

FAIRMOUNT PARK

CONSERVANCY

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**Black Quantum Futurism Creates Immersive Art at Historic Hatfield House**  
***Site-Specific Film and Exhibition Presented by Fairmount Park Conservancy***

August 14 to September 19, 2021 | Opening: Saturday, August 14, 1 - 4pm

Exhibition Open Hours: Wed, Sat, Sun: 1 - 5pm

[myphillypark.org](http://myphillypark.org)

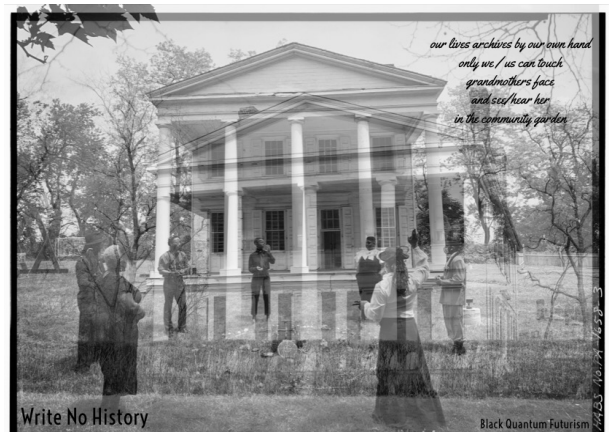
**Tuesday, July 13, 2021 (PHILADELPHIA, PA)** – Fairmount Park Conservancy presents *Ancestors returning again / this time only to themselves*, a site-specific art installation by Black Quantum Futurism (BQF) at the Hatfield House, opening August 14, 2021. The installation debuts *Write No History* (2021), a film directed and produced by BQF with filmmaker Bob Sweeney presented as a video and sound installation inside the Hatfield House. *Write No History* features found and archival footage of The Temporal Disruptors, members of an ancient secret society of Black scientists, healers, and writers transporting a “quantum time capsule” between the future, past, and present. The Hatfield House in Fairmount Park is transformed into a gallery of artifacts and found objects from the secret society.



The *Write No History* film will be presented in timed cycles on monitors and via surround sound speakers throughout the Hatfield House. Visitors will walk through the house to experience the film in segments at their leisure as well as other items on exhibition.

Black Quantum Futurism is an artist collective formed by Camae Ayewa and Rasheedah Phillips, residents of the Strawberry Mansion neighborhood, which borders the Hatfield House in East Fairmount Park. The artists designed the installation for this specific site and filmed *Write No History* on location at the house and other sites.

“As longtime neighborhood residents, the presence of the Hatfield House has always been monumental and mysterious to us. Learning more about its rich history as a former girls’ home, alongside its present activation as



an art space and neighborhood cultural resource, opened up our speculative imagination on what was, is, and could be,” said **Camae Ayewa and Rasheedah Phillips of Black Quantum Futurism**. “The installation considers this spread across time in the relative past/present/future in the site-specific film *Write No History*. It is our honor to create work in the neighborhood we live in and share our arts practice, which has been inspired and fostered by this community for over a decade.”

The Hatfield House, a historic house and community cultural hub, is located at the intersection of North 33rd Street and West Girard Avenue in East Fairmount Park. Originally a farmhouse constructed circa 1760, it is the only all-wood historic house in Fairmount Park and is owned by Philadelphia Parks & Recreation and programmed and managed by Fairmount Park Conservancy. In 2017, with support and guidance from community partners, the Conservancy began the transformation of- the Hatfield House into a community-centered space for art, culture, and history.

“We are honored that Black Quantum Futurism was inspired to showcase their incredible art installation at the historic Hatfield House,” says **Maura McCarthy, Ph.D., Executive Director of Fairmount Park Conservancy**. “Fairmount Park has such a rich history of arts and culture, and we are excited for visitors to experience the house and the park through this new and visionary artistic lens.”

*Ancestors returning again / this time only to themselves* will be open to the public from August 14 to September 19, 2021. Visitors can experience the immersive art installation on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays between 1-5pm. No reservations are required; visitors will be admitted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Masks are required indoors and social distancing protocols will be in place.

This exhibition is organized by [Past Present Projects](#) of CultureTrust Greater Philadelphia.

*Ancestors returning again / this time only to themselves* is generously funded by the Knight Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts with additional support provided by ArtPlace America.

Learn more: <https://myphillypark.org/ancestors-hatfield/>

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**Download high-resolution images and the film trailer here: <http://bit.ly/ConservancyPressKit>.**

*Write No History* is directed and produced by Black Quantum Futurism (Rasheedah Phillips x Camae Ayewa) with filmmaker Bob Sweeney. Featured Temporal Disruptors include: Dominique Matti, Iresha Picot, Marcelline Mandeng, Vernon Jordan III, Angel Edwards, Vitche-Boul Ra, Sheena Clay, Camae Ayewa, Alex Farr, Rodnie King, and Riot Dent.

**[Black Quantum Futurism](#)**, based in Philadelphia, is an interdisciplinary creative practice between Camae Ayewa and Rasheedah Phillips that weaves quantum physics, afrofuturism, and Afrodiasporic concepts of time, ritual, text, and sound. Black Quantum Futurism has created a number of community-based projects, performances, experimental music projects, installations, workshops, books, short films, zines, including the award-winning Community Futures Lab and the Black Woman Temporal Portal. BQF Collective is a 2021 CERN Artist Residents, 2021 Knight Art + Tech Fellows, 2020-2022 Vera List Center Fellow at The New School, 2018 Velocity Fund Grantee, 2017 Center for Emerging Visual Artists Fellow, 2017 Pew Fellow, and

2016 A Blade of Grass Fellow. BQF has presented, exhibited, and performed at Red Bull Arts NY, Chicago Architecture Biennial, Manifesta 13 Biennial, ApexArt NYC, Philadelphia Museum of Art, ICA London, Serpentine Gallery, Monument Lab and more. Learn more at [BlackQuantumFuturism.com](http://BlackQuantumFuturism.com), @blackquantumfuturism.

**Fairmount Park Conservancy** is the non-profit champion of Philadelphia's parks. We lead capital projects and historic preservation efforts, foster neighborhood park stewardship, attract and leverage investments, and develop innovative programs throughout the 10,200 acres that include Fairmount Park and more than 100 neighborhood parks around the city. For more information, please visit [myphillypark.org](http://myphillypark.org), and follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @myphillypark.

**Past Present Projects** organizes contemporary art exhibitions with historic sites. Our projects foster the development of culturally inclusive site narratives and support artists through site-responsive exhibition opportunities. We believe that historic sites are potent community resources, and the best way to preserve them is to engage audiences within these resonant spaces. Past Present Projects is a project of CultureTrust Greater Philadelphia, a charitable 501(c)(3) trust supporting diverse cultural practices in the Philadelphia region. Learn about this project and others at [PastPresentProjects.org](http://PastPresentProjects.org) or on social media @pastpresentprojects.

*Film screenshots courtesy of Bob Sweeney and Black Quantum Futurism.*