

**ARCHIVE OF AFRO-COLOMBIAN, BLACK, RAIZAL AND PALENQUERO ARTISTS, AGENTS, ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL PRACTICES**

The Radical Afro Imagination Archive project began in 2016 during the Radical Afro Imagination (I.R.A) Meeting of Artists and Cultural Agents of African descent. It was organized by the Aguaturbia Collective. Since its inception, the I.R.A. has sought to generate a reflection on the memory, the historical record and the presence of Afro-descendant creatives in the city [of Bogotá] and to counteract the practices of structural invisibility in culture and the arts.

The I.R.A. aims to contribute to documenting the artistic and cultural practices of Afro-Colombian, Black, Raizal and Palenquero artists and agents in Bogotá and also to promote spaces for reflection, guidance, and practical management of artistic archives, which promote the preservation and appreciation of the legacies and presence of Afro-descendant artists in the city.

The archive seeks to document current practices, rescue the testimonies of the older people and preserve important historical documents.

As a first step, the I.R.A. tried to identify artists and cultural agents in Bogotá and thus generate an infographic panorama of their participation and contributions to the arts and culture in Bogotá.

The I.R.A. Archive is a strategy of visibilisation and protest that seeks to draw attention to the oblivion, ignorance, deliberate gaps and lack of recognition to which people from the Black, Afro-Colombian, Raizal and Palenquero communities who work in the cultural and artistic field are subjected in Bogotá and in the country.

Throughout our history as Afro artists and cultural agents we have had to face precariousness, abuse, instrumentalization, appropriation and, in general, structural racism in cultural institutions and in the artistic field.

The I.R.A. seeks to draw attention to the flight from the country of collections of works by important artists such as Manuel Zapata Olivella and Delia Zapata Olivella, which, like many others, now rest in international academic institutions due to the lack of archiving policies and of research on and interest in the work and leadership of Afro-descendant artists and cultural agents in the country.

In this 2021 edition of the I.R.A., in Espacio Odeón, Colectivo Aguaturbia intends to open the Radical Afro Imagination Archive to artists and cultural agents from the Black, Afro-descendant, Palenquero and Raizal communities from all over the country in order to generate a register and identification process that allows us to strengthen the networking that has increasingly resulted from collective and collaborative work that makes use of the tools that virtuality provides.

**INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND WORK IN THE I.R.A. FILE!**

Sign up

If you are a black, Afro-descendant, Raizal or Palenquero artist or cultural agent, register in any of these ways:

1. By filling out the form of the I.R.A Archive in hard copy at the Espacio Odeón exhibition in Bogotá
2. By filling out the I.R.A File form online using the QR code [below] anywhere in the country

### **PARTICIPATE! THIS IS A LIVE ARCHIVE UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

Participate in the activities of reflection, research, safeguarding and training:

- Spaces for reflection and discussion
- Sessions for the opening of folders of the I.R.A. Archive of Afro-Colombian artists and cultural agents: bring to the Espacio Odeón or send to [colectivoaguaturbia@gmail.com](mailto:colectivoaguaturbia@gmail.com) material from your artistic work so that it becomes part of the archive
- Practical archiving laboratory

### **What to archive?**

Promotional graphic pieces that document or announce important events such as invitations, posters, tickets, press articles, texts, publications, handouts, etc...

Documents related to creative, administrative, community and social processes, propaganda and activism, among others.