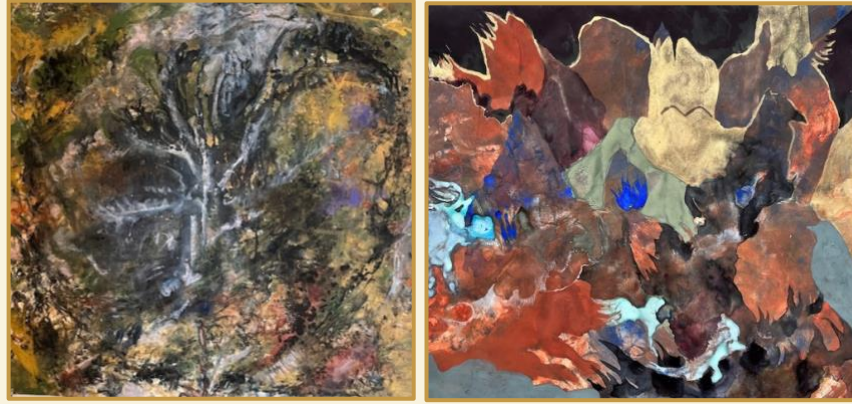




The School of 3 Lights
the training of the Muse

A Residency for the Muse #4

May 24-June 1, 2024



Whitethorn and Kin, Shantelle Courvoisier Jackson, 2023* *12 of 19 ~ Blue Fire*, Sarah H. Paulson, 2023*

A Year-Long Residency ~ The 2024 Application

Please answer the questions below. Add extra pages as needed for the narrative answers. This application is privileged and private and will only be read by the administrators of this residency. The application will assist you in focusing your intent on entering this training. It provides the material for a conversation with Laura each year without assumption. It is our hope that it will also provide a vehicle for you to commit to your evolving understanding of the call of the artist, the conscious presence of the muse.

Your application will assist us in ascertaining whether this training is appropriate for you at this time. Also, it allows a focus for the residency to arrive through dialogue. If you are not admitted into this year's residency, Laura will meet with you to focus your training for the coming year, should you want to reapply next year. We begin this residency program knowing that the training is many years. Ah, the time it takes to simply master the scales or the breadth of the color blue. This training is not necessarily for anyone who wants it, neither is it to be kept from any artist serious about entering it. The safety and stability of each practitioner is paramount.

The Empty Cup. Necessary to serve tea. The title of my Master's thesis. A simple nearly singular line image. Everything is within the empty cup. And here This is where I am now. A certain intelligence for the rest of the way. (God help me here). will travel by to the end. What then? Mold the horses!' Go by day, Go by night. Undo shape meant to be. Do this swiftly. I speak to to the teacher? Am I speaking to God? How speaking? I am speaking to the sliver of sky, like Yunis Emre in the well. Katherine West. Application to the Residency '23



* The blank canvases, upon which these two paintings began, were not actually blank. They were created during the opening night of The School of 3 Lights Artist Residency program, when for hours, a small group of artists, dancers, writers, and musicians dipped their feet in pigment and walked, gestured, slid, and jumped on a paper-covered floor, leaving behind footprints and sweeping marks of color. The footprint-speckled paper was later cut up into smaller pieces upon which Sarah H. Paulson and Shantelle Courvoisier Jackson began making paintings.



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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Name:

Date:

DOB:

Email and Phone:

Emergency Contact: (name, email, phone)

Hospital, preferred: (only if necessary)

Doctor (name, location and phone): If you are currently on any psych meds, please include your psychiatrist/therapist as well as general practitioner.

Have you or will you have received the COVID vaccine:

Vocation: (if relevant)

Any relevant training:

OTHER PERSONAL INFORMATION Please answer the following questions on an additional document.

Other work history that you believe would be important for us to know/relevant to this work:

Life circumstances current or foreseeable that are/will become part of this training: This might include family, children, illness, other training programs, re-location, time constraints, etc. Please include any new information here.

Medical History (relevant) as well as a brief description of your current physical and mental health: Please list all current medications. Do you foresee any limitation to the training either physically or mentally? Please be specific if there are supports to your health that you require, and therefore need to be included in the structure of the training. Please list any serious allergies. Include any history of addiction and also recovery. Use of mind-altering substance is not permitted in this training.

NARRATIVE QUESTIONS Please answer the following questions on an additional document. This writing will be anywhere from 3-10 pages long. Welcome.

1. Please write a short description of your current practice, that includes your needs/aspirations for further training? This will include your current understanding of art and your work, as well as where your experience/training falls short of the need and what you see is possible. Include in this your perception of some of your strengths and weaknesses as an artist. If you were part of the 2021 Residency it is important to write something here of how the training lives in your life and practice now.

2. What is your current understanding of the muse? What experience do you bring, personally, if any, to this question? And how might you imagine what “the training of the muse” means to you? This might include mistakes in your past or particular experiences when such guidance was made clear. If you were part of the 2021 Residency it is important to write something here of how your consciousness of the muse has developed.



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3. If you can, please share one dream or one clear experience inside the light of this tradition that communicates your connection to or vocation with this school: Such a dream might involve training experiences in the night or a memory returned from Antiquity or a direct experience of the grace of this tradition. Please share the experience and then your reflection of it.

4. If you have been training with Laura sometime over the past 12 years, please answer the questions here. If you are coming here for the first time, you need not answer this question.

1. What matters most to you about working inside the Songs of Creation? And, therefore, what inspires you to enter the training more deeply?
2. How has the training thus far impacted your life? Some might speak of growth, others development, others skill or truth, integrity or surrender. How have you changed as the result of studying here?
3. What have the major obstacles been in your presence, participation, understanding, work here? What from 2021 is essential to bring to light here? Being teachable?

5. If you are arriving to this training for the first time, please write telling me something of what brings you here. What are you seeking in this training?

6. Difficulties in yourself being taught that you foresee, that would be of use to tell me. This could include fears, learning difficulties, deep concerns that remain unanswered, etc. If you were part of the 21 Residency you may have more succinct and clear thoughts here, from your experiences then and since then.

7. Anything more? Why you would like to enter this training? Anything you have not said that you would like to say.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Reliable accounts speak to the gods in the language of our desires and longings, but accurate reports have yet to arrive in the sense that the gods need to consent to our meeting. [the meeting of humans and gods]. The life of one who speaks to the gods must be carefully looked after. A cushion is necessary between the physical and immaterial world, as the spiritual body is prepared as an instrument. Lexicons of books have been left for us to enter them, not write them. We've forgotten this, thinking we are gods, thinking we are the impetus for knowledge. But no—we must not take this as our own page. So speak from inside the tradition.

First is the sainthood. Second is the compass that sets the seeker in the direction towards the source. Third is the message that the seeker is. Fourth is the mark the seeker's footstep makes. Fifth is the breath that returns him to his teacher. Sixth are her ears, finally bound to her heart. Seventh is his life. Eighth is eternity, the call of the wild. Nine is not to be spoken of here. Ten is completion. 11 is his instincts returned to earth. 12 is the Song. 13 is the gathering. 14 is the lifeblood of the school. And 15 is the hand that holds them all.

Like the saints that spoke in symbolic stories, we enter a new beginning with the opening of the School of 3 Lights. The lent hands must be felt. We must give our bodies to be sculpted. If we cannot be shaped, such schooling will be for naught. If the shepherd lost his sheep, his occupation would cease to hold his life. Scribe Notes. Song of the 12 Points of the Starry Skies: 2021 Residency

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