What: Air Air - Artist Residency
Where: Friendly Skies/Mother/Atlanta, GA (artists: Chicago, IL, Peterborough, NH, Charleston, WV)
When: Flights May 3, 2018 (various times) / Exhibition May 4, 2018 (7-9pm)
Who: Director: Brandy Barker, Selected Artists: Erin Sweeney, Hannah Batsel, Kayleigh Phillips
News: Air Air Round 03 Takes Off

Air Air has selected resident artists for Round 03! Air Air is an experimental artist's residency experience that takes place entirely while in-flight on commercial airlines. Visual artists (2D & 3D), writers, musicians, and digital artists are all encouraged to apply to create in the skies! The round-trip flights will take 3 artists to their destination locations and back, all within 24 hours. Once the participants are back on the ground, the residency culminates in a one night pop-up exhibition. Air Air encourages participants to make artwork under the constraints of limited space, limited materials, and sensory deprivation while in-flight, drawing from experiences in their temporary communities in airports and on airplanes. We have three artists who work in different media participating in Round 03: printmaker and professor, Erin Sweeney (Peterborough, NH); book artist, Hannah Batsel (Chicago, IL); and tattooist and sign painter, Kayleigh Phillips (Charleston, WV).

During countless hours on cross-country flights for work, creative entrepreneur Brandy Barker developed the idea for this unique opportunity; as she packed up her computer and chose to fill her own sketchbooks with words and drawings, she imagined that other artists could be invited to do the same. "It's about creativity within constraint, and it's about seeing what artists are capable of producing under less-than-ideal circumstances, surrounded by a community of strangers. I'm interested in how it affects their perspective, their process, and their product." She sees Air Air as an exemplification of a long history of mobile art - people taking notes, drawing, and corresponding, on trains, boats, planes, and in automobiles. "Now is the perfect time for a residency like Air Air - modern life is about speed, movement, miniaturization, and maximizing your time. This allows artists and onlookers to experience working in the public eye and generate experiences and interactions that they may not encounter in their private studios, etc.," Barker quips.

Flights will be organized for the three selected artists, taking place on Thursday, May 3, 2018. Each artist is charged with making brand-new work during their time in the air, and preparing that work for exhibition within the next 24 hours. For the third time, the event will take place from 7:00-9:00 pm on Friday, May 4, 2018, at the Old Fourth Ward destination bar, MOTHER. Partnering with a local venue that's approachable, unpretentious, and supportive was important to Barker. "MOTHER continues to be the perfect spot for Air Air exhibitions. This space gives people the opportunity to interact with artists and access artwork in a comfortable way." she affirmed. In addition to connecting in real life, Air Air, along with the artists, will record and share the process via social media in the run-up to the exhibition.

Hartsfield–Jackson Atlanta International Airport has long been revered for the massive number of domestic and international flights, their efficiency and capacity, and the arrival of Air Air seeks to capitalize on that complex reputation by showing that planes and airports aren't just for travel from one place to another - they are key elements of our accelerated pace, indispensable parts of modern life and the modern economy, and in this case, occasions for creation and community engagement.

For more information, visit www.airresidency.com, contact brandy@airresidency.com or connect with through social media: Twitter: @airresidency // Instagram: @airresidency // Facebook: facebook.com/airresidency