



**Painted Bride Art Center Forges a Path through Memory, History  
and Place with *Re-PLACE-ing Philadelphia***

**Philadelphia, Pa**—Painted Bride Art Center is launching, *Re-PLACE-ing Philadelphia*, a multi-faceted project that uses the arts to give voice to unspoken memories and seemingly invisible histories so that they can be reconstructed in ways that encompass a broader community.

The Bride has invited 3 Artist/Thinkers to use their artistic process to view the city and its history. Dancer/choreographer, **Reggie Wilson**, Dancer/choreographer, **Faustin Linyekula**, and theater artist **Marty Pottenger** will make several visits to Philadelphia and in April 2016 they will stage a series of performances, exhibitions, and public dialogues both at the Bride and locations throughout the city.

**Additionally, the project's official website ([re-PLACE-ing.org](http://re-PLACE-ing.org)) will feature community-submitted content. People from all over the Philadelphia region are invited to add images, text, and videos that document their own amendments to Philadelphia history. The site will also serve as an archive for the project and all its events.**

“The beauty of Re-PLACE-ing Philadelphia is its focus on research, creative process, and community participation,” explains Lisa Nelson-Haynes, Associate Director of **Painted Bride Art Center**. “We’re not just asking our Artist/Thinkers to discover new parts of local history, but we’re asking the people of Philadelphia to talk back, share stories, and create the art.”

*Re-PLACE-ing Philadelphia* will mobilize local participation by enacting **Communities-In-Residence (CIRs)**. The CIRs will be open groups of citizens across a range of geographical, cultural, generational and cross-disciplinary perspectives with interest in the Artist/Thinkers research subjects. The members will have full autonomy to plan and host a series of events, such as film screenings, exhibitions, conversations, reading groups, and other events for the larger public to participate.

Re-PLACE-ing Philadelphia has also engaged three advisors, called **Free Radicals**, including **King Britt, Brenda Dixon Gottschild, and Marc Bamuthi Joseph**, to interact with the Artists/Thinkers, CIRs and the public by creating conversations, workshops, and other engagement activities

pertaining to the artists' research. **The next event will be a discussion with Marc Bamuthi Joseph about his process of creating community engagement/outreach activities, scheduled for Monday, July 20th at 5:30 at People's Emergency Center.**

As Painted Bride Art Center nears its 50th anniversary, initiatives like Re-PLACE-ing Philadelphia will serve to influence the organization's next chapter. "Our goal at the Bride is always to be responsive—both to the artists we work with and the audiences to which we present," says **Laurel Raczka, Executive Director of the Bride**. "But now, we're blurring the line between artist and audience, creating a space for cross pollination, and studying what happens when everyone is involved in the creative process from start to finish. In a way, this is our research, too."

**Re-PLACE-ing Philadelphia is now accepting open submissions at [re-PLACE-ing.org](http://re-PLACE-ing.org). The next Re-PLACE-ing Philadelphia event, a discussion with Marc Bamuthi Joseph, will be held Monday, July 20th at 5:30 at the People's Emergency Center, 325 N. 39th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104 . For more information, please visit the official website or email [najja@paintedbride.org](mailto:najja@paintedbride.org).**

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