## Four Decades Supporting Cultural Activism

Astraea's Global Arts Fund showcases and connects art by LGBTQI people and organizations globally who are using art as a tool for social transformation. The fund is committed to supporting art by LGBTQI people with the least access to resources. In our nearly 40-year history we have granted over \$4 million to more than 200 individuals and 300 organizations, supporting writers like *Audre Lorde* and *Cheryl Clark* and new honorees such as singer-songwriter *Be Steadwell* and arts collective *East African Visual Artists*.

Creativity is essential to organizing. Activists boldly imagine new tactics, strategies and visions for a world we strive to bring into being."

J. Bob Alotta Executive Director, Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice

#### 2017 Global Arts Fund Recipients

Akwaeke Emezi - New York, USA
Annie Gonzaga - Salvador Bahia, Brazil
awQward - Seattle, Washington, USA
Be Steadwell - Washington, DC, USA
Cyrée Johnson - New York, USA
East African Visual Artists - Uganda
India Davis - Bay Area, California, USA
Jova Lynne - Detroit, MI, USA
Kiyan Williams - New York, USA
Las Nietas de Nonó - San José, Puerto Rico
Shaylanna Luvme - Boston, MA, USA

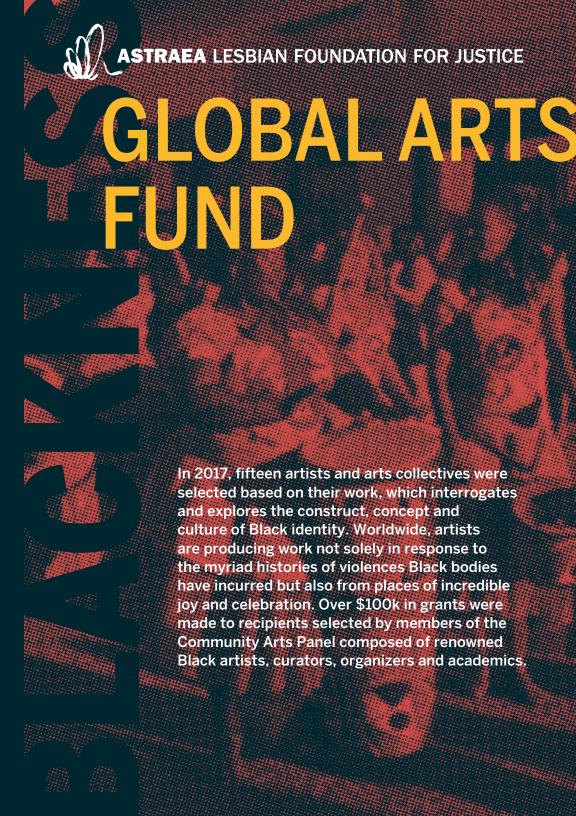
Sokari Ekine & Gathoni Blessol - Brooklyn, NY, USA Tiona Nekkia McClodden - Philadelphia, PA, USA UCT: The Trans Collective - Cape Town, South Africa

Yaneris Gonzáles Gómez - Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

#GlobalArtsFund globalartsfund.tumblr.com Astraeafoundation.org info@astraeafoundation.org



ASTRAEA LESBIAN FOUNDATION FOR JUSTICE



# ASTRAEA GLOBAL ARTS FUND SPOTLIGHT

#### Be Steadwell

Washington, DC

Be Steadwell is a singer-songwriter and filmmaker from Washington, DC. In her live performances, Be utilizes loop pedal vocal layering and beat boxing to compose her songs on stage. Be is producing *Queer Love Songs Mixtape*, a two-sided album including six of Be Steadwell's previously recorded songs and six new original songs. The album will feature other queer musicians and poets who are part of Be's national and international communities.

#### East African Visual Artists

Uganda

East African Visual Artists is an LGBTI organization based in Uganda fully committed to the multimedia documentation and presentation of LGBTI and sex workers' activities and real life stories from individuals and organizations. They will work on Resilience Dairies: Stories of Transgender Persons, a one-hour documentary film and series of three short ten-minute documentaries focusing on the legal challenges, policies, health and personal resilience stories of transgender people in Uganda.



East African Visual Artists



### Shaylanna Luvme

Incarcerated in New York

Shaylanna Luvme is an artist and member of Black and Pink. She's currently incarcerated in Auburn, New York. Her work depicts the realities that queer and trans people experience on the inside. Shaylanna will continue to draw as a way to resist from the inside. In her words, "We must stand together in our fight for TQGQLB rights and also end prison sexual violence, gender and sexual oppression, institutional oppression and unlawful acts by the prison authorities."



#### **India Davis**

San Francisco

India Davis is a choreographer, trained acrobat, aerialist and pole dancer who combines physical feats with multidisciplinary art forms to illustrate the breadth of her inspirations. Her visionary work has been shown both nationwide and internationally and is guided by themes of spirit and the link between legacy, timelessness and the body. She is the Artistic Director and cofounder of *Topsy-Turvy Queer Circus*, presenting its 5th annual production PARADISE2 - an explicitly Black and queer, afro-surreal, fantasy, multidisciplinary circus production.