



NOW MORE THAN EVER: DISSOLVING BARRIERS TO RESILIENCY PROJECT

ARTISTS: South Bronx Resiliency Artist Fellowship, THE POINT CDC

THEPOINT.ORG/ARTS-AND-CULTURE/SOUTH-BRONX-RESILIENCY-ARTS-FELLOWSHIP

With the South Bronx Resiliency Arts Fellowship, THE POINT aims to further social cohesion between two distinct populations co-existing in Hunts Point—residents and workers—via the arts. Living and working in this community places everyone at continued risks of storm surges, displacement, and the trauma associated with marginalization. With the four artists, Blanka Amezkua, Brandon Ballengée, Lynn Cazabon and Alicia Grullon, THE POINT curated a series of engagements in strategic corners of Hunts Point where residents and workers co-exist alongside an invisible barrier disconnecting them, although they face the same concerns. Artists were trained in environmental and social justice campaigns via the South Bronx Community Resiliency Agenda Lab. This content inspired artists to facilitate experiences to elucidate and bind these two populations to demand crucial changes that can benefit everyone. The artist-led workshops and products intend to leave a long-lasting footprint in Hunts Point by forging crucial alliances needed now more than ever.

THE POINT Community Development Corporation is dedicated to youth development and the cultural and economic revitalization of the Hunts Point section of the South Bronx. Celebrating over 20 years of service, THE POINT offers a multi-faceted approach to asset-based community development.

Projects by the four artists are described in following sections.

EVENTS

COUNTERING RISK THROUGH RESILIENCY, a conversation with THE POINT's Danny Peralta and Carey Clark and exhibiting artists Lillian Ball, Greg Lindquist and Tattfoo Tan.
THU, JUL 19, 6-7:30PM

ONBEHALFOF.LIFE: BRONX EDITION, with Environmental Performance Agency
THU, AUG 2, 6-7:30PM

SHUTTLE SERVICE Between Wave Hill and Derfner Judaica Museum to see *Erosion: Works by Leonard Ursachi*
SUN, AUG 5, 1:30AM-4PM



675 West 252nd Street
Bronx, NY 10471
718.549.3200
wavehill.org
#wavehill

Wave Hill is a public garden and cultural center in the Bronx overlooking the Hudson River and Palisades. Its 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.

SUPPORT FOR THE VISUAL ARTS PROGRAM IS PROVIDED BY LILY AUCHINCLOSS FOUNDATION, INC., MILTON AND SALLY AVERY ARTS FOUNDATION, THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS, NEW YORK COMMUNITY TRUST EDWARD AND SALLY VAN LIER FUND, NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS WITH THE SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR ANDREW M. CUOMO AND THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE, THE POLLOCK-KRASNER FOUNDATION, THE SHELLY & DONALD RUBIN FOUNDATION, AND BY THE CATY AND STEPHEN WEINROTH COMMISSIONING FUND FOR THE ARTS. WAVE HILL'S OPERATIONS ARE MADE POSSIBLE IN PART BY PUBLIC FUNDS PROVIDED THROUGH THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS, THE 2006 BOTANICAL GARDENS AND AQUARIUMS GRANT PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION, AND THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION.



SURGE

ARTIST: Alicia Grullon

COLLABORATOR: South Bronx Resiliency Artist Fellowship, THE POINT CDC

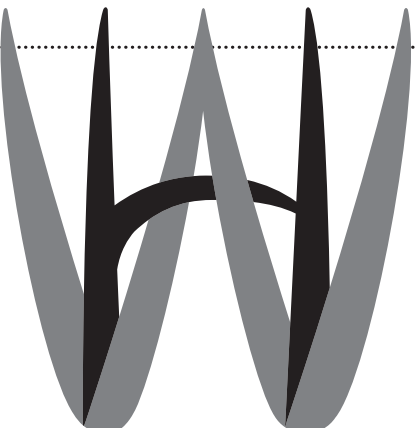
Through poetry and montage, Surge is both a video trailer and a broadside that highlights real narratives and movements on local and global scales to frame the interconnectedness of resiliency as fundamental to survival. Much of our information about climate change comes from Hollywood films where often the science is inaccurate. Climate change is frequently depicted through an apocalyptic lens, unexpected and swift, with military-style solutions as the only way to a happy ending. This approach leaves out essential narratives surrounding capitalism, colonialism, racial and social injustices, unacknowledged Indigenous land rights, and urban planning perpetuating inner-city poverty for people of color, disrupting our ability to fully understand global warming's impact in order to prepare for viable solutions. In this trailer, there is no definite resolution. Rather the anticipation, "coming soon," is left for viewers to confront business-as-usual attitudes against the rising tide of community demanding system change.

Grullon invited other voices to contribute to a broadside, such as Dr. Debra Tillnger, a climate scientist at the American Museum of Natural History, who writes about flooding dangers specific to Hunts Point. Aaliyah Daniels, the NYC Teen Poet Laureate, created a piece about her experiences with environmental racism in the Bronx that is the trailer's voice-over. Through illustrations, Hunts Point youth Matthew Baez offers his aesthetic response brokering climatic fantasies and urbanity through the imagination. Joining these elements are historical materials from Standing Rock and Hurricane Katrina, along with the Principals of Environmental Justice developed at the First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit in Washington DC in 1991. Resources are provided for connecting with groups active in the Bronx and the city at large.

ECOLOGICAL CONSCIOUSNESS: Artist as Instigator

DATE: JULY 1-AUGUST 26, 2018

PLACE: GLYNDOR GALLERY WAVE HILL



MY TOY STORY/ MI HISTORIA CON JUGUETES

ARTISTS: Clarisa Velazquez, Josefina Ortiz, Rosa Sotomayor, Laura Agapito, Gloria Serrano, Ynosencia Burgos, Wendi Mercedes, Marcelino Cruz, Roberto Cordero, Carmen Perez, Yaniry, Yvonne Pantojas, led by Blanka Amezkua

PARTNERS/COLLABORATORS: South Bronx Resiliency Artist Fellowship, THE POINT CDC, Pio Mendez Senior Center and Sunshine Adult Center

THEPOINT.ORG BLANKAAMEZKUA.COM SUNSHINEADULTSOCIALCENTER.COM

Mi historia con juguetes / My toy story is a project that allowed the artist Blanka Amezkua to discover the toys that adult and elderly communities in Hunts Point grew up with and the stories behind them, while addressing current socio-economic realities. Through a series of workshops at the Pio Mendez Senior Center and Sunshine Adult Center, she listened to the participants' stories and guided them to create their toys through various media, such as textiles, drawings, and paint. The artist believed that using toys as a point of departure would lead to deep cultural introspection and unexpected discussions—such as a contemplation of climate change and resiliency in Hunts Point. Through these creative activities, the project addressed Hurricane Maria, immigration, access and conditions of bodies of water and rivers in South Bronx.

The project was initiated by THE POINT CDC with support from the Lincoln Center Cultural Innovation Fund. It seeks a deeper awareness of the environmental preoccupations, needs, and desires of the seniors living in the Hunts Point area.

HUNTS POINT ECO-ACTIONS

ARTIST: Brandon Ballengée

PARTNERS/COLLABORATORS: South Bronx Resiliency Artist Fellowship, THE POINT CDC

BRANDONBALLENGEE.COM

For this project, residents and workers of Hunts Point collaborated on environmental sampling of the Bronx and East Rivers. They sampled fishes and other aquatic organisms with homemade traps and netting in search of bio-indicator species (animals that tell us about the health of the water). During the residency, multiple projects were created through a series of workshops, including a living Bronx River diorama filled with life that was studied at THE POINT's campus. Some of the projects created are on view in the gallery including guerilla 'gardened' oysters by making biodegradable phragmites bassinets; bread sculptures inspired by river species made by local bakers; and a fish-trap costume used in THE POINT's Fish Parade.

Participants collected important ecological data, making them "citizen artist-scientists". Seeing the young fish returning to the cleaner river is an inspirational way to learn about the Hunts Point environment and the challenges. Since the 1990's, artist, biologist and environmental activist Brandon Ballengée has conducted participatory Eco-Actions field trips, workshops and research around the world.

The project was initiated by THE POINT CDC with support from the Lincoln Center Cultural Innovation Fund. It raises awareness about the local ecosystems and demonstrates the importance of coexisting with the non-human species.

UNCULTIVATED

ARTIST: Lynn Cazabon

PARTNERS/COLLABORATORS: South Bronx Resiliency Artist Fellowship, THE POINT CDC

UNCULTIVATED.INFO

Uncultivated focuses on wild plants within urban landscapes. The project includes a photographic survey of wild plants thriving in the vicinity of the Hunts Point Food Distribution Center that are displayed on the project website and as posters in bus shelters in Hunts Point in June. The posters feature images of plants in their urban habitat with the Spanish common names for the species. Common names are nicknames that indicate how a culture regards and uses a particular plant.

The artist hosted four community workshops in May; the results are displayed here. Workshop participants learned about local edible plants while creating monoprint self-portraits using a technique for nature printing directly with plants. (Selections are on view in the entrance area.) Pre-teens used urban plants as subjects in cameraless photography workshops with the International Center of Photography (ICP) at THE POINT. (See panel in window.)

The project was initiated by THE POINT CDC with support from the Lincoln Center Cultural Innovation Fund. It addresses 'resiliency' through its focus on adaptation strategies in response to changing climate conditions by introducing people to the benefits of plants thriving in their local environment.

DAYLIGHTING TIBBETTS BROOK

ARTISTS: SLO Architecture, Bob Braine

ORGANIZER: City As Living Laboratory

Tibbets Brook is the terminus of a massive watershed that includes thousands of acres in Westchester and the Bronx. In 1912 New York City diverted the brook into the Broadway sewer. A proposal to daylight Tibbets Brook has been incorporated into the 2034 Van Cortlandt Park Master Plan to purchase and adapt the abandoned CSX rail bed.

Two projects presented here are underway to raise awareness of the daylighting project. SLO Architecture (Alexander Levi & Amanda Schachter) is building FINDING TIBBETTS 2.0, a micro-wetlands on a mobile truck bed that will travel to a variety of sites, from Van Cortland Lake to the Harlem River, that are in view of, or adjacent to, the proposed course for daylighting. In coordination with SLO's project, Bob Braine will conduct a series of events, ESTUARY TATTOOS, to reflect on the history of the buried wetlands and deepen the public's empathy for urban ecology.

DAYLIGHTING TIBBETTS BROOK projects are part of the CALL BROADWAY: 1000 Steps initiative that links efforts to make sustainability tangible through the arts up and down the avenue. CALL was founded by artist Mary Miss to support artists and designers in projects and programs, which engage local communities to raise awareness of the environmental risks that affect every day urban residents—concerns about the quality of the air they breathe, the threat of heat waves, flooding, storm surges, and food safety.

WATERWASH BRONX RIVER

ARTIST: Lillian Ball

PARTNERS/COLLABORATORS: Rocking the Boat, Dr. Franco Montalto, Drexel University Environmental Engineering, Bronx River Alliance, NYS Attorney General's Office, Bronx River Watershed Initiative, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

LOCATION: Behind Prologis (new owner), 1055 Bronx River Ave and the Brueckner Bridge. This public project was innovative since it was constructed on private land formerly owned by ABC Carpet warehouse.

WATERWASH.ORG

WATERWASH is a wetland park that filters storm runoff, improves habitats, and increases public access to the Bronx River. The project is part of a series of landscape interventions that Lillian Ball has created to address storm water problems through native plant and wildlife habitat creations and community outreach. Unfiltered storm water discharge from the adjacent 30,000 square-foot parking lot and 120,000 square-foot roof now filters through WATERWASH to the Bronx River.

Ball put together the team, designed the wetlands/grasslands with the team, and project managed the construction. Educators and job apprentices from Rocking the Boat helped to build and continue to steward. Community Drexel Engineering has done monitoring reports that measure the effectiveness of the project. It proves that WATERWASH is slowing down the velocity and flow of storm water entering the river. It has improved the water quality of the immediate area 15-20%. Ball created *Seasons in a Wetland*, an audiovisual piece that charts its development of the project.



ECOLOGICAL CONSCIOUSNESS: Artist as Instigator

Artists are the voice of the community. Often they are the first to express social concerns and the most effective at garnering grass-roots support for important issues. Not surprisingly, as communities' concerns about persistent environmental issues have escalated, artists have been uniquely positioned to actively respond, collaborating with engineers, designers, landscape architects, ecologists, historians and other professionals to bridge the gap between science, art and activism. We've turned Glyndor Gallery into an information exchange hub to learn about artist-initiated ecological projects that explore persistent environmental problems in New York City. Bioremediation, water quality, food justice, soil carbon content and strategies for increasing resiliency are among the topics that are being tackled in these initiatives.

Sixteen projects are presented through photographs, videos, artifacts and installation. They represent collaborations and partnerships with a wide range of organizations. Find out more by reading the clipboards. Weigh in with your opinion on two projects in the south gallery, and check out the info wall under the stairwell for ecological art events and activities happening around the city this summer.

Thank you to all the artists and collaborating organizations who are working diligently to raise ecological awareness and improve the environment in New York City.

CURATED BY Jennifer McGregor and Eileen Jeng Lynch

EROSION: WORKS BY LEONARD URSACHI

LOCATION: DERFNER JUDAICA MUSEUM + THE ART COLLECTION on the main campus of the Hebrew Home at Riverdale by RiverSpring Health, 5901 Palisade Avenue, Bronx, NY

RIVERSPRINGHEALTH.ORG/ART/

This nearby ecological-themed exhibition features an outdoor sculpture, installation work and related maquettes and drawings by Leonard Ursachi. He addresses themes of environmental and social crises caused by manmade events and reflects on how the destruction of natural resources is intimately interconnected with the effacement of human history and culture. Central to the exhibition is a new outdoor sculpture—an iteration of his “What a Wonderful World” series (recently shown in Tribeca Park). Ursachi’s work reflects our contemporary world of porous borders, vulnerable shelters, and mutating identities. Other recent projects have been developed with the NYC Department of Transportation and the DUMBO Improvement District, Prospect Project, Cadman Plaza Park, among others. His work has been exhibited at the John & Mable Ringling Museum of Art, Sarasota, FL; National Museum of Contemporary Art, Bucharest, Romania.

On Sunday, August 5 there will be shuttle service for visitors to have tours of both exhibitions.

SOUTH GALLERY / NOTES

STEWARDSHIP STORY MAPPING: SHARE YOUR STORY!

ARTIST: Carmen Bouyer

PARTNERS/COLLABORATORS: New York City Urban Field Station – US Forest Service. This project was initiated by the STEW-MAP (Laura Landau, Lindsay Campbell, Erika Svendsen, and Michelle Johnson). Artist Carmen Bouyer was recruited to help design and produce an activity that allows individuals to connect with their own personal stewardship stories, and link to the larger efforts of STEW-MAP.

NRS.FS.FED.US/STEWMAP
CARMENBOUYER.COM
STEWMAP.NET

The stewardship story mapping exercise is an interactive storytelling and brainstorming activity. Developed in collaboration with artist Carmen Bouyer, the exercise is designed to challenge how we think about our relationship to the environment. Using a card deck of examples for inspiration, participants are asked to think of a time when they served as stewards by taking care of the local environment, from growing food in their community garden to participating in a waterfront cleanup. Participants can share a story here by writing it down or drawing a picture of the memory on a piece of paper, and then locate their story on the New York City map to indicate where it took place. The resulting map captures people’s stewardship stories and broadens our shared understanding of what it means to take care of the environment.

This mapping activity is inspired by STEW-MAP (the Stewardship Mapping and Assessment Project), a map and searchable database of organizations designed to help understand and strengthen our civic capacity to take care of our neighborhoods. It is based on the idea that civic groups and social networks are a crucial part of the lifeblood of the city.

If you would like us to lead the stewardship story mapping activity at your next event, please email stewmap.ufs@gmail.com.

SWALE

ARTIST: Mary Mattingly

MAIN TEAM: Amanda McDonald Crowley, Lonny Grafman, Lindsey Grothkopp, Liz Lund, Marisa Prefer

COLLABORATORS/ADVISORS: Kristin Bebelaar, Sequoia Carr, Stan Cox, Onyksa M. Domenech, Brittany Gallahan, Rik Van Hemmen, Ashawnta Jackson, Claudia Joseph, Katharina Kiefert, Eugenia Manvelyan, Jono Neiger, Joshua Nodiff, Dr. Julie Ramos, Subhram Reddy, Craig Sinclair, Karla Stinger–Stein, Rita Sharper, Casey Tang, Rand Weeks, Julie A. Welch, Laura Zimmerman

SWALENY.ORG

Swale: a Floating Food Forest, conceived by Mary Mattingly and created with an interdisciplinary team of collaborators, has visited waterfront parks in the Bronx, Brooklyn, and Governors Island. In each location the fully planted barge with irrigation and solar systems provides visitors with free, healthy fruits and vegetables. It has been open to visitors on weekends and free workshops are offered for people to have access to forage for fresh food such as broccoli, kale, bok choy, tomatoes, blueberries, peaches, native plums, and apples as well as a wide variety of medicinal and culinary herbs. This year from May through July it is located at the Brooklyn Army Terminal before transitioning to a land-based site on Governors Island. Last year it visited Concrete Plant Park on the Bronx River and continues to collaborate with local stakeholders on the development of a land-based Foodway, NYC Parks’ first 24-hour entirely public edible landscape. More public edible spaces are being planned for other locations as a result of Swale.

Mary Mattingly initiated the project in 2016 with a grant from A Blade of Grass and a crowdfunding campaign. Through a residency from NYC’s Urban Field Station, plants and healthy soil were procured and a team of specialists brought the project to life. Swale works to change perceptions and policies in order to increase responsible uses of edible perennial landscapes.

NEWTOWN CREEK SAMPLING

ARTIST: Greg Lindquist

COLLABORATOR: Willis Elkins/Newtown Creek Alliance

PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN: Willis Elkins/Newtown Creek Alliance; Sarah Durand/LaGuardia Community College; North Brooklyn Boat Club

GREGLINDQUIST.COM
NEWTOWNCREEKALLIANCE.ORG

Newtown Creek is an estuary that forms part of the border between Brooklyn and Queens. In tandem with remediation of the 1978 oil spill and accumulation of a millennia of industrial run-off, Newtown Creek has become of the most polluted industrial sites in the US and was designated a Superfund site in 2010. Greg Lindquist works with Newtown Creek Alliance on water sampling by studying the water quality, addressing issues of combined sewer overflow/storm draining and marine debris, and offering ways for the local residents to help improve conditions.

Since 2016, Newtown Creek Alliance has conducted biological-focused water quality testing, measuring levels of oxygen, bacteria, and algae as a way of understanding conditions for microorganisms and marine life, as well the general health of the creek. This is an alternative to chemical contaminant-based testing, which is currently directed by the Environmental Protection Agency. These tests aid in understanding the combined sewer overflow discharged points (CSO), in which excessive storm water and sanitary sewage are discharged directly into the creek during torrential rain events.

NYC WATERWAYS, SITE OF ACTIVITY, SITE OF ACTION

ARTISTS: Eve Mosher & Clarinda Mac Low

PARTNERS/COLLABORATORS: Works on Water, with help from Carolyn Hall and Madelyn Ringold–Brown

WORKSONWATER.ORG
EVEMOSHER.COM
CLARINDAMACLOW.COM

Eve Mosher and Clarinda Mac Low have created a large-scale painting of the New York City waterways, which sites artist-initiated environmental artworks and activities taking place around the waterways. Two projects, *Sunk Shore* and *Oil Twitchers and Barge Spotters: A Field Guide to Whale Creek*, are featured on pedestals, and lines connect to water-related projects in the exhibition. The installation is affiliated with the Works on Water/Underwater New York exhibition and artist residency on Governors Island that started in June and runs through October. On Governors Island, the works shown are from around the world are mapped by themes. The projects seek to build connections between people working on the water in order to build the reach of these projects, and increase the impact and efficacy of the work.

VISIT the Works on Water/Underwater New York, Governors Island, Nolan Park #5B.

NERTM (NEW EARTH RESILIENCY TRAINING MODULE)

ARTIST: Tattfoo Tan

ISSUU.COM/TATTF00/DOCS/NERTM
TATTF00.COM/NEW_EARTH/
NEWEARHTRMSKILL

New Earth Resiliency Training Module, created by Tattfoo Tan, is a program that teaches an ethos of self-reliance and of living closer to the earth, especially within an urban environment. By drawing upon its surrounding resources, the city is a catalyst for building relations with various neighborhoods and communities. The program strengthens the resiliency of the neighborhood by activating young people and equipping them with skills, knowledge, and an adaptive worldview. It also empowers youth by treating them as authorities on their own environment. Studying folk craft and tracing the genesis of ideas, objects and beliefs is an effort to “re-wild” oneself in order to restore one’s trust in nature.

One of the skills embraced by NERTM is building an herbarium as a tool to dry and preserve plants for further study and use. Herbarium basics are outlined on the banner above and presented through four herbariums made by the artist.

SUNK SHORE

ARTISTS: TRYST (Paul Benney, Carolyn Hall, Clarinda Mac Low)

CLARINDAMACLOW.COM/PROJECTS/TRYST-OVERVIEW/TRYST-SUNK-SHORE/

Sunk Shore was a playful speculative tour of the future of lower Manhattan. Using sensory exercises, the surrounding structures, and evocative props, TRYST led participants along a route close to and on the Hudson River, first into the past (to establish the terrain), then into an extrapolated future. The events during the tour were based on the most current data about expected changes due to climate change. The project was built to bring people into an embodied experience of climate change data, and bring information that can seem very remote closer, to render the facts much more concrete and visceral.

OIL TWITCHERS AND BARGE SPOTTERS: A FIELD GUIDE TO WHALE CREEK

ARTISTS: Floating Studio for Dark Ecologies (FSDE), Marina Zurkow, Nick Hubbard, Rebecca Lieberman, with Bruce Shackelford (voice), Jane Cramer (audio engineering), Justin Peake (music)

FUNDED in part by a Tisch School of the Arts Dean’s Faculty Grant, and the Brooklyn Arts Council

NEWTOWNCREEKFIELDGUIDE.COM

Floating Studio for Dark Ecologies (FSDE) uses the familiar forms of a field guide and a self-guided audio tour to invite participants to explore the underappreciated Newtown Creek Nature Walk (designed by George Trakas in 2007), one of the few public access points on Whale Creek, Newtown’s tiny offshoot that flanks one of the city’s wastewater treatment plants. The field guide and audio entices the visitor lovingly into the Creek’s toxic waters with its astonishingly resilient fauna and its 25 feet of “black mayonnaise.” The creators use poetry, ecology and history to lay bare the power and complexity to name elements of the creek.

FSDE’s intended audience includes the general public, with an emphasis on urban explorers, tourists, and neighborhood residents. The guide is available on the web (in audio form on iTunes and Soundcloud, and as a downloadable pdf), FSDE anticipates that locals and visitors will be inspired and empowered to adventure down to the Newtown Creek Nature Walk, and then share the “exhibition materials” with friends.

ONBEHALFOF.LIFE

ARTISTS: The Environmental Performance Agency (Catherine Grau, Andrea Haenggi, Ellie Irons, Christopher Kennedy) with Dan Phiffer

ONBEHALFOF.LIFE

Onbehalfof.life is a web platform for submitting public comments to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on behalf of another species. Highlighting the importance of participation in the public comment process as one means of invoking political change, the platform expands and deepens the commenting process by asking participants to envision the effect of environmental policy on multispecies life. This project aims to foster public commentary that articulates a vision for environmental justice on behalf of all life, challenging the current administration’s self-serving disregard of the environment. Comments will be submitted to the US EPA, becoming part of a public record.

For this exhibition the platform is focused on issues relevant to the multispecies habitats of the Bronx. The photographs on the wall to the left were taken at Wave Hill. Follow the steps outlined on the wall to offer your own comments to the US EPA on the iPad provided.

The Environmental Performance Agency (EPA) is an artist collective founded in 2017 and named in response to the proposed defunding of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Appropriating the acronym EPA, the collective’s primary goal is to shift thinking around the terms environment, performance, and agency—using artistic, social, and embodied/kineshetic practices to advocate for the agency of all living performers co-creating our environment, specifically through the lens of spontaneous urban plants, native or migrant.

THE FAIRY RING: MYCOREMEDIATION MOTHER PATCH

ARTIST: Jan Mun

PARTNERS/COLLABORATORS: New York Hall of Science/NYSCI Designer-in-Residence Program

EXPLAINERS: Shana Anton, Elijah Browne, Peter Ciavarella, Fatima Khuda, Rocio Martinez, Navida Rukhsha

NYSCI.ORG/HOME/PROGRAMS/DESIGNERS-IN-RESIDENCE/

NEWTOWN CREEK ALLIANCE
NEWTOWNCREEKALLIANCE.ORG/
BIOREMEDIATION

Working with the NYSCI Explainers, Jan Mun has created a stand-alone diorama with living mushroom mycelium, enclosed with a map of Newtown Creek etched onto clear acrylic with cartography by Ed Jacobus. Three posters with critical info are displayed on the stand: An Introduction to Urban (Soil) Bioremediation; Contaminants of Concern; and Newtown Creek Map.

This project activates Mun’s use of mycoremediation and art to innovate bioremediation practices for a historically contaminated community on the border of Queens and Brooklyn. To realize this part of the project, she is working with six Explainers to build an awareness campaign to support her ultimate goal to conduct a New York City-supported scientific field experiment on bioremediation on the footprint of a former oil tank along Newtown Creek. The project is part of Mun’s ongoing engagement with the waterway to research the use of bioremediation to reduce toxins in the environment.

LEVEE PROPOSAL FOR LOUIS VALENTINO PARK, RED HOOK, BROOKLYN

ARTIST: Jean Shin

LOCATION: Louis Valentino Park, Red Hook, Brooklyn

JEANSHIN.COM

Jean Shin proposes a massive levee of denim sandbags for Louis Valentino Park on the Red Hook shoreline in Brooklyn. This is a direct response to Hurricane Sandy, which transformed the neighborhood where the artist has her studio and lives nearby. Created from cast-off jeans, the project invites residents to engage in emergency readiness while developing long-term solutions for the community and city in order to protect ourselves. In the gallery, her proposal is presented with sandbags created from denim collected from the Bronx, including the Wave Hill community.

Shin had 46 inches of saltwater damage in her studio, and sandbags were not readily available—not to mention heavy and difficult to handle. Her project builds community resilience and asks how do we prepare for these situations and learn from them. In this model, each pair of jeans is kept together, and this sculpture of salvaged denim becomes anthropomorphic, emphasizing physicality and involvement of the body. Shin explains, “It’s a wall of people, not just a technical way of reducing and being stewards of the environment, but really it’s the people that need to come together to think of bigger ideas—think of how we’re going to change our habits of living and where we live to deal with climate action.”

OUTER SEED SHADOW

ARTISTS: Juanli Carrión with Jacki Fischer

CURRENT LOCATIONS:
– MARBLE HILL HOUSES, 228th Street & Broadway in the Bronx
– DYCKMAN HOUSES, central lawn between Nagle & 10th Avenues in Upper Manhattan

OUTERSEEDSHADOW.ORG

Outer Seed Shadow (OSS) creates and supports public green spaces with powerful educational capacities, incorporating public art, storytelling, urban farming, public programming and community building to address systemic and structural issues of social inequity. After creating gardens throughout the city, Juanli Carrion collaborated with Jacki Fischer to incorporate OSS as a 501(c)3 in December 2017. This spring, OSS commissioned artists to work with communities to build gardens. This summer Cheryl Wing-Zi is working with Marble Hill Houses residents to build Terrace and Asha Hanna is working with Dyckman Houses residents in the elaboration of DAP Garden.

Conceived as a living sculpture, each garden serves as a centerpiece to articulate programming that delves into the conflicts addressed in the gardens. OSS gardens have hosted a wide range of activities, including workshops in gardening, cooking and memory-building; readings, lectures and panels with guest scholars, neighbors, stakeholders, and residents; as well as performances and concerts.