



Wave Hill **A public garden & cultural center**

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Seven Deadly Sins: Wrath—Force of Nature

June 7–September 7, 2015

Diane Burko, Angela Dufresne, Brian Adam Douglas, Julie Heffernan, Amer Kobaslija, Kent Monkman, Tameka Norris, Brian Novatny, David Opdyke, Anne Peabody, Jon Rappleye and Alexis Rockman

Bronx, NY, May 14, 2014—Wave Hill joins with its partners in the Fairfield Westchester Museum Alliance in presenting *Seven Deadly Sins: Wrath—Force of Nature*, one in a groundbreaking series of seven exhibitions taking place this summer. Each of seven cultural institutions explores one of the seven deadly sins, a favorite subject of painters and poets over the centuries.

A sanctuary and garden located in the Bronx overlooking the Hudson River and Palisades, Wave Hill chose wrath as a way to focus on nature at its most fierce. This dense exhibition pictures a collective anxiety about the frequency and intensity of natural disasters—tsunamis, hurricanes, floods, droughts and forest fires—and climate change. It features 26 paintings and sculptures that showcase the ways in which artists respond to these catastrophes. The exhibition will be complemented by programs across the institution, especially on *Sinful Weekend*, Saturday and Sunday, August 8 and 9.

Underpinning the show is Wave Hill's interest in presenting work that contributes to the way we think about these disasters, and the conceptual and visual tools we need in order to make sense of, and, ultimately, cope with, an increasingly precarious world. Building on a rich legacy of allegorical paintings depicting wrath over the centuries—a tradition that continues today—paintings take pride of place, rounded out with one sculpture and one installation. The works in the show, tightly hung to envelop the visitor, will fill Glyndor Gallery, a former Georgian Revival home situated on the southern slope of Wave Hill's property. The intensely beautiful, ordered character of the garden landscape offers a striking contrast to the subject of the work in the exhibition.

The 12 artists shown have a history of engagement with the subject of natural disaster. **Alexis Rockman's** monumental studies of the sky in vibrant motion neatly counterpoint the near-abstract small paintings of **Brian Novatny**, which suggest shipwrecks and collapsing bridges. Using collage as a way to patch together imagery, both **Brian Adam Douglas** and **Tameka Norris** focus on the human toll of disasters. **Amer Kobaslija** and **Diane Burko** have rigorously pursued the observation of landscape in distress, through plein-air studies and aerial perspective painting respectively. **Anne Peabody** contributes a baroque installation of scorched copper leaves, evoking a wildfire, while **David Opdyke's** broken telephone pole irrupts directly onto Wave Hill's pristine grounds. **Angela Dufresne's** virtuosic brushwork and **Julie Heffernan's** haunting imagery suggest people in retreat or standing courageously against a risk-filled world. And in the work of **Kent Monkman** and **Jon Rappleye**, the human figure is taken violently apart and reconstituted, using art-historical, botanical and cultural references.

Wrath—Force of Nature is curated by Director of Arts and Senior Curator **Jennifer McGregor**, Curator of

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Visual Arts **Gabriel de Guzman** and Curatorial Fellow **David Xu Borgonjon**.

Wave Hill's collaborators in this summer's series of exhibitions are The Aldrich Museum (*Sloth*), Bruce Museum (*Pride*), Hudson River Museum (*Envy*), Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art (*Lust*), Katonah Museum (*Gluttony*) and the Neuberger Museum (*Greed*).

Public Programs

SUN, June 7, 2–4:30PM, Exhibitions Opening Reception. Meet the artists featured in Wave Hill's summer exhibitions, *Wrath—Force of Nature* and the two artists whose installations are showing in the Sunroom Project Space—**Tamara Johnson**, a deft sculptor who insinuates humor into the world of the everyday, **Eto Otitigbe**, who draws on his background in polymedia to encourage viewers to see the landscape as an interactive experience.

SAT, SUN, June 6, 7, 10AM–1PM, Family Art Project: Weather And Washes Outdoors. Take your artistic spirit outdoors and notice the subtle and forceful changes occurring in nature. With visiting artist Angela Dufresne, currently exhibiting in *Wrath—Force of Nature*, this summer's exhibition in Glyndor Gallery, capture what you see by combining mists of watercolor with stains, splashes and drips to make an atmospheric vision. Free, and admission to the grounds is free until noon.

TUE, July 28, 11AM, Group Excursion: American Museum of Natural History. Join Wave Hill staff at the American Museum of Natural History for a day of activities, beginning with a private tour of *Nature's Fury: The Science of Natural Disasters*. Stay for just the tour, or continue with the group and visit the Hayden Planetarium Space Show and then a screening in the LeFrak IMAX theater. \$45/\$35 Wave Hill Member. Registration required, online at wavehill.org or onsite at the Perkins Visitor Center.

SAT, SUN, August 8, 9, Sinful Weekend. Join us for a weekend of events ranging from family art to garden walks and keyed to the exhibition in Glyndor Gallery. All Sinful Weekend events are free with admission to the grounds.

SAT, SUN, August 8, 9, 10AM–1PM. Family Art Project: Sounds of Nature. What are nature's rhythms? What do they sound like when they are not in sync? Can we find healing through listening and balancing rhythm? Make a simple drum to experience the force of sound, or a wind chime to test out breezes, and get in tune as we join Bronx based musical troupe **iRetumba!** in a group dance and drum circle!

SAT, August 8, 11AM, Wrath In The Garden Walk: Plants Strike Back. Carnivorous plants clearly evoke images of vengeful garden flora, yet many other common plants employ prickly spines, poisonous sap or fetid blossoms to lure or deter passing creatures. Join Horticultural Interpreter **Charles Day** on a walk to uncover the more sinister aspects of the garden.

SAT, August 8, 1PM, Cooking Demo: Bitter Melon—A Vengeful Vegetable? Bitter in taste and weird in appearance, the intriguing bitter melon (*Momordica charantia*) is a popular ingredient in Asian, African and Caribbean cuisine. Discover quick-cooking techniques for the tender young fruits with a creative chef from **Great Performances**, then join a walk to observe this warty fruit in the gardens. Be prepared, they are bit horrific-looking, especially when they burst open and drip gooey red seeds!

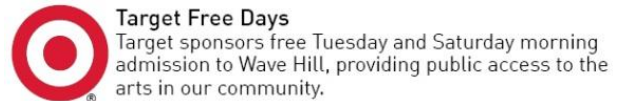
SAT, August 8, 2PM, Artists' Talk. Curators lead a discussion with artists about the ideas behind their work, considering the question of whether artists might act as first responders in the realm of the imagination.

SUN, August 9, 11:30AM, A Social Meditation: Reckoning With Wrath. Meditation can help relieve anger and re-align your body with your mind. Join Wave Hill staff on a short tour through the Glyndor Gallery exhibition *Wrath—Force of Nature*, and then reconvene with nature outside in a guided social meditation with guest instructor **Biet Simkin**, founder of **Center of the Cyclone**. Registration recommended, online at wavehill.org or onsite at the Perkins Visitor Center.

SUN, August 9, 2–4PM, Wrath and Resilience: Film Shorts. Guest curator **Andrew Ingall** selects five recent films by independent filmmakers, who represent a diverse group in terms of geography, genre and form. The films are *Eternal Storm* (2012) by Jamie Stuart, *Kombit* (2014) by Jeff Reichert and Farihah Zaman, *One Child* (2014) by Zijian Mu, *Can't Stop the Water* (2013) by Jason Ferris and Rebecca Marshall Ferris, and *Glory at Sea* (2008), by Benh Zeitlin.

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A 28-acre public garden and cultural center overlooking the Hudson River and Palisades, Wave Hill's mission is to celebrate the artistry and legacy of its gardens and landscapes, to preserve its magnificent views, and to explore human connections to the natural world through programs in horticulture, education and the arts.

- HOURS** Open year-round, Tuesday–Sunday and many major holidays.
9AM–5:30PM, Mar 15–Oct 31. 9AM–4:30PM, Nov 1–Mar 14.
- GALLERY HOURS** 10AM–4:30PM, Tuesday through Sunday.
- ADMISSION** \$8 adults, \$4 students and senior 65+, \$2 children 6-18.
- TO THE GROUNDS** Free Tuesdays and Saturdays until noon. Free to members, children under 6.

DIRECTIONS Getting here is easy! Located only 30 minutes from midtown Manhattan, Wave Hill's free shuttle van transports you to and from our front gate and Metro-North's Riverdale station, the W. 242 Street stop on the #1 subway line, and to and from our free offsite parking lot. Limited onsite parking is available for \$8 per vehicle. Complete directions and shuttle van schedule at wavehill.org.