UCSB Department of Art + College of Creative Studies

Spring 2016 Arts Colloquium

The UCSB Department of Art & College of Creative Studies presents Spring 2016 Visiting Artist Colloquium. The COLLOQUIUM offers a wide range of voices exploring the topics of contemporary art, theory, and cultural production by emerging and established visiting artists, as well as members of UCSB's own distinguished Art faculty.

Presentations will take place each Thursday, from March 31 through June 2 2016. All lectures are free and open to the public, held every Thursday from 5:00 to 6:50pm in UCSB’s Embarcadero Hall in Isla Vista.

For directions to location, please visit campus map link: http://www.aw.id.ucsb.edu/maps/images/aw_pdfso/EmbarcaderoHall.pdf

4.31.2016
Yara El-Sherbini

My playful interdisciplinary practice uses pop culture and humor to engage audiences in questioning social and political systems of power and influence. I appropriate familiar objects and social events, which are universally recognizable within specific cultural contexts (games, souvenirs), to invite audiences to take a look at the society that they live in, often revealing underlying belief systems, drawing audiences into a series of questions that ask ‘how do we come to know what it is that we know’ – Yara El-Sherbini, 2015
Yara El-Sherbini (1978, London) received her MA from the Slade, UCL. In 2015 she presented work at the Venice Biennial, and had solo shows at the New Art Exchange, Nottingham, Wolverhampton Art Gallery and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Santa Barbara. Recent commissions include The Victoria & Albert, London for their National Art Library’s new initiative to archive contemporary & modern Arab, Turkish & Iranian art and design in 2012. Artist in Residence’s include the Hayward Gallery as part of Wide Open School, in 2012, and at ZKM, Germany as part of The Global Contemporary in 2011. She has shown work at Modern Art Oxford, David Roberts Art Foundation (London), RCA (London) and Lombard-Fried Projects (New York). Her work has been shown at the V&A (London), Arnolfini (Bristol), National Portrait Gallery (London), Tate Britain (London), Ikon Gallery (Birmingham), CCCB Museum (Barcelona), Quad Gallery (Derby), BALTIC (Gateshead).

http://www.yaraelsherbini.com/
Kip Fulbeck is a pioneering artist, spoken word performer, and filmmaker. He has been featured on CNN, MTV, Today Show, and PBS, and has performed and exhibited in over twenty countries and throughout the U.S. He is the author of several books including *mixed: portraits of multiracial kids; part asian, 100% hapa*; and *permanence: tattoo portraits*, as well as the director of a dozen short films including *banana split* and *lilo & me*.

Fulbeck teaches as a Professor of Art at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he received the university’s distinguished teaching award and has been named an outstanding faculty member five times in recognition for his work promoting multiracial awareness, he was awarded the inaugural loving prize at the 2009 mixed roots film & literary festival and also named a cultural pioneer at Harvard University. In 2014, he was named a local hero by Southern California’s kcec public broadcasting service and also received the community builder award at Vancouver’s Hapa-Palooza festival. A complete overachiever despite being only half-Chinese, Kip is also an avid surfer, guitar player, ocean lifeguard, dog lover, and multiple-time national champion in US masters swimming.  

Lewis deSoto, born 1954, in San Bernardino, California is known for his installations, sculpture and public art that engages cosmological questions, notions of self, and plays with inherent phenomena. His Spanish and Cahuilla (Native American) heritage are often subjects of his work; as, for example, in his constructed, fictional automobiles with titles such as the “1965 DeSoto Conquest” (2004), and the “1981 GMC Cahuilla (2006).” He was educated at UC Riverside and Claremont Graduate University. He taught at Otis Art Institute in Los Angeles, Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle, served as the Director of Graduate Studies at California College of Arts and Crafts and as is currently a Professor of Art at San Francisco State University. His work has been exhibited in Japan, Europe and the United States. His work is in the collections of the Seattle Art Museum, the Museum of Modern Art in New York and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles as well as many private collections. His exhibition, “Paranirvana”, currently on view at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art, travelled from 2003-4 in the United States, organized by Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA. and curated by Dan Mills, the Director of the Samek Art Center. He has also published series of photographic and print projects, including “Appellation,” a large scale examination of the viticultural landscape, “KLS,” a graphic illustration of a Hermann Hesse novelette, and is currently working on “Core Samples,” graphic extractions from scans from personal photographs that engage autobiography and poetry. His most recent book, “Empire”, is a collection of photographs about the California Landscape.

https://www.sbma.net/exhibitions/desoto#sthash.ICEVRPKL.dpuf
Lisa Jevbratt is a Swedish born artist and a professor in the Art Department and in the Media Art Technology program at University of California, Santa Barbara. For more than a decade she explored the expressions and exchanges created by the protocols and languages of the Internet and the Web, often manifesting as visualization software. She is now applying her understanding of these unintentional collaborations onto exchanges with animals of other species and their experiences of the world around them. In her ongoing endeavor "Interspecies Collaboration" she invites students to collaborate with individuals of other species and her current software-art project Zoomorph is software generating simulations of how non-human animals see.

Jevbratt's work has been exhibited extensively in venues such as The Walker Art Center (Minneapolis), Banff Centre for the Arts (Canada), The New Museum (New York), The Swedish National Public Art Council (Stockholm, Sweden), and the Biennial at the Whitney Museum of American Art (New York); Her current project ZooMorph -is supported by a Creative Capital grant.

http://jevbratt.com/
I am an artist who makes videos, performances, movement-based works, installations, and community-generated projects. I use these diverse media to interrogate how constructions of gender, race, class and progress operate in American communities, shared myths, public rituals and private desires; in so doing, I dissect the contradictions embedded in performances of power. Formally, I draw on my extensive background in movement-based theater and dance, as well as historical vernacular forms of manipulating sensation. My work has been shown by the Museum of Contemporary Art Denver, High Desert Test Sites, Human Resources, Autonomie Gallery, LAX><ART, workspace gallery, GLAMFA, and Movement Research at Judson Church. I recently completed my first public video art commission from the Great Wall of Oakland, in collaboration with artist Ellen Sebastian Chang. I was a 2014 Visualist in Residence with the Institute of Cultural Inquiry. From 1998-2008, I wrote and directed original devised theater, creating new works in New York, rural Mississippi, San Diego, the SF Bay Area, and Los Angeles. Individually and with hrt company Temescal Labs, Gurantz have received grants and awards from the NEA, the Center for Cultural Innovation, the Fleishacker Foundation, the Zellerbach Family Foundation, Theater Bay Area, the Puffin Foundation, and the Bay Area Critics Circle. I have a B.A. from Yale and an M.F.A. in Studio Art from UC Irvine. – Maya Gurantz

http://mayagurantz.com/about/
L.J. Roberts is an artist and writer whose studio practice incorporates a wide range of traditional and unconventional textile techniques, and recently collaged works on paper and filmmaking. Their work explores the intersections of feminist queer and trans politics, activism, the on-going AIDS epidemic, collective action, community, and protest.

Their work has been shown nationally and internationally in such venues as The Smithsonian Museum of American Art, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Vox Populi, La Mama Gallery, The Miller Gallery at Carnegie Mellon University, Leslie Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art, Oakville Galleries, The Orange County Museum of Art, The Bag Factory, The San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles, and A.I.R. Gallery. Currently their work can be seen in the nationally touring exhibition Alien She, presently at Museum of Contemporary Craft in Portland, Oregon, and in the exhibition Disobedient Objects which originated at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London and opens in 2015 at The Powerhouse Museum in Sydney, Australia. L.J.’s recent embroidery work exhibited in upcoming shows at the Bowdoin College Museum of Art and the ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives at The University of Southern California in Los Angeles.

http://ljroberts.net/
A native of Slovenia and a theatre and radio director by profession, Peljhan founded the arts + technology organization Projekt Atol and cofounded one of the first media labs in Eastern Europe, LJUDMILA in the early 90s. In the same year, the founded the technology branch of Projekt Atol called PACT SYSTEMS, where he developed the Global Positioning System based participatory networked mapping project, the Urban Colonisation and Orientation Gear 144, one of the first works in the s.c. “locative media” genre. He has been working on the Makrolab, a project that focuses on telecommunications, migrations and weather systems research in an intersection of art and science from 1997-2007, the Interpolar Transnational Art Science Constellation during the International Polar Year (project 417) and is currently, together with Matthew Biederman, coordinating the Arctic Perspective Initiative art/science/tactical media project focused on the global significance of the Arctic geopolitical, natural and cultural spheres. Peljhan has also been the flight director of ten parabolic experimental flights in collaboration with the Microgravity Interdisciplinary Research initiative and the Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre, creating conditions for artists to work in alternating gravity conditions.

Peljhan is the recipient of many prizes for his work, including the 2001 Golden Nica Prize at Ars Electronica together with Carsten Nicolai for their work, polar, and the UNESCO Digital Media Prize for Makrolab in 2004. During 2008, Peljhan was appointed as one of the European Union Ambassadors of Intercultural dialogue. His work was exhibited internationally at multiple biennales and festivals (Venice, Gwangju, Brussels, Manifesta, Johannesburg, Istanbul), at the documenta X in Kassel, several ISEA exhibitions, several Ars Electronica presentations and major museums, such as the P.S.1 MOMA, New Museum of Contemporary Art, ICC NTT Tokyo, YCAM Yamaguchi and others. From 2009 on he is the one of the series editors of the Arctic Perspective Cahiers series (Hatje Cantz).

http://www.ladomir.net/bio-summary
**Artists of LightWorks 2016**

*LightWorks Isla Vista*, is a light-based public arts festival, taking place from **May 20-21, 2016** in downtown Isla Vista, CA. Isla Vista is the densely populated college community of 21,000 inhabitants located along the beautiful central coast, adjacent to the campus of University of California, Santa Barbara.

Selected artists across California have been commissioned to create temporary outdoor artworks designed to transform the central parks of Isla Vista into illuminated spaces for art, performance, and evening engagement by the community. Artists will employ light-emitting technologies as a medium in the creation of experimental performance, site-specific installation, free-standing sculpture and/or public art (ranging in scale and scope) are encouraged to apply. Light-emitting technologies may include but are not limited to LED, projections, digital, and surface/screen-based works.

*LightWorks Isla Vista* is part of a long-term community improvement effort led by a strategic group of partners and agencies, including the UC Santa Barbara Departments of Visual and Public Art, Santa Barbara County Arts Commission, Office of the 3rd Supervisorial District and County Sheriff, Isla Vista Recreation and Parks District (IVRPD), Isla Vista Community Network (IVCN), UCSB Materials Research Laboratory, Santa Barbara Foundation, and the Santa Barbara Center for Art, Science and Technology (SBCAST).

[http://www.arts.ucsb.edu/lightworksiv/](http://www.arts.ucsb.edu/lightworksiv/)
Black Salt Collective is the work of Sarah Sass Biscarra-Dilley, Grace Rosario Perkins, Anna Luisa Petrisko, and Adee Roberson. Black Salt embodies cultural and contemporary narratives. The work is cultural, but not “cultural” in the anthropological sense of the word, as cultural art is often seen through a Western lens. Black Salt is about contemporary non-linear identity in which experience results in atmosphere. [http://blacksaltcollective.tumblr.com/](http://blacksaltcollective.tumblr.com/)
Cog•nate Collective is a binational collective of artists + researchers analyzing dynamics of exchange across the US/Mexico border through collaborative research projects + public interventions + experimental pedagogical programs. Their work proposes an understanding of the border not as a bifurcating line, but as a region that expands and contracts with the movement of people and objects, inviting critical engagement with issues of migration, informal economies and the construction of collective identities in the Baja/Alta California transborder region.

From 2011-2014 they ran Cognate Space, a research + workshop space sited in a craft market at the San Ysidro Port of Entry— the busiest land border crossing in the world— between Tijuana B.C. and San Diego, CA. Programs included: art workshops, a residency hosting a co-op of previously excluded Mixtec women artisans, a hyper-local pirate radio station produced in-site to share testimonies of border workers & crossers, and Dialogue in Transit, a mobile conference that took place in a caravan of cars waiting to cross the border discussing the effects of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) 20 years after its implementation.

Cog•nate Collective is currently in-residence at Grand Central Art Center in Santa Ana, CA, where they are expanding their work tracing cultural + economic networks established and maintained through migration and informal markets stretching between Tijuana + Los Angeles.

To learn about the work of Cog.nate Collective, visit: cognatecollective.com