



Pro Arts

The New Situationists

Public Events in Frank H. Ogawa Plaza
March & April 2017

A Situation for Two Strangers in a U-Haul Truck

Date: Friday, March 24th

Time: 1:00 – 4:00pm

Participating Artist: being:sound

About the event:

For this Friday afternoon event, being:sound will install a rented U-Haul truck in Frank Ogawa Plaza outside of Pro Arts.

This one day installation is an experimentation with sound made by artists, Mary Frisbee and Joro De Boro, and participants within a rented trailer. The collaborative pair is interested in how inviting the public into a temporary, semi-private space can encourage conversation and call attention to public sound.



Social Experiment (Psychogeographical Play)

Date: Saturday, March 25, 2017

Time: 2:00pm - 5:00pm

Participating Artist: Shelley Harrison

About the event:

For this Saturday afternoon event, Shelley Harrison invites participants to meet outside Pro Arts and then wander through the downtown Oakland streets.

This activity is meant to be a way of consciously walking throughout the city. This action, known as “flocking”, encourages play as a public and collaborative action. The goal of this event is to lead participants away from their normal paths and walking routines in order to shift their view of their own urban landscape.



From Here

Date: Friday, April 7, 2017

Time: 12:00pm - 1:00pm

Participating Artist: ReadyMaids

About the event:

This is part one of a two-part event. During lunchtime, ReadyMaids (Anna Muselmann and Rachael Cleveland) will perform a part-panned / part-improvisational performance in Frank Ogawa Plaza.

This performance is an action against social expectation. Muselmann and Cleveland will create a joint-performance using daily gestures in resistance to these expectations.

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NASA, NorCal Artists Seeking America

Date: Friday, April 7, 2017

Time: 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Participating Artist: Chris Treggiari & Peter Foucault

About the event:

In the wake of 2016, artists Peter Foucault and Chris Treggiari will travel throughout Oakland in their customized space explorer suits to try and make sense of where we are today as a divided country.

Envisioning themselves as part of a special exploration program called “NASA (NorCal Artists Seeking America)”, their mission is to seek out information and stories throughout Frank Ogawa Plaza that will help illuminate the post-election condition.



Double Blind

Date: Saturday, April 8, 2017

Time: 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Participating Artist: The Finishing School

About the event:

As part of *The New Situationists*, the social practice artist collective, Finishing School is creating "Double Blind" - an interactive sculpture. The operational function of the sculpture is purposely being withheld from Pro Arts and the public.

Finishing School will invite participants and passerbyers in Frank Ogawa Plaza to interact with the sculpture uncovering its many possible meanings and functions through group participation.



BB-Q

Date: Friday, April 15, 2017

Time: 3:00pm -5:00pm

Participating Artist: Kal Spelletich

About the event:

For this a-typical Saturday afternoon BB-Q, participants will enjoy savory grilled snacks prepared by a robotic cooking apparatus, while sharing conversation, ideas, revolution and recipes facilitated by machine artist, Kal Spelletich.

Spelletich combines materials from scrapped computer parts as well as welded metal to create new functional objects. Spelletich's machines typically provoke a sense of wonder, awe and even fear from his audience.



DEPARTMENT OF DREAMS, HOPES, AND FEARS

Date: Friday, April 21, 2017

Time: 12:00pm - 2:00pm

Participating Artist: L.M. Bogard

About the event:

In response to the recent election, artist LM Bogard will create a new administration in order to make Frank Ogawa Plaza great again.

The "Department of Dreams, Hopes, and Fears" will install a special outdoor, lunchtime office in Frank Ogawa Plaza. Workers can submit their personal inner thoughts and aspirations for official processing by highly trained bureaucrat and extreme-vetting techniques.

Workers will need to line up in an orderly manner and be prepared to read from George Orwell's 1984 on demand.



Economusic: Keeping Score

Date: Saturday, April 22, 2017

Time: 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Participating Artist: L.M. Bogad

About the event:

This is a special production in which artist, LM Bogad will convert socio-economic data into musical scores and perform them through the help of the audience.

The resulting musical scores will then be projected directly onto City Hall and the audience will sit on the Plaza steps. Participants will sing the unemployment rate, while the Economusician (Bogard) harmonizes with the Incarceration and Homelessness rates.



Is There Love in the Telematic Embrace?

Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Time: 12:00pm -3:00pm

Participating Artist: Roy Ascott / Si-Si Dance & Performance Art Project

About the event:

Si-si Dance & Performance Art Project will perform a choreographed, flag-bearing walk and psycho-geographical dance that begins at Pro Arts and ends at Uber Corporate Headquarters at 1955 Broadway, Oakland.

Stopping at different places throughout downtown Oakland, the walk forms a kinetic map that navigates the terrain of the corporate and civic players in the booming, tech-based economy of the Bay Area.



Eco-Arts Reading Festival

Date: Saturday, April 22, 2017

Time: 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Participating Artist: AfroSurreal Writers Workshop

About the event:

The Eco-Arts Reading Festival is a one-day event organized by Rochelle Spencer and AfroSurreal Writers Workshop as part of their Studio Lab Residency at Pro Arts.

For this festival, the AfroSurreal Writers Workshop and additional local writers will participate in a Read-In. Throughout the day, writers and artists will share poems and stories that explore nature and the urban landscape read aloud at Frank Ogawa Plaza. The Eco Arts Reading Festival will also include members of Laney College's eco-art class, local environmental organizations and others who will share their work.

