Five Oaks Museum Monthly E-Newsletter

April 2021

Issue 16

1 Five Oaks Museum Showcase is May 13!

Celebrate and Support Our Community-Centered Exhibitions

Join the museum for our first fundraising event as Five Oaks Museum! Our virtual showcase on **Thursday, May 13 at 6:00 pm PST** will be an evening of vibrant performances that celebrate the excellence of our game-changing, community-led exhibitions.

The virtual event is free and open to the public. The museum thanks presenting sponsors Pat Reser and Bill Westphal for making this exciting event possible.

Guests will hear directly from all of the museum's past and current Guest Curators -- Steph Littlebird Fogel, Becca Owen, Kanani Miyamoto and Lehuauakea -- about how their exhibitions have uplifted marginalized histories and changed the work and lives of those involved.

Three special performances will also be shared that correlate to the three exhibitions. Kevin Lionga Aipopo and Des Spicer-Orak will share original poetry, Anthony Hudson will give a performance as Carla Rossi, the region's premier drag clown, and Maria "Songbird" Remos will serve up a dancey soul music DJ set.

Register for the Museum Showcase Here!

2 Meet the Showcase Performers

We're so excited and honored to share their work with you!

"Portland's premier drag clown Carla Rossi here!

Carla will offer a reflection on what she — as an arts administrator at the Institute for Metaphysical Digestive and Clown Research — has learned from the last year of pandemic, America's racial reckoning, and her sourdough starter."

- ANTHONY HUDSON
This IS Kalapuyan Land

"We are fellow poets and climate activists.

Des is a queer mixed Palauan poet who has come to understand herself and her culture through her relationship to the ocean. Kevin's work centers around the intersections between their ethnic identity as a Black American and Samoan person and their gender fluidity."

- KEVIN LIONGA AIPOPO
& DES SPICER-ORAK
Gender Euphoria: Contemporary Art Beyond the Binary

"Look forward to rare soul cuts and well known dance floor ragers!

Portland based and Hawai'i grown,
I am a soul and reggae-focused vinyl DJ who's set on sharing music knowledge and joy through trading cards, zines, and music at TYLE Records."

- MARIA "SONGBIRD" REMOS
DISplace

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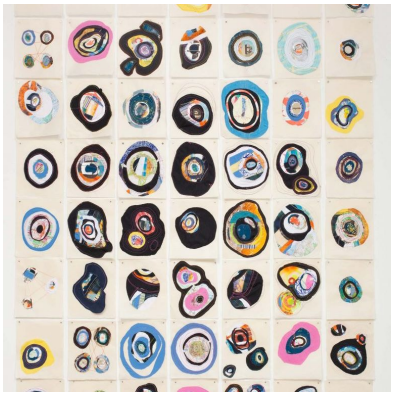
3 Sharing Asian & Pacific Islander Histories

Five Oaks Museum stands against racism in all forms

Five Oaks Museum condemns violence, racism and sexism towards Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islander communities.

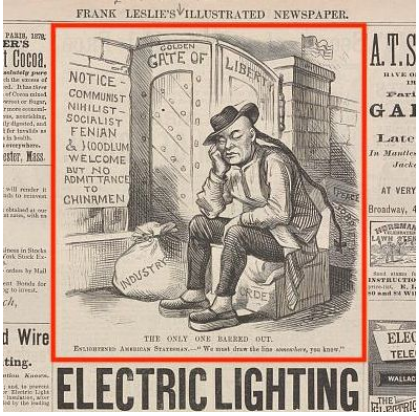
We recently shared a series of social media posts referencing work from our ongoing exhibition *DISplace* that discuss Asian and Pacific Islander histories of marginalization in the United States, as well as celebrate the triumphs and resilience of API communities in all their vastness.



"Likening these abstract forms to the growth rings of trees, we saw a profound link in Palmarin Merges' work as a Filipina artist to the ways our Pasifika communities find strength, resilience, and beauty even in the most challenging situations."
Read more about Palmarin's work.

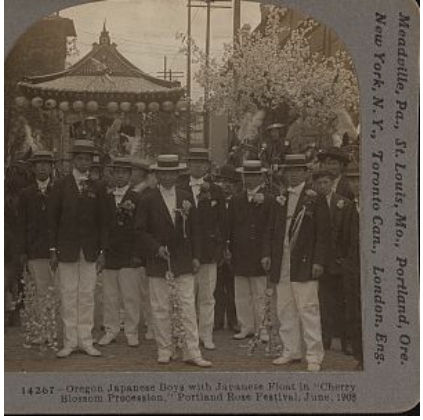
"The sugar cane plantation era in the Hawaiian Islands...was facilitated through the coordinated labor of immigrants who came primarily from Japan, China, and the Philippines. By the early 1900s, Asian and mixed API communities constituted the largest immigrant groups in the United States."
Read more about Newcomers.

"Taken during Nica Aquino's experience in the prestigious annual Merrie Monarch hula festival, these show the connections — not the separation — that Filipinx and other Pasifika/Asian communities have found in Hawai'i." Read More about Nica's work.



"From the explicit boycotting of Asian labor and immigration to unfair taxation and wage disparities on the basis of race, to the violent and forced expulsion of non-white communities—one of the greatest challenges faced by these Asian-Pacific Islander immigrants was the systemic racial discrimination they experienced on a daily basis." Read more about Challenges.

Korean-Japanese-haole artist Forrest McGarvey writes, "These collages navigate the combinations of inherited traits that come with a mixed race experience. I combine images and icons of personal meaning with generic, stereotypical, or iconic images often associated with my identity as an queer asian person." Read more about Forrest's work.



"API communities in the Hawai'i-to-Pacific Northwest diaspora persisted through their shared resilience. Tight-knit, self-sufficient urban communities arose in cities along the American west coast in response to these obstacles. In this image, a group of Japanese boys lead the Cherry Blossom Procession in the Portland Rose Festival of 1908." Read more about Community.

All text from *DISplace* exhibition quoted here is written by Lehuauakea, except Forrest McGarvey's quote.

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4 No Need to Wait to Support the Showcase!

Community Sponsorships of the event are available now

Funds raised are infused back into the community as ethical compensation for the storytellers who shape the museum. Their exhibitions, Instagram takeovers, events, and collaborative projects bring vitality to local history, arts, and culture.

Big shout out to Showcase Community Sponsors Karen Pérez-Da Silva and Clarinda White!

Businesses and individuals who become Community Sponsors between $50 and $1000 will be named in all event communications and celebrated during the event.

Become a Community Sponsor of the Showcase today!

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5 The Gathering Place

Museum & Community Updates

Museum Update: Community Gallery Coming Next Month!

In May, the Museum will open a new virtual gallery space to highlight projects from educators and students in the community. The inaugural Community Gallery show will share the process and reflections from the Winter 2021 PSU undergrad design course *Interpreting Place* taught by our Cultural Resources Manager, Mariah Berlanga-Shevchuk, and PSU instructor Jordan Rosenblum, in which students investigated and interpreted the Five Oaks Historic Site through a variety of design approaches.

Guest Curator Update: Indigenous Resilience Series

Steph Littlebird, guest curator of This IS Kalapuyan Land, is writing a series on Indigenous resilience in Oregon for Oregon ArtsWatch. The first article, Am I Honoring Those Who Have Come Before Me?, describes Littlebird's background and the series context, and the second article, Greg Archuleta and Lifeways: Cultivating resilience through education , introduces an important cultural teacher.

Mosaic Artist Opportunity: King City, Oregon

King City, Oregon is looking for an experienced mosaic artist(s) to design and install new public art project within city park development. Contact project lead for details: Jaimie Fender at jfender@ci.king-city.or.us

Got a Mannequin? Help Friends of Historic Forest Grove out!

Friends of Historic Forest Grove is in search of mannequins for their window displays at the Old Train Station. If you've got an extra vintage or 1960's style female mannequin, reply to this email and we'll get you in touch with them.

Thanks for being part of our journey.
Join our community on social media: