



DENA YAGO POET AND ARTIST

XAVIER CHA PERFORMANCE ARTIST

New York-based Dena Yago works primarily with poetry and photography, two mediums she makes enigmatically cool, flat, and distancing, yet intimate. “The language of a poem is not ‘solved’ by an image, and vice versa,” Yago maintains. Her newest body of work has been shot in Central Park, where mallards drift on water with the quotidian perfection of stock photography. “The relationship between the two has to do with trying to explore an objective form of poetry, and a poetic form of objectivity.”

Xavier Cha of Brooklyn designs ontological games for the body, repurposing it as a vessel for emotion. In a typical performance, whether live or staged for video, she directs participants to do simple things like emote raw fear—as in her well-received show at the Whitney Museum—or stare, which many sets of eyes did at 47 Canal earlier this year. Up next is a piece commissioned by the New Museum for December, in which “meaning is passed through different actors and translators who use different modes of communication, from flamboyant colloquialisms, to sign language, and beyond.” **KEVIN McGARRY**

FROM LEFT:

DENA YAGO AND XAVIER CHA IN NEW YORK, AUGUST 2013

DENA WEARS JACKET 3.1 PHILLIP LIM T-SHIRT ACNE

XAVIER WEARS SHIRT AND DRESS SAINT LAURENT BY HEDI SLIMANE

NECKLACE ANNA SHEFFIELD