, February 3 | 1 – 2 PM

MK Bailey in conversation with Wilfried Zeisler at Transformer. Moderated by Victoria Reis.

Saturday, February 17 | 2 - 5 PM

Flower Pressing Workshop. Hosted by Transformer Staff, learn the process of pressing flowers as an art form! Program is free & open to the public. Materials included. Feel free to bring your own special flowers.

Saturday, March 2 | 1 – 4 PM

Luncheon on the Grass hosted by MK Bailey. Bring your lunch and gather amid the *Bucolia* installation with the artist. Program is free & open to the public. Some light bites will be provided.

***BUCOLIA* Exhibition Hours: Weds – Sat | 12 – 6 PM.** Image Credit: MK Bailey, *Tulip Fever Dream*, 2023.



t r a n s f o r m e r is a Washington, DC based 501 (c) 3 artist-centered, non-profit visual arts organization. Founded in June 2002 by artists & arts organizers, Transformer provides a consistent, supportive, and professional platform for emerging artists to explore and present experimental artistic concepts, build audiences for their work, and advance their careers. A catalyst and advocate for contemporary artists and emergent expression in the visual arts, Transformer connects and promotes emerging visual artists within regional, national and international contexts through innovative exhibition and programs partnerships with a broad & diverse range of individual and organizational partners.

t r a n s f o r m e r's 2023/24 Exhibition Series and programs are supported by: DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities/NEA, National Endowment for the Visual Arts, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, S&R Evermay, The CrossCurrents Foundation, The Robert Lehman Foundation, Transformer's Board and Advisory Council, and our Visionary Leaders Circle – a growing group of individual donors & corporate sponsors.

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