

## M. Saida Agostini

Owings Mills, Maryland 21117

saida.agostini@gmail.com

### Select Publications

---

Plume, January 2021	<i>two poems</i>
Hobart Pulp, Fall 2020	<i>notes on archiving erasure</i>
Neon Hemlock Press, Fall 2020	<i>STUNT</i> , chapbook
Barrelhouse Magazine, February 2020	<i>five poems</i>
Auburn Avenue, February 2020	<i>two poems</i>
Origins, April 2018	<i>Bresha Meadows Speaks on Divinity</i>
Beltway Poetry Quarterly, April 2018	<i>Envisioning the Future</i> (co-editor)
Drunk in the Midnight Choir, Spring 2018	<i>five poems</i>
Split This Rock, Poem of the Week, June 2017	<i>Harriet Tubman is a Lesbian</i>
Not Without Our Laughter: Poems of Humor, Sexuality & Joy Edited by Celeste Doaks Mason Jar Press, April 2017	<i>six poems</i>
Baltimore Sun, Op Ed, November 2016	<i>The Burden of Black Women</i>
pluck! The Journal of Affrilachian Arts & Culture Poets Speak Out, Fall 2015	<i>if tamir rice and eric garner wore heels</i> Black

### Installations

---

Waller Gallery, Baltimore, MD, Fall 2019

*just let the dead in*

A multimedia installation meditating on traditions of resistance, violence and blackness. Through poetry, audio, projections, recordings and audio, the artist explores the mythologies used to subjugate Black and Brown bodies in Guyana, and how they reclaim the fantastic to build a pathway to liberation. It is a love poem to Guyana, queerness, the Pomeroon River, and families surviving colonization.

## **Selected Art Activism & Programming**

---

Rooted Collective, Founder, June 2016 to Present

Liberatory gathering of Black LGBTQ people dedicated to defining, dreaming and expanding how we heal from oppression, and foster resistance. A cultural organizing space, Rooted has curated several spaces blending art and healing for Black LGBTQ community members in Baltimore, including *Living Altars*, a Black LGBTQ healing space merging dance, song, and poetry hosted by the Baltimore Museum of Art.

FORCE: Upsetting Rape Culture, Chief Operating Officer, October 2016 to December 2018

Survivor artist collective dedicated to ending rape culture. In capacity as COO, developed and launched the *Love Poems for Bresha* action to build healing spaces for Black trans/cis/non-binary femmes and girls who have been incarcerated for defending themselves against sexual and domestic violence. These actions – which blended poetry, music, drumming and libations, took place in six cities nationwide, including Baltimore, Memphis, Ferguson, St. Louis, Norfolk, VA, and Denver. Partnered with awQward, a trans and queer people of color talent agency to host #decriminalizesurvival, a twitter haiku open mic honoring Black survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

## **Selected Readings**

---

Split This Rock Conference, *Black Ladies Brunch Collective*, Washington, DC, March 2020

Waller Gallery, *just let the dead in*, Baltimore, MD, November 2019

Outwrite Poetry Festival, Washington, DC, August 2019

AWP Conference & Book Fair, *becoming our own gods*, Portland, OR, March 2019

## **Selected Honors**

---

Blue Mountain Center Residency, July 2018

Rubys Artist Grant, Deutsch Foundation, Fall 2017

Graduate Fellow, Cave Canem, 2013-2017

Fellow, The Watering Hole, 2014