

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**AAR Introduces Spring 2016 Residents:
William Kentridge, Kara Walker, David Adjaye,
David Stone, and Anna Deveare Smith**

NEW YORK and ROME (January 25, 2016) –The American Academy in Rome announced its slate of Residents for spring 2016. They join the distinguished list of artists and scholars who are invited each year to live and work within the Academy’s community in Rome.

“This season reflects another exceptional range of Residents,” said Mark Robbins, president of the American Academy in Rome. “They are an important part of Academy life and reinforce the vibrant interdisciplinary and creative environment at AAR.”

Joining the AAR community as Residents this season are:

- **David Adjaye**, Principal, Adjaye Associates; architect of the Nobel Peace Centre in Oslo and the new National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C.
- **Michael Bierut**, Partner, Pentagram Design; graphic designer/design critic
- **Adrian Forty**, Professor of Architectural History, The Bartlett, University College London; design and architecture historian
- **Craig W. Hartman**, Design Partner, Skidmore, Owings and Merrill; architect of the Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland and the new U.S. Embassy in Beijing
- **Anna Deveare Smith**, Playwright/Actor; MacArthur Fellow and writer/performer of Obie Award-winning plays such as *Fires in the Mirror* and *Twilight: Los Angeles*
- **Bruce Smith**, Professor of English, Syracuse University; poet and author of several books of poems, including *The Other Lover* (2000), a finalist for the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize
- **David M. Stone**, Professor of Art History, University of Delaware; art historian and specialist in Italian Baroque art known for his expertise and writings on Caravaggio
- **Peter Struck**, Professor, University of Pennsylvania; classicist who studies ancient sign systems, currently working on a study of Greek and Roman divination
- **Kara Walker**, Artist; recent projects include “A Subtlety” at the Domino Sugar Factory in New York and solo exhibitions at the Saint Louis Art Museum and The Art Institute of Chicago
- In addition to the above Residents, AAR will host artist **William Kentridge**, whose time at the Academy is made possible by the Deenie Yudell Fund in the Visual Arts. Kentridge’s work was most recently seen in productions at the Metropolitan Opera (“Lulu”) and the Brooklyn Academy of Music (“Refusal of Time”).

Residents will participate in various events this season as part of the series ***Conversations/Conversazioni: From the American Academy in Rome***. These and other programs emphasize links between the disciplines represented by the AAR community and highlight the impact of Residents' artistic and scholarly work.

Past Residents have included artists **Cy Twombly**, **Isaac Julien**, and **Martin Puryear**, artist and architect **Maya Lin**, architect **Craig Dykers**, writer **Francine Prose**, historians **David Kertzer** and **Anthony Grafton**, and many others who have made significant contributions to culture and scholarship.

AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME / THE ROME PRIZE

Founded in 1894, the American Academy in Rome is the oldest American overseas center for independent study and advanced research in the arts and humanities. A not-for-profit, privately funded institution, the Academy awards the Rome Prize to a select group of artists and scholars annually, after an application process that begins each fall. The winners, selected by independent juries through a national competition process, are invited to Rome the following year to pursue their work in an atmosphere conducive to intellectual and artistic experimentation and interdisciplinary exchange. Fellowships are offered in the following categories: Literature, Music Composition, Visual Arts, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Design, and Historic Preservation and Conservation, as well as Ancient, Medieval, Renaissance and Early Modern, and Modern Italian Studies.

In addition to the Rome Prize winners and Italian Fellows, the Academy also invites a select group of Residents, Affiliated Fellows, and Visiting Artists and Scholars to work together within this exceptional community in Rome.

The annual application deadline for the Rome Prize is 1 November. To learn more about the Rome Prize or the American Academy in Rome, please visit: www.aarome.org.

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