



A POP-UP FLOATING LIBRARY

Aboard the Lilac Museum Steamship

Lilac Museum Steamship | Hudson River Park's Pier 25, New York City
 September 6, 2014-October 3, 2014
 Open Wed-Sun; Hours vary, see schedule online at www.floatinglibrary.org

New York City (August 17, 2014) –The Floating Library is a pop-up, mobile device-free public space aboard the historic Lilac Museum Steamship berthed at Pier 25 on the Hudson River in New York City for September 6- October 3, 2014. The people-powered library is initiated by artist Beatrice Glow and brings together over seventy participants to fortify a space for critical cultural production by pushing boundaries under the open skies that are conducive to fearless dreaming. The ship's main deck will be transformed into an outdoor reading lounge to offer library visitors a range of reading materials from underrepresented authors, artist books, poetry, manifestoes, as well as book collection, that, at the end of the lifecycle of the project, will be donated to local high school students with demonstrated need. Ongoing art installations include a Listening Room that will feature new works by six sound artists in response to literature, *The Line*, a site-specific paper rope swing project by Amanda Thackray, and *Leading Lights* by Katarina Jerinic in the Pilot House.

During this action-packed month, there is free public programming with over twenty roundtables, performances and workshops that will shine a spotlight on maker culture, DIY politics, sustainability issues and community engagement. Some highlights include bookmaking with Center for Book Arts and Small Editions, a modular furniture building workshop with Reid Bingham, live recording session with HeritageRadioNetwork, a Sensory Walk Workshop with the Movement Party, Lighgt Reading with Ugly Duckling Presse, a multimedia sound performance by Pauchi Sasaki in the Petty Officer's Room – a space akin to being inside the belly of a whale—, and *SeaChange: We All Live Downstream* (a participatory voyage initiated by Mare Liberum and 350.org) will disembark onboard for three days of office hours after traveling for three-weeks on small boats made of paper connecting climate change activists along the Hudson.

Through collective placemaking, the Floating Library intends to recodify how we occupy public spaces by bringing activities that are typically confined within privileged institutional walls— such as reading, writing, researching, questioning and debating—to open space. Resituating these activities to the public sphere is a proposal to dismantle the unequal distribution of knowledge/power. Given the Lilac is America's only surviving steam-powered lighthouse tender and is undergoing restoration, orchestrating the Floating Library aboard an industrial archaeological artifact draws parallels with the balancing act we collectively perform to navigate uncertain times and shifting currents. The project intends to catalyze cultural momentum and foment future coalitions between artists, visionaries, cultural activists and scholars that will outlive the temporary library structure.

BEATRICE GLOW merges interdisciplinary art and autoethnography. Honors that she has received include US Fulbright Scholar, Hemispheric New York Performance Network Emerging Artist Fellow, Hemispheric Institute Council Member, Franklin Furnace Fund Recipient, Visiting Scholar at the Asian/Pacific/American Institute at New York University, and participation in John Zorn's Obsessions Collective. She published *Taparaco Myth* (2009), a trilingual book in Spanish, English, and Chinese on Asian diaspora in Peru, and is currently birthing a Floating Library aboard the Lilac Museum Steamship. She lives and works in New York.

FLOATING LIBRARY CONTRIBUTORS Alexandre Girardeau, Alexander Campos, Amanda Thackray, Amanda Tobier, Amelia Bentley, Anne Muntges, Ariana Nadia Nash, Art Jones, Aurora De Armendi, Boulder Haze, Camila Gaitan, Center for Book Arts, Chuck Bettis, Christina Quintana, Diana Hamilton, Donald Daedalus, Dylan Gauthier, Flavia Souza, Fray Curtis, HeritageRadioNetwork.org, Jeanne Verdoux, Jennifer Verbit, Johnny Amore, Joseph Imhauser, Katarina Jerinic, Laura Gibellini, Lee Murphy Wolf, Lily Mengesha, Linda Neaman, Lyric Hunter, Martha Wilson, Mary Ting, Mitsuko Brooks, Movement Party, Nicolás Dumit Estevez, NYC Climate Convergence, Mare Liberum, Matthew Whitley, Molly Lambe, MV Carbon, Partizaning, Pauchi Sasaki, Paulie Jan, Pauline Kim Harris, Reid Bingham, Ricardo Cortés, Rosamond S. King, Small Editions, Soufia Bensaïd, Tattfoo Tan, Terry Conrad, Thomas Looser, Trina Porte, Twins of El Dorado, Ugly Duckling Presse, Zave Martohardjono, and more.

This work was made possible, in part, by the Lilac Preservation Project and the Franklin Furnace Fund supported by Jerome Foundation; the Lambent Foundation, The SHS Foundation, and by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

The Floating Library Crew | press@floatinglibrary.org | www.floatinglibrary.org