(June 6, 2022, Santa Fe, NM) – SITE Santa Fe is thrilled to present its annual Innovative Thinker Summer Speaker Series, bringing together high-profile visionaries to discuss thought-provoking and complex cultural issues. This year, SITE Santa Fe will host two public conversations: Priya Parker with Wendy Woon, and Anand Giridharadas with Amy Whitaker. This series will cover poignant topics, including interpersonal connection in the pandemic era and the vast inequities of the art world.

“At SITE Santa Fe we are committed to providing opportunities for audiences to engage in thoughtful discourse on topical and timely issues. Our Innovative Thinker Summer Speaker Series presents conversations by expansive thinkers and writers from all disciplines informing us on cultural shifts and inspiring us to look at the world from different perspectives. We’re grateful for the generosity and enthusiasm of the Gale Family Foundation for their sponsorship of this not-to-be-missed series.” – Louis Grachos, Phillips Executive Director

-more-
SITE Santa Fe is grateful to the Gale Family Foundation for their significant support of the Innovative Thinker Summer Speaker Series. This annual event honors SITE Santa Fe’s former Director of Education, Juliet Myers.

Innovative Thinker Summer Speaker Series will take place at SITE Santa Fe in the Marlene Nathan Meyerson Auditorium.

Tuesday, July 26, at 6:00 PM  
*The New Era in (Re)Gathering*: Priya Parker with Wendy Woon

Thursday, July 28, at 6:00 PM  
Anand Giridharadas with Amy Whitaker

**Tickets:**  
[https://sitesantafe.org/event/innovative-thinker-summer-speaker-series/](https://sitesantafe.org/event/innovative-thinker-summer-speaker-series/)

**About the Speakers:**

**Priya Parker** is helping us take a deeper look at how anyone can create collective meaning in modern life, one gathering at a time. She is a master facilitator, strategic advisor, acclaimed author of *The Art of Gathering: How We Meet and Why it Matters*, and executive producer and host of the *New York Times* podcast, *Together Apart*. Parker has spent 15 years helping leaders and communities have complicated conversations about community and identity and vision at moments of transition. Trained in the field of conflict resolution, Parker has worked on race relations on American college campuses and on peace processes in the Arab world, southern Africa, and India.

Parker is a founding member of the Sustained Dialogue Campus Network, a member of the World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council on Values and the New Models of Leadership, and a senior expert at Mobius Executive Leadership. She studied organizational design at M.I.T., public policy at the Harvard Kennedy School, and political and social thought at the University of Virginia.
Parker’s *The Art of Gathering: How We Meet and Why It Matters* (Riverhead, 2018) has been named a Best Business Book of the year by Amazon, *Esquire Magazine*, NPR, *The Financial Times*, 800-CEO-READS, and Bloomberg. She has spoken on the TED Main Stage, and her TEDx talk on purpose has been viewed over 1 million times.


Anand Giridharadas is a writer. He is the author of *Winners Take All: The Elite Charade of Changing the World*, *The True American: Murder and Mercy in Texas*, and *India Calling: An Intimate Portrait of a Nation’s Remaking*. A former foreign correspondent and columnist for *The New York Times* for more than a decade, he has also written for *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, and *Time*, and he is the publisher of the popular newsletter *The Ink*.

He has spoken on stages around the world and taught narrative journalism at New York University. He is a regular on-air political analyst for MSNBC.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, he was raised there, in Paris, France, and in Maryland, and educated at the University of Michigan, Oxford, and Harvard.

His writing has been honored by the Poynter Fellowship in Journalism at Yale, the Porchlight Business Book of the Year award, the Outstanding Lifetime Achievement Award for Humanism in Culture from Harvard, and the New York Public Library’s Helen Bernstein Award. He lives in Brooklyn, New York, with his wife, Priya Parker, and their two children.

Wendy Woon is an artist, educator, instigator, cultivator, partner, parent, friend, and mentor with over 35 years of innovative leadership in progressively high-profile contemporary art institutions. Most recently, she held the Edward John Noble Foundation Deputy Director for Education position at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York.

Woon is a highly regarded thinker featured in public conversations in Europe, Asia, and the Americas. She considers art an important catalyst that connects people across differences, a vibrant source for people to learn with and from each other.

She believes that art museums must radically change to remain relevant to future generations, reimagining their roles, priorities, and how they define and deploy their resources. Woon envisions art museums that are research-based and values-driven, and holistically responsive to the needs of their communities now and in the future.
Amy Whitaker is a writer and professor who studies the frictions between art and markets and, in turn, between markets and politics. Her proposals for fractional equity in art as a support for artists using blockchain, which received the European Academy of Management’s Edith Penrose Award for “trailblazing” research that challenges orthodoxies and has impact. She is at work on proposing related legislative policies of redistribution and reparations using equity. Her work has been cited in Time, the Financial Times, Fast Company, The Atlantic, The Guardian, Harper’s, The Art Newspaper, Artsy, Hyperallergic, and many others.

She is the author of three books, Museum Legs: Fatigue and Hope in the Face of Art (2009), Art Thinking (2016), and Economics of Visual Art, which was published by Cambridge University Press in 2021.

She holds degrees from Williams College (B.A.), Yale University (M.B.A.), University College London (M.F.A.), and University of London (Ph.D.). She began her career in museums, including the Guggenheim, MoMA, and Tate, and for the artist Jenny Holzer and the investment firm D.E. Shaw & Co., L.P. She is also a longtime social-practice teacher of business to artists, including in the original Trade School and at Occupy Wall Street.

About SITE Santa Fe
SITE Santa Fe nurtures innovation, discovery, and inspiration through the art of today. Founded in 1995 to establish the first international contemporary art biennial in the United States, SITE Santa Fe is a non-collecting art institution committed to supporting new developments in contemporary art, encouraging artistic exploration, and expanding traditional museum experiences. Since its launch, SITE Santa Fe has presented 11 international biennials, more than 90 contemporary art exhibitions, and works by hundreds of emerging and established artists from around the world and right here in New Mexico.

SITE Santa Fe also presents a wide range of public and educational programs that include conversations with artists and curators, performances, film screenings, concerts, hands-on workshops, and collaborations with dozens of local schools and community organizations.

###
VISUALS AVAILABLE

FURTHER INFORMATION ON SITE SANTA FE VISIT https://sitesantafe.org/

FOLLOW SITE SANTA FE ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER, AND INSTAGRAM

Media Contact: Carolina Franco
Public Relations and Advertising Manager, SITE Santa Fe
T: +1 (505) 989-1199 x 12 | E: franco@sitesantafe.org