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**Subject:** It's All About the Artists

**Preheader:** Breaking News: Open Now

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**November 2016**

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## Artful Harvest | Comings & Goings | Last Session!



### **We're All Wet**

Thanksgiving greetings from the 'greenish' mountain after the 2<sup>nd</sup> wettest October since 1921. Good thing that artists and other Djerassi lovers are made of hardy stock. The 40 mph gusts and horizontal rain did nothing to dampen the spirits of the 130 souls who braved the foggy road and muddy parking to celebrate **Artful Harvest**.

Their rewards were plentiful - spectacular performances by master puppeteer **Basil Twist**, stirring prose by **Ingrid Rojas Contreras** and Michelin-star level food prepared in the Artists' Barn open and chilly garage by chef Mark Sullivan from Woodside's famous Village Pub. Thanks to EVERYONE who helped make what could have been a disaster, a success.

I'm also pleased to welcome two new employees - BOTH of whom will be helping "green up" the place. **Felicia Herron** is our new Environmental Resources Associate. Not only is she a seasoned ranch hand, she has a BA in Environmental Conservation and Restoration Studies from Sonoma State. Felicia will be our point person to insure the Program's land management and conservation mission has equal billing with our mission to support artists. The two are inextricably linked, historically and forever.

**Gregory Stock** joins us in the newly revitalized position of Director of Development, seeking the kind of green to keep it all going. Most recently, Gregory was Director of Public Affairs with ILLUMINATE where he helped raise \$4M to usher Leo Villareal's *The Bay Lights* back to the Bay Bridge. He is clearly a champion of the creative process.

The ground is saturated, our hearts are full. Our last group of core artists will take their leave within a couple of weeks. Hello and goodbye. Hello and goodbye. The seasons change and the creative talents who spend time here are nourished. And then go out to nourish the world.

**Have a very Happy Thanksgiving.**

Care & Respect,  
**Margot H. Knight**  
Executive Director

### **Session Team 6**

Amazingly, the last session of the year is here (that was fast!). We'll remember the 2016 season as one of our all-time best.

**October 12 to November 16**

**Visual Arts**

**Cody Bustamante**, Ashland, OR  
**Tanja Geis**, Oakland, CA  
**Sarah Grew**, Eugene, OR  
**Lani Montreal**, Chicago, IL

**Literary Arts**

**Dano Madden**, Hoboken, NJ,  
Playwright  
**Rosemary McGuire**, Haines, AK,  
Writer  
**Alison Owings**, Mill Valley, CA, Writer  
**Mona Rae Washington**, Cinnaminson,  
NJ, Playwright  
**Nancy Webb**, Madison, WI, Writer

**Choreography**

**Erica Mott**, Chicago

**Music Composition**

**Paul Kikuchi**, Seattle, WA



Session 5.2016

See a listing and biographies of 2016 artists [here](#).

**See us 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.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTyrQiJCrxDSJcv5Utd2SoQ>



**Ingrid Rojas Contreras tells an extraordinary story**

**Artful Harvest 2016**

Although starting out in weather "fit for neither man nor beast," Artful Harvest provided shelter against the storm. With temperatures in the 50s and over three inches of rain - blowing sideways - the churning elements actually encouraged a kind of group togetherness.

Despite a faulty internet (no surprise there), cars spinning in mud, and a multitude of reasons to perhaps skip

the Harvest, almost all the scheduled guests arrived. In true Artful Harvest tradition, the Village Pub food was excellent. And, as a welcome bonus, the sun emerged (albeit temporarily) and welcomed the programs presented by **Basil Twist (2005, winter '11)** and **Ingrid Rojas Contreras (2013)**.

All factors resulted in one of the best Artful Harvests in its 10-year run. Thank you to all, and we'll see you back on the mountain next year!



**Actual sun!**



**Basil Twist performs**

#### **Just Missed ...**

On Sunday October 23, The San Francisco Dance Film Festival featured two short dance films made at the Artists' Ranch. Under the auspices of

Co-Laboratory Films, with a grant from the Kenneth Rainin Foundation, filmmakers were introduced to dance companies to produce the films. *In the Space Between* was a collaboration between **Deborah Slater (1992, multiple winters, former trustee)** and filmmaker Herve Cohen. The second film was *The Wind Telephone*, a union of Joe Stillwater, filmmaker, and Nicole Klaymoon, choreographer. The films were created during a weekend stay on the mountain.

See the festival's website:

<http://www.sfdancefilmfest.org/>

**Julie Mayo's (2013)** *Novatia Tryer*, dance performance was featured in *Making Space* - Gibney Dance's New York fall season. More info at

<https://gibneydance.org/>

**Koji Nakano (2015)** shared his newest composition *Imagined Sceneries for two sopranos, koto, chamber ensemble and prerecorded tracks*. These were premiered on Oct 29 as part of Scripps Erma Taylor O'Brien Distinguished Visiting Professorship at Scripps College in Claremont, CA.

**Frank Foreman (1983, 2015, multiple winters)** wrapped up his group show in Santa Cruz honoring his late wife. *Judy's Cabinet of DADA Curiosities & More, A retrospective of five decades of art by Judy Foreman (1940 - 2014)* included work by Djerassi.

Read an online review of the show:

<http://localsantacruz.com/galleries/judys-cabinet-dada-curiosities-r-blitzer-gallery/>

**Jeff Hantman (2009)** participated in the fortieth year of [SCRAP's](#) presentation of *Reclaimed: Elevating the Art of Reuse*, a juried exhibition highlighting Bay Area artists who create work from repurposed materials.

He also presented *Particle No. 2, 2014*, as part of 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Emeryville Art Exhibition, in Emeryville, CA.

**Mare Hieronimous (2015)** created *Playa Womb*, photos and video of performance from the high desert lake basin of Playa Summer Lake, Oregon. The presentation was at Groundsfor Sculpture, The East Gallery in Hamilton, NJ.



**After the Harvest: The Journey Home**

## *Djerassi news*

Reviews are in on **Lenora Lee's (2013)** *The Eye of Compassion*. Read KQED's take: <https://ww2.kqed.org/arts/2016/09/28/lenora-lee-tells-story-of-historic-cameron-house-through-dance/>

**Joya Cory (1983)** Intermediate/Advanced classes are coming up.: at Wildcat Studio, 2525 8th St at Dwight, Berkeley, CA. Sunday November 13, 12-5pm, *Focus on Solo*.

See more at Joya's website: <http://www.joyacory.com/>

If you missed **Basil Twist** at **Artful Harvest**, be sure to check out his website to catch up with his latest endeavors: <http://www.basiltwist.com/>. The 2015 MacArthur Foundation Fellow is working on, among other things, a new *Nutcracker* for Chicago's Joffrey Ballet for the Christmas season. See **CG&S - Dec 10** - below.



**Kudos to Sarah Broom (2012)** as she received the *2016 Whiting Award for Creative Nonfiction* for her book *The Yellow House*. Presented by the Whiting Foundation of New York, the award describes Sarah as "a writer of stunning gifts," and

the story as "timeless in its telling." Congratulations, Sarah.

**Kudos** also to **Julia Wolfe (1994)** who has been awarded a *2016 MacArthur Fellowship*. The composer was recognized as someone "who combines influences from folk, classical, and rock genres in works that are grounded in historical and legendary narratives...Wolfe demonstrates an openness to sonic possibilities."

**Nick Hadikwa Mwaluko's (2011)** book *Waafrika* is available on Amazon. His newly written sequel *Waafrika 123* is now available from the writer through Nick's email: [nhm9@cas.columbia.edu](mailto:nhm9@cas.columbia.edu).

Former trustee **Anna Deavere Smith's** new play *Notes From the Field* is reviewed by Kate Taylor in The New York Times. The play "looks at crime, education and the Baltimore [the author] left behind."

[http://www.nytimes.com/2016/10/16/theater/anna-deavere-smith-notes-from-the-field.html?mc\\_cid=2d64a40d7e&mc\\_eid=ea6544dd2d&r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2016/10/16/theater/anna-deavere-smith-notes-from-the-field.html?mc_cid=2d64a40d7e&mc_eid=ea6544dd2d&r=1)

**Jin Hi Kim (1995)** took part in the International Society for Improvised Music's (ISIM) 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary improvisational concert. Jin was artistic director for the event, held in collaboration with the Jeonju, South Korea, International Sori Festival and the Korean Society of World Music.

Read a review of **Kara Lee Corthron's (2014)** debut novel *The Truth of Right Now* at the *Kirkus Reviews* website. <https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/kara-lee-corthron/the-truth-of-right-now/>. "A powerhouse of storytelling that feels timely and timeless."

An extensive excerpt from **Melissa Burch's (2015)** cold war novel, *My Voyage Through War and Peace* is quoted in the *Utne Reader*. The passage details her travels with the Mujahedeen in the Afghan war against the Soviet Union. See the article: <http://www.utne.com/politics/war-correspondent-ze0z1610zfol>

**Kara Candito's (2015)** poetry *Spectator* and *Taste of Cherry* are reviewed by Kristina Marie Darling at AGNI, an online literary magazine. <http://www.bu.edu/agni/reviews/online/2016/darling.html>

Find **Camille Dungy's (2014)** new work, *Guidebook to Relative Strangers* [on Amazon](#).

The site describes the book as "An award-winning African-American poet debuts in prose with a stunningly graceful and honest exploration of race, motherhood and history."

It's that time again! **Mark Foehringer's (2012)** *Nutcracker Sweets* is set for holiday

performances. Intended for children and performed to live music, the program has become a legendary Bay Area tradition. Also see listing below in CG&S, **Dec 10**. For tickets, click <http://nutcrackersweets.org>.



*Dialog*, Roland Mayer, 2004.

# C G & S

## Comings, Goings & Showings

"And maybe someday we'll figure all this out ..." - Rob Thomas, *Someday*. Now help our ART//SKY readers learn all about your latest upcoming events, exhibitions, performances, premieres and/or book tours (as far in advance as possible, please). Send 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.

**Nov 4** Marshall Reese  
(1994, '98, '02) *Political Advertisement IX, 1952 to 2016*. SVA Theatre, 333 W. 23<sup>rd</sup> St., New York, NY.

**Nov 4 - 6** Christy Funsch  
(2006, 2013) Performance:  
*Le Grand Spectacle de l'effort et de l'artifice*, ODC Theater, 3153 Shotwell at 17<sup>th</sup> St., San Francisco.

**Nov 4 - 27** Terra Fuller  
(development manager)  
*Tunapu, Drawings, carpets,*

*baskets, etc.*, grizzlygrizzly, 319A N. 11<sup>th</sup> St., 2D, Philadelphia, PA. See more at [grizzlygrizzly.com](http://grizzlygrizzly.com) or [terrafuller.com](http://terrafuller.com), as one of our own hits the big time!

**Nov 4 - Dec 11** Johanna Baruch (past trustee) *An Inner Cosmos*, visual art. Gallery Route One, 11101 Highway One, Ste. 1101, Point Reyes Station, CA.

**Nov 5** Donna Sternberg (2014) *Bodies of Water*, Donna Sternberg & Dancers in collaboration with soundscape artist Rima Snyder and photographer Moses Hacmon. Helms Bakery Plaza, 8745 Washington Blvd., Culver City, CA.



*Benches*, Adam Kuby, 2016, photo by the artist.



**Nov 5 Melissa Wyman (2015)** *Pumping Patterns*, Four Elements Art Series, Four Elements Fitness, 153 17<sup>th</sup> St., Oakland, CA.

**Nov 5 Roberto Paci Dalo (1987)** *Roberto Paci Dalo ye Shanghai*, film, clarinet and electronic music. Museo d'Arte Orientale, via San Domenico 11, Turin, Italy.

**Nov 5 - Dec 23 Freddy Chandra (2009)**  
*Slipstream*, wall reliefs, Brian Gross Fine Art, 248 Utah St. San Francisco.

**Nov 9 - 19 Sam Kim (2013)** *Fear in Porcelain*, dance performance. The Chocolate Factory, 5-49 49th Avenue, Long Island City, NY.

**Nov 10 Pamela Z (2010)** *Del Sol Quartet plays Z*, Kanbar Forum, Exploratorium, San Francisco. Also **Nov 11-12**, *Tribute to Bjork's Homogenic*, The Independent, 628 Divisadero, San Francisco.

**Nov 10 Donna Kaz (1995)**, book launch for *UN/MASKED, Memoirs of a Guerrilla Girl On Tour*, WORD, Franklin St., Brooklyn, NY. Also: **Nov 14** - Book Soup, 8818 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles; **Nov 16** - Book Passage, San Francisco; **Nov 18** - Hugo House, Seattle, and **Nov 30** - New York University. See more at [donnakaz.com](http://donnakaz.com).

**Nov 11 - Dec 18 Sandra Gibson (2011, winter '13) and Luis Recoder (winter 2013)**  
*Powers of Resolution*, film, solo exhibition, Exploratorium, Pier 15, San Francisco.

**Nov 12 - Dec 22 Karen Tam (2011)**, exhibition of a herd of piñata versions of Tang Dynasty funerary ceramic statues of horses and camels, alongside cyanotype tiles depicting constellations from the star charts found in the Dunhuang caves. Galerie Hugues Charbonneau, 372 Ste. Catherine O., Montréal. <http://huguescharbonneau.com>

**Nov 19 Dusan Tynek (2016)**, dance performance, *(DT)2 at Kaatsbaan*, International Dance Center, 33 Kaatsbaan Rd., Tivoli, NY.

**Nov 19 Pamela Z**, *Solo performance: Resonance Concert*, Univ. of Michigan McIntosh Theatre, Ann Arbor, Michigan.



**Nov 19, 20** **Donna Sternberg**, interactive performance with "*Chill*," an installation by Lee Mundwiler architects. Part of the Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy.

**Nov 23 - Feb 12** **Karen Tam (2011)** "*DIY Chinoiserie*," including *Terra dos Chinês Curio Shop*, installation. Musée d'art Contemporain des Laurentides, 101 place du Curé-Labelle, Saint-Jérôme, Quebec, Canada. <http://www.museelaurentides.ca>

**Nov 24 - Mar 17** **Chris Fraser (2013)**, installation and sculpture group show, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico.

**Dec 1 - 4** **Basil Twist (2005, winter '11)** previews of Christopher Wheeldon's *The Nutcracker Ballet*, performed by the Joffrey Ballet of Chicago. University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA.

**Thru Dec 4** **Carol De Pasquale (2015)** *Sunset Reeds*, painting, Fall National Juried Exhibition, Marin Museum of Contemporary Art, 500 Palm Dr., Novato, CA.

**Dec 7** **Stacey Steers (2014)** premiere of film *Edge of Alchemy*, Colorado Sharp Auditorium, Denver Art Museum, Denver, CO.

**Dec 10 - 30** **Basil Twist** Christopher Wheeldon's *The Nutcracker Ballet*, performed by the Joffrey Ballet of Chicago. The Auditorium Theatre, 50 E. Congress Pkwy, Chicago, IL.

**Dec 10, 11, 17 - 20** **Mark Foehringer (2012)** *Nutcracker Sweets*, Cowell Theatre, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco. Tickets: <http://nutcrackersweets.org/>

**Thru Dec 31** **Barbara Edelstein (1994, '96)** and **Jian-Jun Zhang (1995)** *Under Heaven: Contemporary Art from China in the Ahmanson Collection*, Ahmanson Gallery, Irvine, CA.

**Thru Jan 1** **Jessica Dunne** *Al Mutanabbi Street Starts Here - In Defense of Culture*, San Francisco Public Library, 100 Larkin St., San Francisco.

**Jan 3 and 8** **Dusan Tynek**, *Jumping for the Joy(ce)!*, American Dance Platform, Joyce Theatre, 175 Eighth Avenue, New York, NY.

**Thru Jan 7 Stacey Steers** *Phantom Canyon*, animation and multimedia. John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

**Thru Jan 8 Sandra Gibson and Luis Recoder** *Celluloid*, group exhibition, EYE Filmmuseum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

**Jan 13 - Apr 2 Sandra Gibson and Luis Recoder** *Light Spill*, film, solo exhibition, Memorial Art Gallery, University of Rochester, NY.

**Thru Feb 19 Joan Perlman (1990, winter '13)**, "a sky in a palm of a hand" paintings and video. With Lloyd Hamrol. Pasadena Museum of California Art, 490 East Union St., Pasadena, CA.

**Thru Feb 25 Stacey Steers** *Night Hunter*, solo exhibition, South Dakota Art Museum, Brookings, South Dakota.

**Thru May 31 Barbara Edelstein and Jian-Jun Zhang** "Wu-U Speech: Artists Living in Shanghai." Shanghai Art Museum, Shanghai, China.

#### **ART//SKY November 2016**

A publication of Djerassi Resident Artists Program. Written and edited by Nick Walsh: [nick@djerassi.org](mailto:nick@djerassi.org). Artful Harvest photos Ingrid, Basil and Sun by Kristen Stipanov. Remaining photos by N. Walsh, unless noted. Banner art: *To Market To Market*, **Ann Weber** and **William Wareham, 2000**. Banner photo: Chris Schumauch.

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