



June 2016

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Session Two | NYC Reunion | The Arts Endure



The Arts Endure

Is it just me or is the exponentially increasing nastiness on the news dinner plate each night wearing heavily on your soul? Nothing is more unconsciously contagious than negativism and nastiness. The twitter outrage of the month has given way to the twitter outrage of the DAY. I have only two minutes a day for "ain't it awful," (a longstanding rule of mine) but it's getting harder and harder to maintain. I have



To Market To Market, Weber and Wareham (2000).

lost my temper a couple of times in the last few months myself - and was instantly saddled with sleepless nights punctuated by bad dreams.

Living together - whether on the planet, in the country, OR at an artist residency isn't easy. We are increasingly rewarded for taking the I-got-mine road. The generative power of empathy got lost somewhere. People make mistakes, accidents happen, the wrong words are used, good intentions don't matter. There is a deficit of trust. Or is that just the nightly news getting into my head?

I have always relied on art to be a bridge - among people, among ideas, among governments. Illuminating the human experience provides an avenue to see the world through the eyes of others. I desperately but firmly believe that theater, photography, painting, dance, music and literature can actually CHANGE worldviews. Art can transcend and expand the personal experience and make it universal. Art IS our salvation.

I had the good fortune to see *Hamilton* on Broadway last week. Yes, it lived up to the hype. But more importantly, there is a moment after George Washington's number, "*One Last Time*" that provoked sustained applause. It struck me that the applause was not just for the excellent performance but also for the American principle that our democracy prevails and thrives under changing leadership. I am clinging to that belief, even as FB page comments have become reluctant battlefields of vitriolic volleys. The power of art to give us hope is real. The power of art to allow us to communicate and reflect upon our deepest desires is real. **Yes, The Arts Endure.**

And The Program endures! Please make your reservations for OPEN HOUSE/OPEN STUDIOS on **Sunday, July 24th**. It WILL sell out (and quickly!). [[Click here](#) or below for tickets]. The lasting beauty and magic of art and science along with the redwoods will dazzle you.

Care & Respect,
Margot H. Knight
Executive Director

Another compelling and energetic group ...
This is 2016 Session Two
May 18 - June 15

Visual and Media Arts

Paola Cabal, Chicago, IL
Mark Reeves, Seattle, WA
Jeremy Rourke, Brisbane, CA
Viktoria Schmid, Vienna, Austria

Literary Arts

Dennis A. Allen II, Hempstead, NY,
Playwright
Tearrance Chisholm, Washington, DC,
Playwright
Magdalena Gomez, Springfield, MA,
Playwright
Patricia Murphy, Phoenix, AZ, Writer
Tony Perry, Tucson, AZ, Writer

Choreography

Deborah Lohse, Brooklyn, NY

Music Composition

Robert Lopez, Oakland, CA



Session One

Read the artists' [BIOS here](#).

Smile. You're on YouTube

Check out Djerassi Program's new YouTube channel. See interviews featuring our artists as they experience their Gift of Time on the ranch. Click the YouTube icon above or [here](#).

Coming July 24! Reserve Your Spot For Open House

This is our annual event that showcases not only our amazing collection of artists but a group of scientists who share this year's *Scientific Delirium Madness 3.0* session. Artists who use science and technology meet scientists versed in literary, visual and media arts. Don't miss it! Get your [tickets here](#).

Off The Press

The **Djerassi Program** was featured in the print and online editions of the May 11 *San Francisco Chronicle*. The article, "Djerassi artists' program a world apart from Silicon Valley," by Tom Molanphy highlights our program and benefits to artists. Please [read more here](#) (may require sign-in).



l to r, **Basil Twist** , **Dale Djerassi** and **Margot Knight**

A New York Time

On May 23, alum **Basil Twist (2005, winter '11)** was honored at the *HERE Arts Center's* 2016 Gala, entitled *ALCHEMY* (photo at left). Basil received the *Avant-Guardian Award* for his career as Master Puppeteer and Gifted Curator. The fest was held at the NY Winery on 7th Av, before moving to HERE for more celebrations.

New York Reunion

The next day, HERE Arts Center was the venue for our second Djerassi reunion in The Big Apple. Basil Twist and other Djerassi alums, as well as some future attendees (a 'Pre-union') and friends of the Program gathered as a festive time was had by all (see photos). Look for future alumni gatherings near you. We'll announce in plenty of time. Don't be a stranger.



Aleksandra Vrebalov (2014), right, and John King



Mark Taylor (2015) and daughter (future alum?)



I to r, **Julie Mayo (2013)**, **Akiko Ichikawa (2002)**
and **Mare Hieronimus (2015)**



Djerassi news

Community Service

Robert Buelteman (1996, multiple winters) was honored June 1 by Community Bank of the Bay, in San Mateo, CA, for "his dedication to improving the quality of life on our beloved Peninsula through his photography." See **CG&S** for more of Rob's upcoming events.



Rob Buelteman

Just Arrived at LAX: Timothy Nolan (2006, winter '11) has recently completed *Like Sound Going Sideways*, located in Terminal 7's departures hallway at Los Angeles International Airport. The installation consists of a 40-foot mural, a light box and a variety of collages and works printed on aluminum.

Ian Winters (2013), in addition to his workshops at Djerassi this year, has more workshops coming up later in the summer: The *MilkBar* summer workshop series returns to Ian's new Richmond, CA home. Set for August 8th to August 14th, Ian will teach a one-week Isadora intensive and extended *Now* workshop in media and performance. Details at: http://www.milkbar.org/workshops_ian/

Laurie Stone (2007) has a new book coming in October. *My Life As An Animal: Stories* has already earned acclaim in literary circles. Quoting a narrator in the book, "Upsetting the balance of the universe is a job description I would have liked."

The Art of Combat: Melissa Wyman (2015) and her innovative method of social change and cultural education presents *Gang Fighting While Gang Painting*. Youthful participants perform low-key mosh-pit moves on each other as they also try to ply paint to paper. Read [more](#).

New York reunion attendee, **Mary Oestereicher Hamill (2006 and winter 2011)** has been appointed Co-director of the Bernstein Gallery at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University. She has also directed *The War Widows Project*, on view in Cambodia. See more at **CS&G**.

David Dominique (2015) is on the move. He has been appointed to the tenure-track Assistant Professor of Theory and Composition at the College of William and Mary. Before moving to Virginia, David will complete the recording of a new album for his

LA-based jazz ensemble. In addition, he is composer and conductor for a new play called *Night Record*, which will post 12 performances in Los Angeles in June and July.

Catch up with choreographer **Julie Mayo (2013)** and her upcoming performances and projects on her website: <http://www.juliemayo.com/>

Kudos

Melanie Bishop's (2016) novel *My So-Called Ruined Life* was chosen as a finalist for The Lascaux Prize in Fiction.

Dohee Lee (2014) is a 2016 Music awardee from the *Herb Alpert Award in the Arts*, a stipend given to "mid-career, risk-taking artists." Awards are distributed by the Herb Alpert Foundation according to the founder's philosophy, "I've always loved the artists who travel that road less traveled." [More](#).

Laura Marello (1995) writes, "My third book, *The Gender of Inanimate Objects*, published by Tailwinds Press NYC last year, has been shortlisted for the Saroyan Prize." For more information click [here](#).

Current resident, **Patricia Colleen Murphy's (2016)** *Hemming Flames*, has been granted the 2016 May Swenson Poetry Award. Available in hardcover, see more about this work on amazon.com.



Just Released

Marielle Jakobsons (2016) a resident in Session One, has just published a CD of her highly creative music, entitled *Star Core*. Order CD, vinyl and more [here](#).

Molissa Fenley (1998) has a new book, *Rhythm Field: The Dance of Molissa Fenley (Enactments)*. It's available through amazon. See more Molissa in **CG&S**.

Claudia Aranovich (2001) has installed her *Flowers for the Future* on the Cheng Long Wetlands in Taiwan. The large flowers made of bamboo will be on display for one year. See more. <https://artproject4wetland.wordpress.com/>

What We Missed

Karen Tam's (2011) installation at *Power Ball XVIII: Pleasure Principle*. Karen recreated her "opium den" at Power Plant Art Gallery, 231 Queens Quay West, Toronto, Canada. For more Karen Tam news, click [here](#). ...

Tony Philips (1987, winter '02) *Surrealism: The Conjured Life*, group show, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL. ...

Adam Kalinowski (2012) *Abstraction Spaces: Kalinowski Family Work*. National Museum of Gdansk, Gdansk, Poland. ...

Jun 5 (opening), **Mary Oestereicher Hamill (2006 and winter 2011)** *The War Widows Project* (codirected with Khmer Rouge survivor Chath pierSath, Sangker Gallery in Battambang, Cambodia. ...

Ari Frankel (2014) Video music composition: *InErnest*, New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival, National Sawdust, 80 North 6th St., Brooklyn, NY.

In Residence

Luca Forcucci (2015) is in residence in Sao Paulo, Brazil at Red Bull Station until July 7. See **CS&G** below for more about Luca.

Wendy Rein and Ryan Smith (2011, winter '13) as **RAWdance**, have just completed their time at 836M Residency, 836 Montgomery in San Francisco. See **CS&G** for more info on their upcoming events.

C G & S

Comings, Goings & Showings

"Let's give 'em something to talk about..." - *Bonnie Raitt* ... Let's give everyone the word on what you're up to. **Let us know about your comings, goings and showings.** Email **ART//SKY** with your upcoming **art events, exhibitions, performances, premieres and/or book tours** (as far in advance as possible). Send to nick@djerassi.org.

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

Jun 7 to Jul 5 **Ndikhumbule Ngqinambi (2012)** *Window Part II*, Barnard Gallery, 55 Main St., Newlands, Cape Town, South Africa.

Jun 10 **Christie Funsch (2006, 2012)** *Take 5*, audience preview and feedback. Also featuring **Lenora Lee (2013)**. ODC Theatre, 3153 17th St., San Francisco. More at www.odcdance.org



Dialog, Roland Mayer (2004)

Jun 11 and 12 **Mark Foehringer (2012)** *Premiere of works by local artists*, Conservatory for Contemporary Dance Arts, San Jose State University Dance Theatre, San Jose.

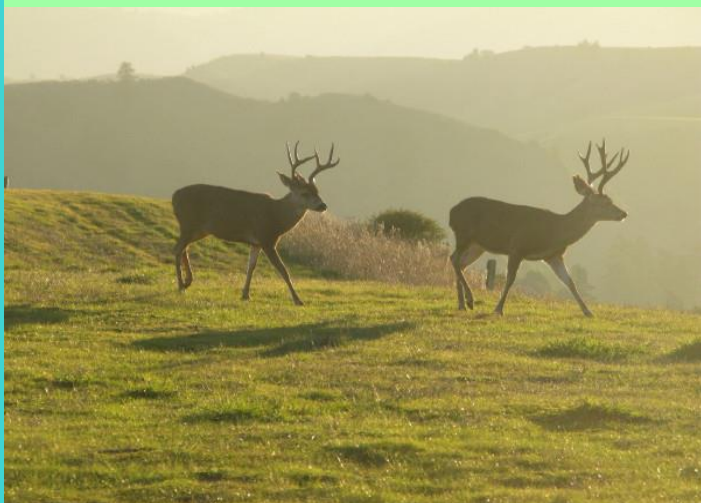
Thru Jun 14 **Sara Shelton Mann (1995, 2002, 2011, multiple winters)** dance movement: *Mini Series: Entering the Spacial Gap*, Tuesdays and Thursdays, Joe Goode Annex, 499 Alabama St, San Francisco. In addition **Sara** is holding *Drop Your City Armor* hideaway in Dos Rios, CA, from **Jun 20 to Jun 26**. For full details see [this link](#).

Jun 14 to 18 **Molissa Fenley (1998)** *The Third Coast*, live performances, New York Live Arts, 219 W. 19th St., New York City.

Jun 14 **Dusan Tynek (2016)** with Dusan Tynek Dance Theatre (DT)2, at the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Museum Mile Festival, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1000 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Jun 15, 17, 19 **Deborah Slater (1992, multiple winters)** and the Deborah Slater Dance Theatre, *The Line of Beauty and For the Time Being*, during FURY Factory Festival at NOHspace, 2840 Mariposa St., San Francisco.

Jun 19 to 24 **Kimberly Dark (2011)** *Yoga for Every Body Retreats in Hawaii (What's your body's story?)* See her Facebook page for more information. And keep up with Kimberly via her website <http://www.kimberlydark.com/>



Jun 20 **Luca Forcucci (2015)** concert and lecture, Centro Helio Oiticica, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Thru Jun 24 **Angie Wilson (2013)**, *Creative Labor*, traditional craft and new media, SOMArts Cultural Center, 934 Brannan St., San Francisco.

Jun 29 **Robert Buelteman** *Who Speaks for the Land?* Free exhibit opening presented by Peninsula Open Space Trust. San Mateo History Museum, Redwood City, CA. Reserve

[free ticket here.](#)

Thru Jul 3 **Cheryl Coon (2001)** *Abstract Sculptures*, Museum Studios Gallery at the Peninsula Museum of Art, 1777 California Dr., Burlingame, CA.

Thru Jul 5 **Val Britton (2014)** *Transmissions*, collage and sculpture, Gallery Wendi Norris, 161 Jessie Street, San Francisco.

Jul 28 to 30 **RAWdance**, *Double Exposure* (world premiere), the group's epic evening-length work of duets, 2 years in the making. ODC Theater, 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell), San Francisco.

Aug 10 **RAWdance** at *JACOB'S PILLOW*, America's longest-running dance festival, Berkshire Hills, Western Mass.

Thru Aug 14 **Jeremy Mende (2015)** *Guantanamo Bay Museum of Art and History*, featured in *Take This Hammer: Art + Media Activism in the Bay Area*, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco.

Thru Aug 21 **Linda Simmel (2013)** *Scene/Unseen*, group show with prints, drawings and photographs. Saint Mary's College Museum of Art, 1928 St. Mary's Rd., Moraga, CA.

ART//SKY June 2016

A publication of the Djerassi Resident Artists Program, Editor: Nick Walsh: nick@djerassi.org. M. Taylor photo by M. Knight. Night Visitor by **Paula Rebsom (2013)**, Deer, program archive. Other photos N. Walsh. Banner art: *The Guardians*, **Nicole Buffett (2013)**.

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