



**Clockwise from top left:** Agustina San Martín, Whitney White, Kyle Bell and Camila Rodríguez Triana all join Rolex's Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative for 2020-21.

ROLEX

## Watch the throne

Meet the four rising artists Rolex has tapped as stars of the future

**I**N CONTINUING THE LEGACY of philanthropic founder, Hans Wilsdorf, Rolex has announced the next wave of artists joining its long-running Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative for 2020-21.

The programme, founded in 2002, is part of Rolex's spirited patronage of the arts and deep commitment to supporting present and future culture-makers. Its goal is to set the foundations to offer emerging artists a chance to learn,

create and grow with the support of award-winning and highly influential masters in their industry. Each protégé will spend two years learning from their mentor and developing ideas – an opportunity no artist would ever take lightly. “We at Rolex have been privileged that, for nearly two decades, dozens of the most genre-defining artists have lent their time and expertise to the Arts Initiative,” says Rebecca Irvin, programme director. “The four

new mentors who join the initiative's community of creative greats have broken new ground in their respective fields. We look forward to the impact they will have on their protégés, as they pass on their devotion to their art in this cross-generational exchange.” Here are the four artists Rolex has bet on to be the Next Big Thing. Remember these names.

**To find out more about Rolex's arts and culture initiatives, go to [www.rolex.org](http://www.rolex.org)**



### Kyle Bell

Already a favourite among festival programmers in-the-know, Native American filmmaker Kyle Bell actively seeks out the “lesser-told stories” for his documentaries. As a director, director of photography and film editor, the Oklahoma-based artist has already taken home an Emmy for his documentary series *Osiyo: Voices of the Cherokee People*. Bell's moving films *Dig It If You Can* and *Defend The Sacred* have screened at film festivals around the world and helped to inspire activism towards Indigenous issues. He will be mentored by Oscar, BAFTA and César-winning auteur Spike Lee.



### Whitney White

What showbiz types like to call a “triple threat”, New York-based director, actor and composer Whitney White has already snagged the attention of the theatre elite. From performing Shakespeare to exploring his female characters within her original works (like her Lady Macbeth-centred work, *Macbeth In Stride*) to delivering a slew of critic-pleasing multi-disciplinary performances, White's breadth of range makes her one of the most in-demand young theatre-makers in America. White will be mentored by Tony-winning director in film and theatre Phyllida Lloyd.



### Camila Rodríguez Triana

Colombian filmmaker and visual artist, Camila Rodríguez Triana plays with human emotion, empathy and passion, and is the type of artist who prompts questions within her viewers, sometimes through harrowing or thought-provoking narratives. Triana's work has been exhibited throughout South America and Europe, in galleries and film festivals, as she splits her time between Colombia and France. As an artist blurring art and documentary-style films, Triana plays in the lines between fact and fiction. She will be mentored by photographic artist Carrie Mae Weems.



### Agustina San Martín

Last year, Argentinean director, screenwriter, cinematographer, colourist and film editor Agustina San Martín shot to fame by taking home the Special Mention Jury Prize for Best Short Film at the 72nd Cannes Film Festival. The film was *Monster God*, a dreamlike sci-fi short. Inspired by the surreal and abstract films of Carlos Reygadas, Juan Luis Buñuel and David Lynch, San Martín might just be the future of abstract and otherworldly cinema. She will be mentored by Pulitzer Prize, Grammy, Emmy and Tony award-winning composer, lyricist and actor Lin-Manuel Miranda. **X**