CALL  // CITY AS LIVING LABORATORY
Sustainability Made Tangible Through the Arts

CALL  //  2017 Program Report
CALL // MISSION

CALL // CITY AS LIVING LABORATORY combines the skills and perspectives of artists and designers with those of scientists and citizens to create public programs and projects that increase awareness and potential for action to address key environmental issues.

These initiatives motivate citizens to engage, explore and experience the world around more actively. CALL’s interdisciplinary strategies facilitate deeper understanding of the natural systems and infrastructure that make our world work.

As a result, citizens who engage with CALL programs and projects are better equipped to grapple with environmental challenges and to re-imagine urban life in ways that will make it more resilient in the future.

PROJECT UPDATES // 2017

HARLEM: CLIMATE JUSTICE HUB/ MANHATTANVILLE

The iterative development process for a structure to serve as a springboard for emergency preparedness and climate resilience programming in West Harlem’s Manhattanville houses has progressed throughout 2017 as designer Elliott Maltby of thread collective continued to meet with Manhattanville residents and WE ACT for Environmental Justice to prioritize the structure’s features.

Residents have also consulted with CALL to help design community activities and arts-based workshops at the proposed site of the HUB. Programming will begin in spring/summer 2018.

To continue building momentum, CALL held two WALKS in July examining both the cultural history of the neighborhood and the ecological issues it faces. Walk leaders were artist Miguel Luciano, environmental health researcher Daniel Carrion, performance artist Kanene Holder and ecologist Paul Mankiewicz.

BRONX: Daylighting Tibbetts Brook is a project to evoke the lost ecology of the now-buried stream and the transformative possibilities associated with daylighting the brook under a plan put forth by the NYC Parks Department. The first stage of this project is Finding Tibbetts, a pop-up wetland conceived by Amanda Schachter and Alexander Levi of SLO Architecture in cooperation with Theo Barbagianis of eDesign Dynamics.

In November 2017, CALL held a WALK led by SLO and Eric
Sanderson, Senior Conservation Ecologist with the Wildlife Conservation Society and an expert in the historical wetlands of New York City. Tracing a potential path for daylighting Tibbetts Brook, along the abandoned CSX rail line, the WALK had over 45 participants, highlighting the public support for daylighting.

Finding Tibbetts will depict a section of the unearthed Tibbetts Brook on a truck bed which will be moved to different sites along the daylighting path in Summer/ Fall 2018. In conjunction with Finding Tibbetts, artist Bob Braine will create an interactive public project, Estuary ‘Tattoos’, using tattoo ink as body paint to map the history of the Bronx wetlands on the bodies of local residents.

BRONX: Outer Seed Shadow #MH, led by artist Juanli Carrion, is an interactive public art project and community garden supported in part by CALL and made in collaboration with residents of the Marble Hill Houses. OSS#MH serves as a participatory platform to promote healthy living and community empowerment through explorations of residents’ shared histories and cultural heritage. In May 2017 OSS#MH launched 11 new garden beds, representing each of the Marble Hill complex’s 11 towers and serving as centerpieces for public gardening and food education programs. Resident Interviews can be viewed online at www.outerseedshadow.org/ossmh

CHINATOWN: PROJECT Proposals In February 2017, CALL hosted a WORKSHOP in Chinatown to build on the diverse set of artist/expert lead WALKS that took place in fall 2016. The WORKSHOP, attended by a diverse group of local stakeholders, artists, experts and community members highlighted some of the most pressing concerns facing Chinatown right now. The WORKSHOP highlighted Chinatown’s lack of green space, persistent air pollution, the need for sustainable and secure housing, and a desire to preserve and communicate Chinatown’s cultural heritage. Following on the WORKSHOP, CALL invited artist proposals to address these concerns, helping residents connect with the sustainability issues that impact their daily lives.

Project proposals addressing greening, housing, cultural education and food chains were submitted by Jean Shin, Mary Ting, Joyce Hwang, and Stephan Fan. CALL intends to take forward elements from each proposal and is in the process of working with the artists to advance the projects with prototype workshops being held in June 2018 for two of the initiatives and a larger scale roll-out taking place in 2019.
MILWAUKEE: WaterMarks 2017 saw significant progress take place on Mary Miss/ CALL’s new city-scale project to create an atlas of water for the City of Milwaukee. WaterMarks will be an interactive experience throughout the city, enabling residents to better understand their connection to the water around them. The project’s anchor will be an illuminated stack changing color to notify resident’s of heavy rainfall and encourage water conservation measure. Markers that echo the central stack will be placed at strategic points throughout the city. These markers will create points of activation for other artists, performers and additional community activities.

The tangible elements of WaterMarks will be complemented by an app, being made in partnership with Milwaukee nonprofit ReFlo. The app will enhance user experience of the sites and provide avenues for more detailed information on Milwaukee’s water history and current ecological challenges.

Throughout the year CALL conducted a detailed design and testing process on the illumination system for the stack and the structure of the markers, which has paved the way for the first WaterMarks marker to be installed in 2018.

In November, CALL facilitated a WALK around the Walker’s Square neighborhood, led by artist Jill Sebastian and environmental engineer Justin Hegarty. “Hidden Water Stories” explored the disjuncture between the historic natural water pathways and the legacy of industry, infrastructure, and current perceptions. CALL is anticipating at least 4 more WALKS and WORKSHOPS in Spring and Summer 2018, as local interest in the project continues to build.

CALL FELLOWS: Forums In March 2017, CALL launched a new membership program aimed at building a network of scientists, artists, designers, civic leaders, activists and supporters committed to CALL’s mission. The centerpoint of the program is the Fellows Forums, an opportunity for CALL’s supporters to engage more deeply in the topics of CALL’s work, through presentations, panels and discussion with key stakeholders, artists, experts, and decision makers.

Forums ranged from examining hidden waterways in New York City with Eric Sanderson, to exploring how artists can initiate transformative projects with DCA Commissioner Tom Finkelpearl, to understanding how community organizing and design can work together to building more resilient communities with Peggy Shepard, Founder of WE ACT for Environmental Justice. These Forums provide a unique opportunity to participate in the greater conversation about the future of sustainable design, and will develop into an essential resource for those working in or interested in the field.
CALL // PLATFORM // 2017

The CALL PLATFORM PROJECT began in 2016 when CALL received a $150,000 grant from the Mellon Foundation to take on a three-prong project to develop a platform which would enable Mary Miss and CALL’s work to inform future conversations on arts and sustainability.

The three elements of this project were:
1) Conduct a Conservation Assessment of Miss’s work.
2) Create a preliminary plan for a online Archive to make Mary Miss and CALL’s work accessible to scholars, students, and the public for research.
3) Initiate an Assessment & Dissemination effort for the CALL FRAMEWORK.

CALL FRAMEWORK / WORKSHOPS Mellon funding supported several interdisciplinary dialogues and a day-long WORKSHOP in Washington, DC. The first panel, at the Corcoran Museum in the October 2016 Creative Time Summit, examined the tension between considering art as an illustrative “instrument” to make scientific data more compelling and digestible and the belief that there is a complementary, instrumental role for artists who have the ability to create more galvanizing and transformative opportunities for public engagement. From this dialog emerged the key questions addressed at the May 2016 WORKSHOP:

- How can we foster roles for artists to advance sustainable development by deploying their unique skills to engage people and urban communities through visceral, personal, emotional or place-based experience?

- How can urban communities and institutions collaborate, and communicate with contemporary artists with the goal of making a better future possible?

The WORKSHOP led to significant partnerships with the Cary Institute of Ecological Studies, Marquette University, George Mason University, The Santa Fe Art Institute and the Pittsburgh Department of Planning. These Partnerships are now advancing a network of practitioners in an array of disciplines and funding institutions engaged in researching and promoting urban sustainability. A publication to advance transdisciplinary collaborations is also being planned as an outcome of the FRAMEWORK initiative.

CALL FRAMEWORK / ASSESSMENT Adrian Cerezo, a Social Ecologist at Yale University, led the FRAMEWORK assessment effort, focusing on two major arms of CALL – initiatives led by Mary Miss and those led by other artists. Cerezo’s preliminary findings revealed:

- CALL’s artistic endeavors represent full-fledged, comprehensive approaches to urban sustainable development, grounded in realistic, entrepreneurial, and complex, sophisticated thinking.

- The potential success of art in the advancement of sustainable development rests in collaboration and relational partnerships, which can only be achieved through long-term investments.

- There is limited support currently available from institutions and conventional funding sources to facilitate contemporary art for sustainable development.
## BOARD of DIRECTORS

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<td>Aaron Asis</td>
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<td>Ici Sheed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adrian Cerezo</td>
<td>Social Ecologist</td>
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## ARTISTS & DESIGNERS

### Spring 2014
- Josh DeBonis
- Bob Hansman
- Tyler Meyr
- Axi Ome
- MK Stallings

### Spring 2015
- Juani Carrion
- Heather Hart
- Joyce Hwang
- William Lamson
- Marshall Reese
- Amanda Schachter
- Alexander Levi

### Spring 2016
- Garnette Cadogan
- Howard Chambers
- Marshall Reese

### Spring 2017
- Stephan Fan
- Kanene Holder
- Miguel Luciano
- Elliott Maltby

### Fall 2014
- Torkwase Dyson
- Iain Kerr
- Petia Morozov
- Victoria Marshall
- Tatfloo Tan
- Elliot Maltby

### Fall 2015
- Robert Braine
- Mary Mattingly
- Garnette Cadogan
- Howard Chambers

### Fall 2016
- Jean Shin
- Chinatown Art Brigade
- Ellen Driscoll
- Joyce Hwang
- Mary Ting

### Fall 2017
- Alexander Levi
- Amanda Schachter
- Jill Sebastian

## SCIENTISTS & EXPERTS

### Spring 2014
- Miriam Berman
- Dan Chitwood
- Lorin Crandall
- Scott Lamkin
- George Yatskievych

### Spring 2015
- Theo Barbagianis
- Dalton Conley
- Chris Mason
- Mike Feller
- Gianpaolo Baiocchi

### Spring 2016
- Michael Feller
- Benjamin Orlowe
- Jonathan Tarleton

### Spring 2017
- Daniel Carrion
- Valerie Imbruce
- Paul Mankiewitz

### Fall 2014
- Adeola Enigbokan
- Cindi Katz
- Timon McPhearson

### Fall 2015
- Jonathan Tarleton
- Arline Bronzaft
- Sabine Marx
- Rebecca Swadek

### Fall 2016
- Paul Barlett
- Sophie Pilt
- Samuel Stein
- Robin Nagle
- Mackenzie Younger

### Fall 2017
- Eric Sanderson
- Justin Hegarty

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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- DOROTHY LICHTENSTEIN
- THE GREENWICH COLLECTION

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