

THE OBSERVER
March 14, 2022

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NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear members,

As I write this, snow is dusting the city and I'm mentally preparing for Daylight Saving Time.

We are midway through the term and I look forward to welcoming four additional HyFlex/in-person classes to campus in the next couple of weeks. Joanna, Monben and I have enjoyed meeting you and seeing members reconnect with each other. If you are in a HyFlex class, I encourage you to give in-person a try and check out your new campus. If you do not have a Cleared4 pass, please reach out a week ahead of your planned visit to engagement@gc.cuny.edu.

Joanna has met the Advisory Board and started to attend Curriculum Committee meetings as of last week. She will join me for the upcoming Information Session for prospective members.

This week, I have Director's Office Hours on Wednesday 3:30-4:30 PM at the below link. Please join us for the Voices reading on Friday afternoon -- details below!

Yours, *springing forward*,
Mariel

Link for Director's Office Hours:

<https://gc-cuny-edu.zoom.us/j/87450295130?pwd=Q3FMMUIqeWQzYVFUU1hhMmQzaWdpZz09>

Meeting ID: 874 5029 5130
Passcode: 383634

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Going to a Study Group on Campus?

MASK MANDATE LIFTED FOR ALL CAMPUS SPACES!!

For those who are coming to campus:

- **Masks are no longer required** in all campus spaces.
- **The rest of the Covid-19 policies remain in place.** Cleared4 pass (or “Blue Pass”) system automatically renews passes on their expiration date. If for some reason you lose your pass, please email Mariel directly to manually extend it.
- **Bring GC-CUNY ID** or other official ID.

Nominations for the Advisory Board

An election for four vacant seats on the LP2 Advisory Board will be held online the week of April 11th. One seat, reserved for representing newer members must be filled by a member who has been in LP² for three years or less.

Nominations are due by March 25.

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS **NOMINATION FORM** IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN RUNNING FOR THE BOARD.

Any LP² member may run for the board after one year’s membership. Members may nominate themselves or other members.

The Advisory Board is the principal body advising the Director and is responsible for suggesting and implementing LP² policy as it impacts the needs and interests of LP² members. The Board meets every two weeks during the academic year and as needed, during the summer.

Advisory Board members serve for three years. In addition to attending Board meetings, members of the Board may have responsibilities on Board committees or as liaisons to other LP² committees.

The Board consists of 15 voting members: 12 members elected by the LP² membership and the chairs of 3 standing committees: Admissions, Curriculum and Diversity. The Executive Committee of the Board, consisting of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary, is elected annually by Board members. The elected members of the LP² Board, also serve as the Directors of the Institute for Education in Retirement (IER) with the members of the Advisory Board Executive Committee plus a Treasurer serving as the officers of the IER.

PhotoSig is (re)Forming

We are pleased to announce that LP² member Alec Rill is resurrecting our long dormant Sig. For many years now, the PhotoSig has been a Sig in name only, a small group of LP² members belonging to the Park West Camera Club and sharing an early pre-meeting dinner where we discussed individual projects. Fortunately, in 2021, Alec, an active and enthusiastic photographer joined LP² and is interested in restarting a PhotoSig. Here's what Alec has to say.

My hobby has been photography since I was very young. I focus on street photography and finding the similarities among people from different countries, I try to capture what unites us as humans. You can see my work on my website: <https://alecrill.myportfolio.com/work>. Recently, I became a member of the Soho Photo Gallery - the only gallery in NY fully dedicated to photography. My Ghana photos, exhibited at the gallery, are posted at https://www.artsy.net/show/soho-photo-gallery-ghana?sort=partner_show_position.

I am delighted to restart the photography Sig at LP². We plan initially to go to photography exhibits as a group and then have lunch nearby and talk about what we have seen as well as other photography topics.

As the group matures, we can decide if and how to expand our activities. Please send me an email (arill@gc.cuny.edu) if you're interested in the photography Sig and include your preferred contact information and any questions you have. I look forward to meeting you all.

CO-COORDINATOR(S) WANTED

Penny Parsons is looking for one or more co-coordinators for a 12-week study group in Fall 2022 on the **year 1971** that will examine 1971 milestones through local/national/ international news, music, television, movies, art, and attempt to answer the question: What is the impact of one year in culture? She can be reached at bernetta.parson@outlook.com.



Are you missing some links?

The Observer will be adding a “Missing Links” directory as a permanent feature. Aside from the ever-popular [Graduate Center Password Reset](#) and the [GC Portal](#), the website?, specific library links?, what links would you like to see included? You don’t have to know the actual link, just what you’d like to be able to link to without cleaning out your desk to find the paper you wrote it down on.

Send your suggestions to Micky Josephs at mjosephs@gc.cuny.edu or Susan Rauch at srauch@gc.cuny.edu.

EVENTS

The Voices of VOICES

Friday, March 18 @ 1PM.

Coming to a Zoom session near you in living color!

You’ve seen our photos at the General Membership Meeting. Now hear what LP² members can do with the written word.

The writers of VOICES will read prose and poetry from the recent issue—on subjects ranging from the silly to the sublime. It promises to be an entertaining hour on a Friday afternoon so... DON’T MISS IT! Here’s the link for this to this great show. https://gc-cuny-edu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Ddn3BJ9ITVy7zOv57o6_Tg

ONLINE ART SHOW

From: Dan Marcus

Title: Pot of Gold on 72nd St.



Dan says: Escaping my apartment during Covid, I found this reward in the park. The rainbow stretched from Bethesda Fountain to Park Avenue.

Calling All Painters, Sculptors, Photographers, Block Printers, Ceramicists and Textile Artists!

Display the creative work you have been doing this summer in the Online Art Show. Send a photograph of your work with a title and a brief statement about it to Carol Millsom at cmillsom@gc.cuny.edu. Art works appear in The Observer in the order in which they are received.

MEMBER FORUM

From Moya Duffy

Plant Installation at The Hammond Museum & Japanese Stroll Garden, North Salem, NY

I planted an outside raised area of about five square feet with a central grass surrounded by kale, cabbages, gourds, chrysanthemums, found rocks and wood.

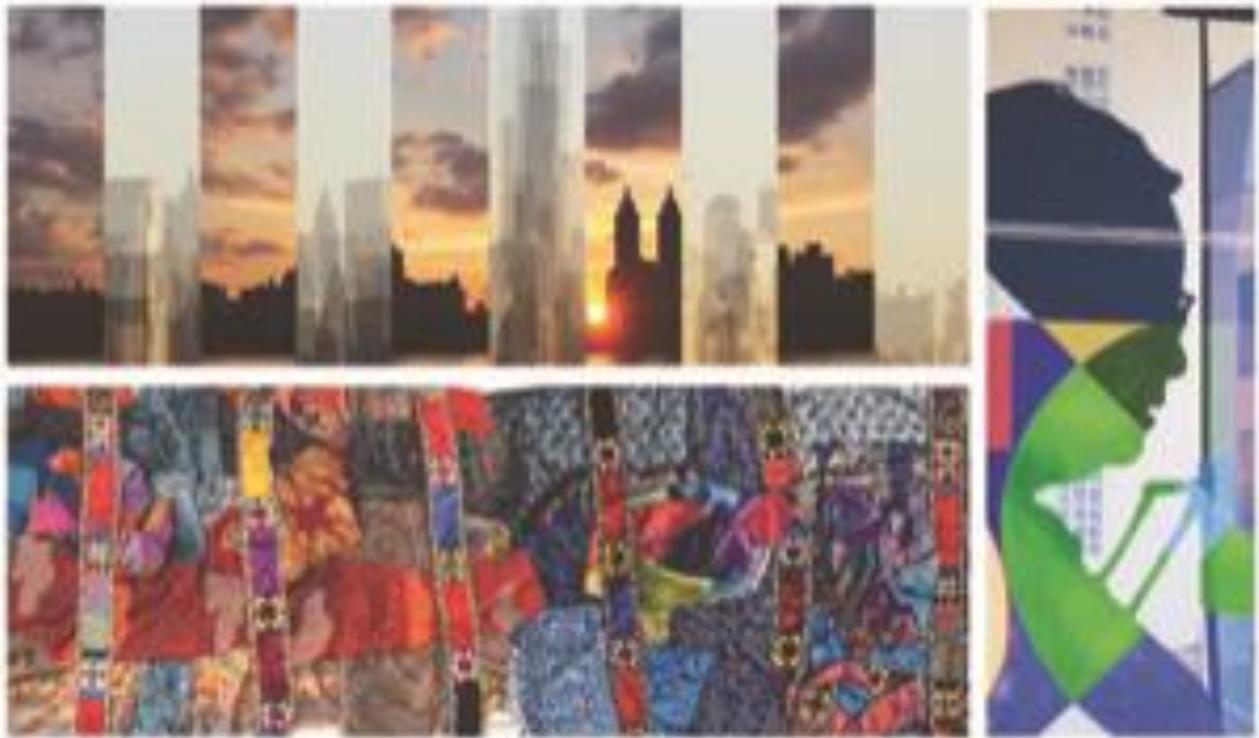
Off center is a stone statue, constructed of three found stones secured by iron rods. This sculpture has two Asian references. The Japanese jizo statues also known as earth-bearers; these stone objects are found throughout Japan at the side of country trails and have the spiritual power to protect travelers.

The name, 'Earth-God' is a Western translation from the Chinese Tu Di Gong. They are basically territory gods and their task is to protect all the people who live nearby. You can still see them in urban Hong Kong, tucked discretely into street corners.

The gourd at the foot of my statue is a strange distorted shape. Wabi sabi is a Japanese view that centers on the transience and imperfection of the world, sometimes described as appreciating beauty that is imperfect, impermanent and incomplete.



Two more Days to see Sara Petit's show at the Carter Burden Gallery.



Carter Burden Gallery

SARA PETITT

ON THE WALL

Dates: Feb. 17th - March 16th, 2022

Tuesday to Friday 11-5

Saturday 11-6

548 West 28th Street

Rm. 534

New York, NY

Between 10th and 11th Ave

212-564-8405

Mary Elwood brings our notice to:

Lourdes Bernard: The Women of April



La Trategua de los Mamiferos/ The Truce of the Mammals, 2022, Acrylic Flash paint on Rives BFK, 12 x 18 inches. Courtesy of the Artist.

The New York Studio School presents *The Women of April*, a group of works on paper by Lourdes Bernard that commemorate the 57th anniversary of the April 1965 revolution and US invasion of the Dominican Republic.

The narrative images celebrate the role of “The Women of April,” untrained civilian resistance fighters who fought against the 42,000 US Marines ordered by LBJ to invade the small Caribbean nation. In 2017, shortly after attending the DC Women’s March and as the previous administration rolled out controversial immigration policies, artist Lourdes Bernard began to research her family’s migration journey from the Dominican Republic in 1965. It was through this

research that she discovered “Las Mujeres de Abril” (“The Women of April”) and learned of the US invasion that displaced thousands of Dominicans, including her family. The Women of April were attorneys, journalists, artists, teachers, academics, housewives, and students. Bernard excavates this hidden history through her work, re-imagining their stories so they no longer live only in the memory of those who lived it.

Lourdes Bernard is a Dominican-American artist raised in Brooklyn, a graduate of Syracuse University School of Architecture and The New York Studio School. Her work has been exhibited in El Museo del Barrio, the New York Public Library, PS1 Contemporary Art Center, Boston College, The Wilmer Jennings Gallery, and Five Myles Gallery. She is also the recipient of a Yaddo Foundation Fellowship and a Wurlitzer Foundation Fellowship.

Exhibition Dates

Monday, March 14, 2022 – Sunday, April 10, 2022

New York Studio School

8 W 8th St, New York, NY 10011

Exhibitions are free and open to the public from 10am to 6pm daily. Before entering the New York Studio School, you must complete this survey (<https://nyss.org/covid-survey/>). Masks / Face Coverings required & Room Capacities must be followed.

ONGOING LP² EVENTS

The Women’s Group meets at 3:45PM on Thursdays. Contact Arlyne LeSchack at aleschack@gc.cuny.edu.

The Men’s Group meets at 3:45PM on Wednesdays. Contact Jay Fleishman at efleishman@gc.cuny.edu.

Stitch Away Stress meets at 4PM Tuesdays. Members share skills and enjoy the meditative benefits of handwork. Contact Michelle Harris at mharris@gc.cuny.edu.

Observer Submissions Send items for the next week's Observer to Micky Josephs at mjosephs@gc.cuny.edu by 5PM on Friday. Send Online Art Show entries and suggestions for virtual tours to Carol Millsom at cmillsom@gc.cuny.edu.

Member Forum If you have something to share with the LP² community, e.g., a photo, an article, a book or a web site that you've discovered and think would be interesting to members, send it to Micky at mjosephs@gc.cuny.edu for inclusion in the Member Forum.