

# SOLIDARITY LOOM

Weaving a Global Network of Engaged Creatives

in a world of rising authoritarianism

virtual series January-June 2026

## ARTISTS AT RISK

May 15

11 am EDT | 12 pm BRT | 5 pm  
CEST | 4 pm WAT | 6 pm EAT  
6 pm AST | 8:30 pm IST

REGISTER at:  
[www.impactart.org](http://www.impactart.org)



# THE SESSION FLOW

**5 minutes**

## **Welcome and Introduction**

Armine Avetisyan (IMPACT)  
Toni Shapiro-Phim (PBA)

**5 minutes**

## **GROUNDING RITUAL**

Zoya Sardashti

**20 minutes**

### → **PART 1: PRESSURES & RISKS**

- Where in your work do you perceive the greatest pressures or risks today?
- How have these evolved in the current global context?

**15 minutes**

### → **PART 2: SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT & SOLIDARITY**

- What would need to change in current systems of support and protection to meaningfully strengthen solidarity and response?

**15 minutes**

### → **PART 3: PROGRESS & INNOVATION**

- Where are you seeing the most promising progress or innovation?
- What could be scaled or replicated?

**20 minutes**

## **AUDIENCE Q&A AND REFLECTIONS**

**5 minutes**

## **CONCLUDING THOUGHTS FROM SPEAKERS**

**5 minutes**

## **CLOSING READOUT & WRAP-UP**

## **JULIE TRÉBAULT**

### **Artists at Risk Connection (ARC)**

Julie Trébault is Executive Director of the Artists at Risk Connection (ARC), where she champions artistic freedom and supports at-risk artists worldwide. She previously led public programs at the Museum of the City of New York and the Center for Architecture, and earlier built global museum networks and academic initiatives in Europe. She holds graduate degrees from the Sorbonne and the University of Strasbourg and has taught at Fordham University. She speaks French, English, and Spanish.



## **ALVIN STARKS**

### **Borealis Philanthropy**

alvin starks brings decades of expertise in philanthropy, racial equity, and social justice leadership to his role at Borealis. With a career spanning strategic grantmaking, racial justice advocacy, and movement building, alvin has been a visionary advocate for transformative social change that expands and shapes an inclusive multiracial democracy. His work ensures that philanthropic resources reach the vibrant communities and innovative leaders that are critical towards advancing dignity, belonging, justice and power. His leadership reflects a deep commitment towards advancing equity, movement building, and innovative advocacy that secures freedom and inclusion.



## TANIA BRUGUERA

### Contemporary artist, activist, and cultural strategist

Tania Bruguera (b. 1968) is a Cuban artist, activist, and cultural strategist whose work explores political power and social justice, using art to turn spectators into active citizens. She developed concepts such as Arte Útil and Political Timing-Specific Art, and founded initiatives including Cátedra Arte de Conducta, Immigrant Movement International, and INSTAR, while also helping organize Cuba's 27N protest movement. Her internationally exhibited work includes presentations at Tate Modern, Documenta, and the Venice Biennale, with solo projects at MoMA and Centre Pompidou. She is the recipient of major awards including the Velázquez Prize, Prince Claus Award, and Prix de Rome.



## MAJED SAWALHA

### The Palestinian House of Friendship

Majed Sawalha is an award-winning hip-hop artist and co-director of the Palestinian House of Friendship. He graduated college with a BA in English Language and Literature. He has a masters degree in International Relations and Diplomacy, and is pursuing his PhD. He has completed trainings in conflict resolution and psychology, and has traveled the world. At the beginning of the war in Ukraine he led a team in Europe working with Ukrainian refugees. He is a shining example of a young activist crossing borders and connecting struggles.



## ZOYA SHOJAE SARDASHTI

**Performing artist, educator, researcher**

Zoya Shojaee Sardashti is an Iranian American performing artist, educator, and researcher working between The Hague, Laguna Niguel, and Seoul. They are the founder of Home Soil Projects, a transdisciplinary platform for participatory performance and arts-based peace education supporting communities navigating migration, displacement, and social exclusion.

Grounded in devised theatre and dance, Zoya's practice integrates embodied reflection with feminist and postcolonial theory, generating personal and collective narratives through collaborative, arts-based research. Their work has been presented internationally at venues including Liebig 12 (Transmediale/CTM Festival), the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace, Museion Atelier, Mare Culturale Urbano, and Teatro La Compagnia, as well as in group exhibitions in San Diego.





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