

Art Looks Through Water

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A Studio in the Woods awarded residencies to five artists for its series called “Ebb & Flow: Dialogues Between Art and Water.” These artists will base their work on the premise that South Louisiana can be seen as a microcosm of the global environment.



Five artists will work on projects with residencies in a series called “Ebb & Flow: Dialogues Between Art and Water” at A Studio in the Woods, a peaceful retreat in Lower Coast Algiers. (Photo by Paula Burch-Celentano)

“The water we experience is not just hydrogen and oxygen but is the intersection of water as a physical, economic, legal, spiritual, cultural and artistic thing,” says Mark Davis, director of the Tulane [Institute on Water Resources, Law & Policy](#) and a member of the studio's board.

[Rebecca Snedeker](#), an independent documentary filmmaker and native New Orleanian, will use her residency to begin a collaborative book project, *Infinite City*:

A New Orleans Atlas, the second in a series of atlases documenting three port cities: San Francisco, New Orleans and New York.

New Orleans poet Benjamin Morris will write a collection of poems that examine the changing ecology of the bottomland hardwood forest, exploring the landscape as well as its impact on those who dwell there. He will lead a writing workshop, give public readings and engage the community in the [Creative Climate](#) initiative.

Roy Staab of Milwaukee, a pioneer in site-specific environmental art installations, will use his residency as the background for a piece joining waters and woods. Since 1983, Staab has made large works in/over water, using only natural materials gathered from nearby.

Katie Holten, a native of Ireland now residing in New York, will investigate, through the specific conditions of New Orleans and the Mississippi River Delta, mankind's relationship with the natural world in the "Anthropocene," a term for the current geologic period marked by mankind's impact on the world.

Award-winning documentary filmmaker Maia Harris of New York will produce a film about the Louisiana wetlands and their relationship to the human, plant and animal communities that live around them.

[A Studio in the Woods](#), a program of Tulane University, is located in Lower Coast Algiers within the city limits of New Orleans. It provides a peaceful retreat where visual, literary and performing artists can work uninterrupted.