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Subject: News from the Djerassi Resident Artists Program

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July 2014

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Scientific Delirium Madness | Open House | Comings, Goings, Showings



LEONARDO

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE
ARTS, SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

Let the Cerebration Begin!

Yes, cerebral exercises are underway. Poets, biologists, industrial engineers. Oh my, it's **Scientific Delirium Madness**. The idea of combining scientists and artists on the ranch has been a dream since I first took this job, inspired by meeting Carl Djerassi (the Program's founder), and furthered by the work of **Nina Wise (2006, 2013)** and **Ralph Abraham (2006)** on the *The Kepler Story*, a

scientist-artist collaboration and direct result of our "curating people" for a stay at the ranch.

So many thanks to Roger Malina and our partners at [LEONARDO](#)/The International Society for Arts, Sciences and Technology. In addition, to the brilliantly abstract random cultural historian and cognitive scientist Piero Scaruffi and to the trustees and staff of Djerassi who graciously threw themselves into this wild idea that artists and scientists living communally for 30 days was an idea worth executing. And to the project's patrons and funders: National Endowment for the Arts, Lava Thomas and Peter Danzig and Fellowship Partners Pat Bashaw and Eugene Segre. But this dream has an even longer history.

An Army brat, finding myself at a new high school, in suburban Washington, DC, I did what many brats do - I made as many friends as quickly as possible. I had jock, theater, genius, hippie and even "preppy" friends. And I was also in love with authors Colin Wilson, Thomas Disch, Harlan Ellison, George Gamow, Ray Bradbury and Hermann Hesse. To unify my world, I took inspiration from *The Glass Bead Game*, Hesse's last novel about a utopian but flawed future.

The Game basically encourages players to make deep connections between seemingly unrelated topics. I wanted to play that game. So I threw a party. My friends were just **bound** to get along, mix in and enjoy each other's ideas. I knew we could link music, science, poetry and math.

To their credit, my friends at least showed up. But no crowd emerged. There was no mingling, no networking, no bridging across the divide, just a bunch of people I liked who couldn't - or wouldn't - talk to one another. I was heartbroken. But I never stopped trying to connect people.

Fast forward 44 years. So far, our residents are letting fly with views on chaos theory, fracking, life on Mars, acoustics, pattern recognition and 3-D television. For thirty days we will live our core value to TRUST artists and scientists. Now I know: unlike my failed experiment in high school, collaborations will be formed. Life-long friendships will be created. Residents will be transformed. It's what artists for the past 35 years have called the "Djerassi magic."

Please be sure to look in on the [blogs](#) at the LEONARDO website. And, especially, mark your calendars **for Sunday, July 27 for a special LASER** (Leonardo Art Science Evening Rendezvous) **DAY** during our annual Open House/Open Studios. Thrill to the sights and sounds of "Scientific Delirium Madness."

Respectfully yours,

Margot H. Knight

P.S. Another new addition to Open House is a **plein air paint out** along the trails from 10 to noon. Thanks to our partners at the Arts and Culture Committee of the Town of Woodside.

Session 4

Scientific Delirium Madness

Now it begins. Are they artists? Are they scientists? Yes!! Our blend of artists with a scientific bent and scientists in pursuit of creative practice.

Devavani Chatterjea, Saint Paul, MN. Biologist
Jim Crutchfield, Davis, CA. Physicist
Curtis Frank, Stanford, CA. Chemical Engineer
Ari Frankel, New York, NY. Composer
Charlotte Jacobs, M.D., Stanford, CA. Writer
Sasha Petrenko, Richmond, CA. Media Artist

Budi Prakosa, Bogor, Indonesia, Industrial Engineer

Andreas Siagian, Bogor, Indonesia, Industrial Engineer

Donna Sternberg, Santa Monica, Choreographer

Dawn Sumner, Davis, CA. Geobiologist

Pireeni Sundaralingam, San Francisco, CA. (UK) Poet/Cognitive Scientist

Meredith Tromble, Oakland, CA. Media Artist



Session 3.2014

Many of the residents are blogging their experiences at <http://leonardo.info/blogs/>.

See the session 4 participants' biographies [here](#).

Don't miss: Open House

Sunday, July 27, 2014 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Djerassi Ranch, 2325 Bear Gulch Road Woodside. **Reservations are required.**

Admission: \$50 per person. Alumni of the Djerassi Program and children 12 and under are free. Click for [tickets](#).

Visit open studios, see and hear dance and music performances, as well as literary readings. Enjoy self-guided tours of our site-specific sculpture collection located on

winding trails among ancient redwoods, rolling hills and fern-shaded glens. This year's event features the residents of Scientific Delirium Madness, the first arts-and-science-themed residency at Djerassi. The program is cohosted with LEONARDO, The International Society for the Arts, Sciences and Technology/LASER-Leonardo Art Science Evening Rendezvous.



Composer Michael Harrison at Open House 2013. Photo L. Amador

New this year, see the "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, the finished works will be displayed at the Woodside Town Hall's First Friday event on August 1, 2014 from 4 to 8 PM. A portion of the admission price will go to the Committee.

Fly Djerassi

Charles Krenz came to Djerassi as part of a Ranch Weekend offered at our Artful Harvest gala last October. He brought some aerial photo equipment and then posted a dramatic view of the ranch on [YouTube](#). This is a preview of what you can see at our Open House July 27.



New installation: Time to Reflect, Marlene Hausegger, 2014. Photo by the artist.

Djerassi news

Alumni Symbiosis

Just weeks after their stay on the mountain, **Lisa Locascio (2014)** featured fellow resident **Olga Lah (2014)** in an article entitled *Olga Lah's Theological Installations* on KCET's Artbound webpage. The story spotlights Olga's work - including *Expectation* (photo) in the old barn. The nature of her pieces are such that they appear different every time she shows them. The Southern California-based Lah has had multiple installations throughout the southland. Ms Locascio worked on a novel during her stay at the ranch. See the [article](#).



Just Passing Through

Tim Braun (2010) visited the Artists' Ranch on his way around the country with his loyal sidekick-dog Dusty. Austin, Texas-based Tim is keeping a blog and documenting his travels. See his latest at timothybraun.com and check out one of his [Weeklings](#) reports (Rogue Commentary for Now People).

Choose Your Partner Do-si-doh

We received 34 applications from alumni proposing ideas for our new workshop/retreat program in 2015 and 2016. **Sara Shelton Mann (1995, 2011)**, **Laurie Stone (2007)**, **Jamie Pachino (1998)**, **Heidi Darrow (2005, 2013)**, **Ann Fisher-Wirth (2005)**, **Nova Ren Suma (2012)** and **Jane Vandenburg (2010, winter 2014)** were selected as faculty members for 2015 and 2016. Registration will go "live" in early September.

Catching Up

Susan Goodell (1997) was featured in an interview at www.dcmetroarts.com ... **Ian Winters (2013)** is presenting some workshops this

summer. See his e-newsletter at <http://www.ianwinters.com/>... *Red Stain*. That's the title of a new chapbook of poetry by **Liza Porter (1999, winter 2012)** from Finishing Line Press. It's available online at www.lizaporter.com... *RAWdance - Ryan Smith and Wendy Rein (2011)* - begins its Summer Season July 25. See their upcoming events schedule at <http://www.rawdance.org/calendar/> ... **Jamie Pachino (1998)** is executive story editor/writer on the AMC series *Halt and Catch Fire*. As listed above, Jamie will host a writing workshop at the ranch.

Comings, Goings & Showings

ART//SKY wants you! Alumni, send us your arts events. Please email your upcoming exhibitions, performances, premieres and/or book tours (as far in advance as possible) to nick@djerassi.org.

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



Cheryl Tan (2012) editor of *Singapore Noir* at the Commonwealth Club, San Francisco.

July 17 & 19 **Deborah Slater (1992, winter 2012)**

leading her Dance Theater in a *work in progress* for *Fury Festival* at Z Below, 470 Florida St., San Francisco <http://www.deborahslater.org/>

Through July 19 **Kara Maria (2003)** *Incarnate*, group exhibition with artists Josephine Taylor, Kate Gilmore and dancers Damian Smith and Anna Halprin, Catharine Clark Gallery, 248 Utah St., San Francisco.

July 20 **Sarah Klein (2005, winter 2013)** *Stop & Go: Made From Scratch*, food-themed animations, [Gigant](#), StadsOase Outdoor Caravan, Appledorn, Netherlands
<http://www.stopandgoshow.com/latest.html>

July 23 - 25 **Sam Kim (2013)** *FEAR IN PORCELAIN* (working title) dance at JACK, 505 Waverly Ave, Brooklyn NY <http://www.jackny.org/>

July 25 - 27 **Isak Immanuel (2012)** *ANACONIC* by *Tableau Stations*, interdisciplinary dance, presented by New Maps International Performances, at SOMArts, San Francisco.

Through July 31 **Linda Mieko Allen (2001, 2008)** *'Figmenta,'* new paintings, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, 520 27th St., New York City.

Through July 31 **Brian Goggin (1997, 2006)** *Defenestration*, landmark San Francisco installation ends. The 17-year-old exhibition must make way for the demolition of the Hugo Hotel. Last chance to see it at the southwest corner of 6th and Howard Sts., San Francisco.

Through August 1 **Benigna Chilla (1988)**, *Transmutations*, paintings, Cultural Center of the Dalai Lama, 22 W. 15th St., New York City.

Through August 2 **Val Britton (2014)** *Passage*, two dimensional works and site-specific sculpture installation, Gallery Wendi Norris, 161 Jessie St., San Francisco.

Through August 2 **Angie Wilson (2013)** with Michelle Grabner and Lena Wolff, *A Pattern Language*, CULT/Aimee Friberg Exhibitions, 3191 Mission Street, San Francisco.

Through August 3 **Robert Buelteman (1996, winter 2014)** *Signs of Life*, photograms, Gates Garden Court Gallery, Denver Botanic Gardens, Denver, CO.

Through August 10 **Donna Musil (2014)** *Unclassified: The Military Kid Art Show*, film, Baron and Elin Gordon Art Galleries, Old Dominion University, Monarch Way, Norfolk, VA.

August 10 **Christy Funsch (2012)** and Funsch Dance 2014, *Impose Upon Me* (premiere), part of the *Bay Area Now 7 Series*, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco.

Through August 22 **Timothy Nolan (2006, winter 2012)** *Conversations*, curated by Sharon Loudon, visual arts, Morgan Lehman Gallery, 535 West 22nd St., New York, NY.

Through August 31 **Beili Liu (2006)** *Chine*, installations, Art Museum of Southeast Texas, 500 Main St., Beaumont, TX.

Through August 31 **Marietta Hoferer (2002)** *The Appearance of Clarity: Works in Black and White*, visual arts, Helen Day Art Center, Stowe, Vermont.

Through Oct 12 **Susan Robb (2012)** *What is wild? Where is wild? Are you wild?* Grand Central Art Center, California State University, Fullerton, CA.

Through November 11 **Mauro Staccioli (1987, 89, 90, 99)** sculpture in Parc du Domaine Seneffe, Chateau Seneffe, Belgium.

ART///SKY July 2014

A publication of the Djerassi Resident Artists Program, Nick Walsh, editor.

Banner art: *The Guardians*, Nicole Buffett, 2013, Photos by N. Walsh or as noted.

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