

# SHAKER MUSEUM | MOUNT LEBANON

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Shaker Museum | Mount Lebanon Receives Grant to Fund Artist's Residency at Historic Shaker Site**

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Shaker Museum | Mount Lebanon received a grant in the amount of \$47,671 from the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) to support an artist's residency, exhibition, and arts programming for community members this summer at its historic Shaker site in New Lebanon, NY. The funding was made available through the Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) Initiatives.

New York City based Japanese American artist Amie Cunat will be in residence at Mount Lebanon in May and June. During that time, she will continue her work exploring and interpreting Shaker material culture; curate a group exhibition of artists whose work engages with Shaker values and craftsmanship; and create a site-specific



Amie Cunat's installation *Meetinghouse* at Victori + Mo (Brooklyn) in 2018

installation. In addition, she will organize community oriented workshops that invite participants to work with contemporary artists, investigate Shaker history, and explore the Shaker landscape. Cunat holds an MFA from Cornell University, a Post-Baccalaureate in Painting and Drawing from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and her BA in Visual Art and Art History from Fordham University. Her recent installation *Meetinghouse* at Victori + Mo in Brooklyn, NY reimagined a Shaker meeting house in

paper materials and vibrant hues. She has also had solo-exhibitions in New York at Knockdown Center, Sunroom Project Space at Wave Hill, and The Cooper Union, among others. Cunat's work has been reviewed and featured by *The New York Times*, *ARTnews*, *Artsy*, *Artnet News*, *Two Coats of Paint*, and *Hyperallergic*.

This is the third year in a row that the Shaker Museum has received funding from NYSCA through the REDC Initiatives. In 2018 a Workforce Investment grant allowed the Museum to transition its Director of Advancement from part-time to full-time. In 2017, a grant from NYSCA in observance of the centennial of women's suffrage in New York State supported the Museum's exhibition "Break Every Yoke: Shakers, gender equality, and women's suffrage."

"We're so grateful for this continued support from New York State," said Lacy Schutz, the Museum's Executive Director. "It recognizes the value and positive impact of the arts in local communities, and the importance of the work the Shaker Museum is doing."

Shaker Museum | Mount Lebanon stewards the historic site in New Lebanon, New York, which is open year-round for hiking and self-guided tours, and offers tours, exhibitions, and public programs seasonally. The museum also has a campus in Old Chatham, New York, open year-round by appointment, where the administrative offices, collections, library, and archives are housed. The museum's collection of over 56,000 Shaker items is the most comprehensive collection of its kind in the world. Please visit [shakerml.org](http://shakerml.org) for more information, to explore the collection online, and to find out about programming in 2019.