

Individual
Excellence Awards

PANELIST
BIOGRAPHIES

FY 2021

Tracy Templeton is a printmaker who uses the photo intaglio method and bridges it with digital drawing and other new media. Her work is often derived from personal moments of struggle or unfolding change and expands to encompass larger cultural issues and commonalities across human experience. She is a specialist in photographic etching and has lectured all over the world on this unique process. Her work is in more than 30 different public collections, such as the Istanbul Museum of Painting and Sculpture in Turkey. Templeton won Honorary Mention at the Seoul Print Biennial and third place in the Great Canadian Printmaking Competition in addition to being awarded numerous artist grants during her career. She currently is the head of printmaking at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. She received her MFA from the University of Alberta.

Wesley Clark is a mixed media painter who uses acrylics, oils, resin, spray paint, wood, wood stains, and sculptural elements to make his skillful and tactile work. Clark's art deals with the complexity and reality of being a Black American in our country. He has done numerous large-scale public art pieces for clients like Ron Brown College Preparatory High School and Benjamin Moore, among others. Clark has been a visiting artist lecturer at venues like the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Breakfast in Silver Spring, Maryland. His work has been published in *The Washington Post*, *Nashville Arts Magazine*, and *The Baltimore Sun* and has shown in numerous galleries and exhibitions across the country. He earned his MFA in studio arts from George Washington University.

Sadow Birk is a Los Angeles-based painter and multi-media artist whose work deals with themes of contemporary life like travel, war, prisons, inner-city violence, graffiti, as well as surfing and skateboarding. He is a recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Travel Grant to Mexico City to study mural painting, and he has also received a Guggenheim Fellowship and a Fulbright Fellowship for painting in Rio de Janeiro. Birk was also an artist in residence at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C., and at the Cite Internationale des Arts in Paris. He has been involved with many public murals in California, but his most recent project involves consideration of the Quran as relevant to contemporary life in America. He received his BFA in painting from Otis Art Institute of Parsons School of Design in Los Angeles.

