

Jean-Marc Superville Sovak
supersovak@gmail.com

BIO (300 words)

Jean-Marc Superville Sovak is a multidisciplinary artist whose work critically fabulates around silent histories absent from dominant historical narratives. His current projects include *There Are NO Black Shakers; A Contemporary Folk Opera* funded by a NYSCA Support for Artists grant, and *a-Historical Landscapes*, altered 19th-century landscape engravings, several of which are included in the permanent collections of the Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art and the Loeb Art Center at Vassar College. His participatory performance works include *Freeborn Trails*, tracing steps on the Underground Railroad at Hudson Valley historic sites, *a Burial for White Supremacy*, and *Stolen Sugar Makes the Sweetest Books*, tying one college's campus to its founding family's fortune in refining sugar and enslaved labor. Jean-Marc's public sculpture, *Six of the First*, a memorial to some of the first Africans to arrive in Rhode Island, is now part of the Newport Historical Society's permanent collection and his monuments to Afro-Dutch pioneers, *Blauvelt Blues*, a Rockland County percent-for-art public art project, will be unveiled in 2025. A Bard College graduate (M.F.A. Film/Video), Jean-Marc is the recipient of a NYSCA Support for Artists grant, an Individual Artist's Commission and an Empowering Artist Award from Arts Mid-Hudson, and his community-based project *From the Ground UP* commemorating Newburgh's Colored Burial Ground was awarded grants from Humanities New York. His projects have been exhibited at Columbia University's Wallach Art Gallery, the Shirley Fiterman Art Center, RecessArt, the Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Arts Westchester, Socrates Sculpture Park, Katonah Museum of Art, and the Manifesta 8 European Biennial. Jean-Marc works as an Educator at the Dia Art Foundation and has been a Visiting Artist/Lecturer at Bard College, SUNY New Paltz, Columbia University and Vassar College, and in 2020 was guest curator at the Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art. He lives and works in Plattekill, NY.