

**From:** Djerassi Artists Ranch <drap@djerassi.org>

**Subject:** Important Djerassi News

**Reply:** drap@djerassi.org



**July 2015**

CONNECT WITH US

**DONATE NOW**  
Secure donations through  
Network for Good



Scientific Delirium Madness 2.0 | More Kudos | Djerassi News





The Road

## The Road Less Travelled

Bear Gulch Road is not eponymous. There haven't been bears here for well over 100 years. And, if we're being honest, it is the bare definition of a road, more like a terrifying old logging trail that has some asphalt on it. But it is *the* road - the ONLY road that gets artists and visitors alike to Djerassi Resident Artists Program.

We will have *many* newbie drivers on July 19<sup>th</sup> for our Open House/Open Studios (reserve a spot at [www.djerassi.org](http://www.djerassi.org)). A few will terrify themselves or blame us for their brakes burning out, or swear they're never going to return. One guest last year asked where the road OUT was, not realizing it was a two-way road. (Yes, the look on her face was priceless). We have asked our residential neighbors to be kind to people who don't see the turn-offs and seem unwilling or unable to drive backwards. And, for goodness sakes, if you're coming, CARPOOL!

Regardless, each year about half of the Open House attendees are return visitors. Like spawning salmon they return for the nourishment provided by the landscape, the artists/scientists and Chef Dan's delicious pizza. They get a map to explore the trails and ephemeral sculptures and a tiny bit of what artists lovingly call the "Djerassi magic." When people come, they "get" it. They understand why places like this exist, why artists and the artistic process matter.

We would love to throw open the doors more frequently BUT an understandably stringent county-use permit *and* our own mission to give artists uninterrupted time preclude us from making this a public space.

We are *always* looking for ways to take what happens on the mountain *off* the mountain. We don't want what happens here to stay here. For the current group of artists and scientists there is a lively blog provided by our partner LEONARDO, The International Society For The Arts, Science and Technology, and, down the line a video, LASER talks (see their [website](#)) and a section in a 2016 issue of *LEONARDO, the magazine*.

Like our July 19<sup>th</sup> visitors, the artists and scientists of Scientific Delirium Madness 2.0 are taking risks while they're here. Painting with nanoparticles? Exploring jazz rhythms and bird songs? Diagnosing patients through art-trained observation? Dancing to the geometric rhythm of the Fibonacci series? Yes, yes, yes and yes. When we say YES to artists and scientists, they are free to say YES

to themselves. It's a wild ride.

We invite you to join us - either on the road or on the internet. I promise a deeply satisfying journey, well worth the traffic.

Care and respect,  
Margot H. Knight  
Executive Director

## **Scientific Delirium Madness 2.0**

**June 30 - July 29**

Our third session of the year. We welcome:

**Allison Cobb**, Portland, OR. Writer

**Luca Forcucci**, Italy, Composer/Media Artist

**Deborah Forster**, San Diego, CA.

Primatologist/Cognitive Scientist

**Eathan Janney**, Brooklyn, NY. Composer/Scientist

**Christine Lee**, Oakland, CA. Visual Artist

**Rachel Mayeri**, Los Angeles, CA. Media Artist

**Guillermo Munoz**, Valencia, Spain. Physicist

**Kate Nichols**, San Francisco, CA. Visual Artist

**Karl Schaffer**, Scotts Valley, CA.

Mathematician/Choreographer

**Laurel Shastri**, Scotts Valley, CA. Performer

**Eleni Sikelianos**, Boulder, CO. Writer

**Tami Spector**, San Francisco, CA. Physical Organic Chemist/Writer

**Caroline Wellbery**, Bethesda, MD. Medical Doctor/Writer

Read more about the artists/scientists [here](#).



*Farm Dreams, 2014, Dawn  
Sumner and Meredith Tromble*

### **And They're Blogging as we Speak:**

The science-oriented participants in this year's Scientific Delirium Madness are affiliated with LEONARDO, the International Society For The Arts, Sciences and Technology. You can read about their experiences [here](#).

### **There's More**

Current SDM resident **Caroline Wellbery (2015)** is featured in an article in *Pacific Standard*, an online magazine. Apropos to our session, the piece discusses using art to foster creativity in medical students. To quote, "[art training] could aid young physicians in three crucial ways: Encouraging them to 'see with an open mind'...; honing their ability to describe their observations with nuance and precision; and teaching them how to effectively articulate their ideas to patients

and colleagues." Read [more](#).

### **New Feature: The Resident Artists Speak**

The Djerassi Program has begun a YouTube account. On it you'll find interviews with our residents and related videos. We've begun with Sessions One and Two. See the artists here:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6XCiKUMT0X8Rx\\_Yqo2LNsg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6XCiKUMT0X8Rx_Yqo2LNsg)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZJRhriF9IY>

Be sure to mark your favorites and revisit for more "up-close and personal" interactions with the artists.

### **While They Last!**

#### **Open House/Open Studios**

#### **Reserve Your Spots Now**

**Sunday, July 19, 2015**

**10 AM - 5 PM**

#### **Reservations Required.**

Go online now <http://www.djerassi.org/openhouse.html>

Come to the Ranch to experience art and artists in a fantastic mix of nature and culture. You'll see studios, dance and music performances, and literary readings. Take self-guided tours of our site-inspired sculpture collection located on winding trails among ancient redwoods, rolling hills and fern-shaded glens.

And this year's Open House has an added dimension: "Scientific Delirium Madness," a program co-hosted with LEONARDO, The International Society For The Arts, Sciences and Technology/LASER-Leonardo Art Science Evening Rendezvous. You'll experience our special mix of artists with a science-technology bent, interacting with scientists who have a passion for the arts.

Again this year, we'll feature a "Plein Air Paint Out" with The Woodside Plein Air Painting Group. Members will be stationed along the trails painting various scenes of the Djerassi Program's landscape. Arranged in partnership with the Arts and Culture Committee of the Town of Woodside. **Special Note:** See their completed artwork on display at Woodside Town Hall, Friday through Sunday, August 7- 9, in Woodside.

**Remember, Alumni are free**

**Apply Now: 2016 AIR Krems Exchange**



Krems, Austria

Once again, we are seeking applications from our ALUMNI in the disciplines of **Visual Arts** and **Media Arts/New Genres** as part of an exchange with the Krems Artist-in-Residence program in Krems, Austria.

The selected artist will receive a two and one-half month-long residency from **Monday, April 4 through Sunday, June 12, 2016**, a stipend of 1,300 euros per month, paid in cash, and curatorial support by the curators of AIR Krems/Kunsthalle Krems. Artists must cover the cost of their airfare to Vienna. Valid health insurance during residency is required.

Deadline to apply is August 27, 2015. For more detailed information go to: <http://www.djerassi.org/2016-air-krems.html>. Viel Glück!



**William King 1925 - 2015**

**ART///SKY**

notes the passing of former resident William King (1999) who was prominently represented at the Ranch by his iconic sculpture *Orpheus Coyote and Friends*, 1999 (right). He was 90 years old. Mr. King was quoted as saying his time at Djerassi was among his happiest experiences as an artist. See his obituary in [The New York Times](#).



*Orpheus Coyote, flute, 1999, William King*

**Daniel Gwartzman's (2005, winter 2012)** eponymous Dance Company performed its acclaimed production *The Oracle* in the Modern Atlanta Dance Festival, in May, at the Balzer Theater in Atlanta. The Company also performed in Manhattan on June 27 as part of the Higher Ground Dance Festival and was featured July 10 in Bryant Park through the Bryant Park presents Modern Dance series.

The company's residency through the City University of New York and Kingsborough Community College culminates in a free public showing of the work July 16 in Brooklyn (see **Comings & Goings** below.) August 1-14 the Gwartzman Dance Company enjoys a residency in Lefkada, Greece. Details can be found on their website: [www.gwartzmandance.org](http://www.gwartzmandance.org)

**Jeremiah Barber (2015)** presented *Beacon, A Site, Light and Time Specific Installation*, an artwork he installed over Harrington Creek on the Djerassi Artists Ranch. This sculpture was one of the few works of art presented in private to our patrons. Although it was on view for our director's and public hikes, the artist's presentation was meant to be seen after dark, by one viewer at a time. *Beacon* remained open for several viewings as the artist accompanied each observer. The

piece was deconstructed after its scheduled exhibit time. This and other Barber works are presented on Jeremiah's website <http://sustainedbyvisions.com/>.

**Lena von Lapschina (2011)** exhibited a fifty-meter wide media installation, *Home Alone*, at Ausstellungsbrücke, the exhibition space of the Arts & Culture Department of Lower Austria in Sankt Pölten. It's a fitness studio, a living room, a favorite bar, and even a museum of Lena's wildest dreams. See more at [www.LAPSCHINA.com](http://www.LAPSCHINA.com).

**Jonathon Keats (2014)** received a *2015 Art + Technology Lab* grant from the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA). Mr. Keats was one of eight artists cited for projects related to technology-related art such as drones, 3-D printing and virtual reality storytelling. The group was selected from over 400 applicants. Read [more](#).

#### **Doris Duke Impact Awards for Lee and Z**

Choreographer and performer **Dohee Lee (2014)** has won the 2015 Doris Duke Impact Award for Multidisciplinary Performance. The announcement stated, "Since 2004, Dohee Lee has combined traditional Korean dance, music, and shamanism with modern mediums including electronic instruments, video, and customized software. Through this amalgamation of old and new, she creates an innovative form of ritual performance. Based on the legends of Mago, the creator goddess in Korean mythology, her multimedia work *MAGO* (2014) features a series of six, site-specific cleansing rituals."

Many Djerassi devotees will recognize Dohee from her breathtaking performance of her work *Crow* at last years' Artful Harvest. Many congratulations are in order for Ms. Lee. See more <http://ddpaa.org/artist/dohee-lee/>

Alum **Pamela Z (2010)** received her Impact Award for Theatre. Her citation states, "For over thirty years, Pamela Z, an innovator of electroacoustic music and the use of everyday technology, has worked with voice, live electronic processing, sampled sound, and video... Her 2005 multimedia opera, *Wunderkabinet*, co-composed with Matthew Brubeck, was inspired by the exhibits at the Museum of Jurassic Technology in Los Angeles. See more about Pamela Z:

<http://ddpaa.org/artist/pamela-z/>

### 2015 PEN Translation Prize

Congratulations are due...and the award goes to **Denise Newman (1995, '96)** for her translation from the Danish of Naja Marie Aidt's *Baboon* (Two Lines Press) The PEN Translation Prize honors a book-length translation from any language into English. See [more](#).



*Chromaticity Scale*, 2014, Curtis Frank

### Chana Bloch (1989, '91, '06, '12)

thanks the Djerassi Resident Artists

Program for inspiring her poem *The Joins*. (Her comments include a reference to *Dialogue*, by Roland Meyer.) The work has been chosen to open the winter 2016 issue of *The Best American Poetry 2015*, as selected by Sherman Alexie.

In addition, in what has been described as a *double award*, the poem will also be featured in the *Pushcart Prize XL: Best of the Small Presses*.

### At a Theatre Near You

**Kimberly Levin (2006)** has directed the film *Runoff*, now in theatres around the country. It's the story of a woman who goes to desperate lengths to save her family when threatened with eviction from forced off the family land. It was shot on location in Kentucky. See more about *Runoff* [here](#) and [here](#).

**Nick Krieger (2013)** was featured in an artist's profile during his stay at VCCA (Virginia Center for the Creative Arts). It is entitled *Nick Krieger Exploring The Territory Between Male And Female*. VCCA is one of the largest artists' communities in the nation, tucked into the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

While in residence at VCCA, Nick Krieger was working on the third draft of the follow-up to his highly acclaimed memoir, *Nina Here Nor There: My Journey Beyond Gender* (Beacon Press, 2011). The book won a Stonewall Honor Book Award and an Independent Literary Award in the GLBTQ category.

### Ribbon Cutting

In mid-July, **Val Britton (2014)** will unveil, in a hard hat preview, her new work *Voyage*, a 55-foot glass installation, at the San Francisco International Airport. Under the auspices of the San Francisco Arts Commission and Gallery Wendi Norris, the ribbon cutting will take place in anticipation of its display to the traveling public.



## Comings, Goings & Showings

**Got a new gig?** Email your upcoming **art events, exhibitions, performances, premieres and/or book tours** (as far in advance as possible - next issue August 14) to [nick@djerassi.org](mailto:nick@djerassi.org).

**To follow our alumni and friends' events, be sure to check the D.R.A.P. Alumni [Facebook](#) page.**

July 16 **Daniel Gwartzman (2005, winter 2012)** *The Oracle*, free to the public, Goldstein Performing Arts Center, Kingsborough Community College, Brooklyn, NY.



*Nest*, 1997, Cynthia Harper

July 16 - 19 **Lindsey Renee Derry (2013)**, *Fail Safe, Por-trai-ture*, and more dance performances. Part of the *ROMP! Festival*, Vancouver, B.C., Canada. For complete times and venues, see Lindsey's website <http://www.linsdans.org>.

Through July 25 **Robert Buelteman (1996, winter '09, '10, '11, '12, '14)** *Life and Shadow*, a photographic exhibition at the Gerald Peters Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Through July 29 **Kara Maria (2003)** *Arcadian Duet*, collaborative monoprints, with Kathryn Kain, Smith Andersen Editions, 440 Pepper Av., Palo Alto, CA.

Through August 3 **Robin Tewes (1997)** *Reinventing the Helm: Self-styled Nautical Activists Pirate the Canon of Maritime Art*, group exhibition, Sara Nightingale Gallery, 688 Montauk Hwy, Water Mill, New York,

August 4 **Luca Forcucci (2015)** *Bodyscape*, a dancer becomes the source of a sonic landscape via sensors and biofeedback, also featuring **Cheryl Leonard (2004, winter '07, '10)**. The Lab, 2948 16<sup>th</sup> Street, San Francisco. The [Swissnex website](#), has more information and future showings.

Through August 16 **Lisa K. Blatt (2010)** *ARTillery: Contemporary Art Influenced by Weaponry*, Mesa Contemporary Art Museum, Arizona.

Through August 22 **Karen Tam (2011)**, *Terra dos Chinês Curio Shop*, solo exhibition at Artspace, 378 Aylmer St. N., Peterborough, Ontario, Canada. More at her website: <http://www.karentam.ca/english.html>

Through August 23 **Lava Thomas (2003, winter 2009, trustee)** one-person exhibition. Opening Reception July 11. Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut St., Berkeley, CA.

Through August 29 **Olga Lah (2014)** *Reinventory*, group show of recipients of 2015 Professional Artists Fellowships by Arts Council for Long Beach, Collaborative Gallery, Long Beach, CA.

July 18 - August 29 **Juan Carlos Quintana (2006)** *Retrospectives*, jack fischer gallery, 311 Potrero Av., Berkeley.

Through August 30 **Walter Robinson (1998, winter '11)** *Home Grown*, visual art - presented by Catharine Clark Gallery - Palo Alto Art Center, Palo Alto, CA.

Through September 20 **Robert Buelteman**, *Night Begins the Day: Rethinking Space, Time, and Beauty*, Contemporary Jewish Museum, San Francisco, CA.

September 10-13 and 17-20 **Lenora Lee (2013)** World Premiere of LLD's *Fire of Freedom* presented by Fort Mason Center in association with Asian Improv aRts, API Cultural Center, and the Chinese Historical Society of America, Fort Mason General Residence, Franklin and Bay Streets, San Francisco.

Through December 11 **Sasha Petrenko (2014)** [\*Just Passing Through: Sculptures and Installations\*](#) Kalmanovitz Hall Rooftop Sculpture Terrace, University of San Francisco, 2300 Fulton St.

Through January 5, 2016, **Stacey Steers (2014)**, *Night Hunter House* is featured in a group show *Showing Off, Recent Modern and Contemporary Acquisitions*, Denver Art Museum, Denver, CO.

### ART///SKY July 2015

A publication of the Djerassi Resident Artists Program, Editor: Nick Walsh: [nick@djerassi.org](mailto:nick@djerassi.org). Photos from Djerassi Sculpture Archive, except banner photo, *road* and *fog* by N. Walsh.

Banner art: *The Guardians*, 2013, **Nicole Buffett**.

[Forward this email](#)



This email was sent to drap@djerassi.org by [drap@djerassi.org](mailto:drap@djerassi.org) | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

