

Liza Mullett, "Cultured City Guide: The Aspen Art Scene Return For The Summer," *Cultured*, July 2, 2021

## CULTURED

### Cultured City Guide: The Aspen Art Scene Returns For the Summer

In recent years Aspen has emerged as one of North America's great contemporary art destinations. After a chaotic year, the Colorado culture haven is now reopening with a bounty of exhibitions, talks, angels, gardens and summer festivals.



Aspen Art Museum, which will host its annual ArtCrush festival this summer. Photography courtesy of Aspen Art Museum.

#### Precious Okoyomon at the Aspen Art Museum

Precious Okoyomon (<https://www.culturedmag.com/poet-precious-okoyomon-performance-artist-young-artists-2020/>) is building an ecosystem to last through the seasons: Every Earthly Morning the Sky's Light touches Ur Life is Unprecedented in its Beauty. On the rooftop of the Aspen Art Museum, the artist and recipient of the 2021 Frieze Artist Award will blend sculpture and organic matter, culminating in a garden that reflects themes of both pleasure and abundance, and colonization and enslavement. Okoyomon will cross-pollinate plants that are indigenous or invasive to the region as part of their ongoing exploration of the racialization and colonization of the natural world— but in a bid of hope and love, they will erect colossal "angel protector" statues to safeguard the garden and those within it. As each solstice passes, Okoyomon will celebrate Black feminism and queerness in the company of friends, who will also contribute to the installation. Dreamy and celestial, yet grounded firmly in dirt and truth, Okoyomon's garden will be something of this world and beyond.





Precious Okoyomon. Photography by Sam Penn.