SUSTAINABILITY AND THE ARTS

Tuesday, April 20, 2021 – 7:30 p.m.

VIDEO PRESENTATIONS

Portals of a People
Sabra Booth, Faculty
Palo Alto College | Alamo Colleges District

Completed as part of the 2019 Mission San José Artist-in-Residence Program, Unesco World Heritage Site: San Antonio Missions National Historic Park. In the exhibit, Portals of a People, Sabra Booth created a stop motion animation that uses plants and animal remains that were essential to the lifestyle of prehistoric local indigenous peoples. Portals of a People is a quiet intervention in the San José Mission which prompts reflection on the local flora and prehistoric peoples whose descendants built the missions we enjoy today.


Three Thoreau Sentences
Kevin Salfen, Faculty
The University of the Incarnate Word
Valerie Jeannin, Alumna
Trinity University
Ara Koh, Faculty
The University of the Incarnate Word

This composition by Kevin Salfen (Associate Professor of Music, UIW) is performed by mezzo-soprano Valerie Jeannin, a Trinity alumna, and Ara Koh, piano faculty member at UIW. The text comes from that seminal text of American environmentalist, Henry David Thoreau's "Walden," and more specifically from the chapter "Sounds." Each of the three sentences in the song focuses on some aspect of sound at Thoreau's Walden retreat: the distant ringing of church bells, the night songs of owls, and finally silence. The Covid era has presented significant challenges for performing artists, and so this video also represents a modest attempt to continue to support performance, to promote cultural sustainability for the well-being of artists and audiences.

Sustainable Development Goals covered include: Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being, Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, and Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities.
**Wild about Wildflowers**
Sharon Curry, Staff and Alumna
Trinity University

A collection of nature photographs reflecting on the diversity of wildflowers and the connection to nature for human health and wellness.

Sustainable Development Goals covered include: Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being and Goal 15: Life On Land.

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**LIVE PRESENTATION**

**PAC to Nature Photography Contest**
Sabra Booth, Faculty
Palo Alto College | Alamo Colleges District

A slideshow of photographs from the PAC to Nature Photography Contest. Photographs are based on the theme of nature. Some photographs are of the Palo Alto College campus, including from the horticulture department. Other photographs are of local and national locations.


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**ABOUT THE PRESENTERS**

**SABRA BOOTH** is an MFA graduate of Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan and a BFA graduate from the University of Houston, Houston, Texas. She presently resides in San Antonio, Texas. She is an adjunct lecturer in fine arts at the Alamo Colleges District: Palo Alto College and in the community program at the Southwest School of Art. Her studio practice offers interpretative observations of nature and addresses complex ecological issues. Working in a variety of mediums, she uses drawing, printmaking, and stop motion animation.

**KEVIN SALFEN** is Associate Professor of Music and Co-Director of the Office of Sustainability at the University of the Incarnate Word. In addition to his work as a musicologist and sustainability advocate, Salfen is a composer whose works have been performed in Japan, China, England, and throughout the U.S.

**VALERIE JEANNIN** (mezzo-soprano) has a B.M. in Music Education and an M.A. in Teaching in Music from Trinity University. She is currently a choir director in Northside I.S.D. in San Antonio and also sings with local choral groups such as San Antonio Chamber Choir.

**ARA KOH** has been a faculty member at UIW since 2013. She has degrees in piano performance from Penn State University and New England Conservatory of Music, and she has performed, both as soloist and collaborator, throughout the United States, Europe, and Korea.

**SHARON CURRY** is a graduate of Trinity University with a B.S. in Engineering Science. A long-time staff member at Trinity University, she is currently serving as the University's Sustainability Coordinator in the Office of the University Architect.