

THE 8TH ANNUAL  
NEW YORK  
**ACKER**  
*AWARDS 2021/2022*



# WELCOME TO THE 2021/22 NEW YORK ACKERS

By Clayton Patterson, Creator and Producer

The NY Acker Awards, an annual program created to recognize avant garde excellence in our metropolitan area, celebrates its eighth year with a raft of new recipients who have added to the richness of the community with their dedication to cutting-edge cultural and social contribution. At the same time, we mourn the passing of irreplaceable individuals who have exerted a profound influence on our world.

The Award itself consists of four components:

- 1) a commemorative poster, which is designed by a recipient. Actually, this year recipients will receive two posters, designed by the artists Ray Felix and Jerry Pagane;
- 2) a booklet (which you are holding) that includes brief bios of each recipient, a selection of essays and a memorial section to honor those who recently passed away, accompanied by photos of paper coffee cups on which the artist Antony Zito has drawn a likeness of the departed community member;
- 3) a set of boxes, which each year is designed by a different member of the community. Each box contains one of a series of visual representations from each recipient that reflects the nature of their work, such as a book, a piece of film, a photograph, a venue schedule, a copy of a published journal or a painting;
- 4) one of Antony Zito's aforementioned coffee cups.

The Award ceremony has taken place in a number of community venues, including the Angel Orensanz Center, Theater 80 St Marks, HOWL Happening and the Theater for the New City, all treasured gathering places with deep ties to the community. This year we are fortunate to be able to return to the Theater for the New City.

We have been honored to have as masters of ceremonies such contemporary luminaries as poet Bob Holman, performance artist Kembra Pfahler and singer/songwriter/playwright Phoebe Legere, who returns this year as my co-host.

The NY Ackers also serve as an important research tool, for which purpose past program guides, posters and video recordings of the ceremonies are made available to scholars.

We believe that the Ackers' recognition of those around us works to reinforce our collective memory, which in turn becomes a bulwark against the mass commodification of life that market forces use to grind away at what makes us unique and gives us agency.

2 The journey continues. The community grows, And the avant garde carries on.



Photography by Pawel Trocha of Zbigniew Zolkowski on cover & Clayton Patterson above.

## CO-HOST

### PHOEBE LEGERE

Phoebe Legere is the Executive Director of the Foundation for New American Art, a nonprofit corporation that brings art and music to the children of low-income communities. She is the Music Director and Conductor of the Lower East Side Children's Chorus. Phoebe Legere is a political playwright. Five of her plays have been produced by Theater for the New City. Her musical Hello Madam president, about the first female President of color, starred Laverne Baker in the title role. Shakespeare and Elizabeth, Legere's musical comedy, starred Phoebe as Elizabeth I and Crystal Field as her sister Bloody Mary. Legere's new play, Nefertiti and the Jews, was produced at TNC in 2020. For more information, visit: [www.foundationfornewamericanart.org](http://www.foundationfornewamericanart.org)



## DJ

### MARCUS GLITTERIS

Marcus Glitteris is a club kid turned artist, turned curator, turned DJ, and loves to hear the voices and echos of artists past in his mixes such as Salvador Dali talking to Mike Wallace in an interview over house music.



## CANDY DARLING AWARD

### JORDAN KING

Jordan King is a Canadian multidisciplinary artist, performer, curator and writer. She considers herself an archivist and historian, her creative practice rooted in archival research and intergenerational connectivity. In particular, Jordan has connections to noteworthy trans-feminine figures of the 20th Century. For trans women, maternal lineages and familial relationships are often chosen as opposed to traditional biological. Jordan endeavors to uplift forgotten trans narratives and celebrate those who came before her.

Born and raised on the west coast of Canada, Jordan lived in New York from 2017 through 2020. She worked primarily as a makeup artist until the 2020 pandemic forced a professional redirection, which resulted in a return to Canada (for the time being) and a refocus of her creative energy and output.

In 2022 Jordan produced a feature article about International Chrysis for **CANDY** Magazine, acted as story editor for a documentary film titled "The Empress of Vancouver" and in 2021 appeared in an Off-Broadway production titled "Wednesday," which reinterpreted the 1975 American film "Dog Day Afternoon." Throughout 2020 and 2021 she produced a podcast focused on interviews with LGBTQ trailblazers and elders.



## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

### ANNIE SPRINKLE



Annie Sprinkle has always been spurred by curiosity, a desire to learn, to share her discoveries and collaborate. She credits her mentors: Fluxus artist Willem DeRidder and performance artist Linda M. Montano.

1970's thru mid-90s: Annie Sprinkle produced all manner of sexually oriented media. She helped develop new genres: edu-porn, docu-porn, post-porn, feminist erotica, gonzo...

1980-1995: Hosted the Sprinkle-Vera Salon in her Manhattan apartment where tattoo art (Spider Webb), body piercers (Fakir Musafar, Jim Ward, Raelyn Galina), sex workers of all stripes and colors (Scarlot Harlot, Marc Stevens), kink aficionados, (Ms. Antoinette, Queen Adrena), gender explorers (Diane Torr, Johnny Science, Les Nichols), Club 90 Porn Star

Support Group (Sprinkle, Veronica Vera, Candida Royalle, Veronica Hart, Gloria Leonard) all found space to gather and flourish.

1989: Bridged into theater with her first one-woman show, "Annie Sprinkle Post Porn Modernist." She toured her theater pieces for 20 years.

2002: Moved to San Francisco and fell in love with artist Beth Stephens and they began collaborating. They founded the Love Art Laboratory.

2008: Sprinkle and Stephens marry the Earth and launch the Ecosex Movement.

2017: Sprinkle & Stephens become official artists of documenta 14, widely considered the best art expo in the world, and produce queer environmental feature films.

2021: Sprinkle & Stephens book, Assuming the Ecosexual Position is published, chronicling their 20 year adventures in love and art.

2022: Sprinkle celebrates being "a multi-media whore" for 50 years

## COVER PHOTOGRAPH

Zbigniew Zolkowski by Pawel Trocha

Pawel Trocha, born in 1975, is a third-generation photographer from Poland. His grandparents, Jadwiga & Pawel, established a photo studio in 1936 in that still exists to this day. Trocha's photography captures the undercurrent of the city: the characters, the forgotten locations soon to be development sites for the cranes and backhoes. Engaging with people vastly different from himself, he finds the beauty in their vulnerability and eccentricity and conveys this in his photographic work. He spends time with his subjects and builds a story of their lives in the "other world" in the backdrop of the golden cities. He has exhibited his work in New York, Krakow and Silesia.

## THE ACKER AWARDS: KEEPING IT LIVE

By Anthony Haden-Guest

Much has changed since I came to Manhattan. The great up-town hangouts – Elaine's, Gino's, Mortimer's – have been hung out to dry, the kind of posh folk who frequented them having mostly drifted off to places like Palm Beach, while the gossip columns that documented their doings are also gone.

The night of the clubs also came and went and a space that was one of the wilder sex haunts in the Meat Market now houses one of the sleekest galleries in Chelsea.

That said, the changes Uptown have been like taking out some furniture but not changing the room. That has not been so Downtown. Yes, great specific spaces there, venues that generated experience and memory, like the Mars Bar, the Mudd Club, 8BC and the Life Café, are gone, but there have been further changes that have been radical, transformative. In my first years in Manhattan, the later 70s, a period when the Lower East Side was still an area to be extremely watchful at, say, three in the morning, I was already getting an earful of grumping to the effect that the wild, free New York, the city in which artists like Colette and Christo could set up a studio space in, say, an abandoned sweatshop, was as gone as Atlantis.

By the mid 80s this trend had become a commercial movement and the urban blight of gentrification was denounced by artists of all stripe, as well as community activists and citizens from every corner of society that have seen their world slipping through their fingers.

Few, though, have fought the fight with the determination and persistence of Clayton Patterson, creator of the NY Acker Awards for Avant Garde Excellence, the accolades he has been handing out to those he and his supporters describe as outsiders, outlaws, misfits, radicals, visionaries and dreamers, at a ceremony every year since 2013.

The Ackers reflect the breadth of Clayton's reach and the depth of his feeling for a rich, raw culture, the culture of the LES or Loisaia, which he feels is threatened with being washed away, largely, but not wholly, by collateral damage caused by a brutally surging wealth gap.

This year's winners of the neighborhood's Oscar equivalents will receive the usual, this not being a statuette that looks like an oversized hood ornament but a handmade box, choc-a-bloc with goodies contributed by his or her fellow Acker nominees, including artworks, CDs and miscellanea of all sorts, plus posters and a bespoke coffee cup.

The message? Just this: New York lives.

# WHY AN AWARD?

By Leonard Abrams

Societies create all kinds of mechanisms to run themselves. Public awards fall into a category in which anyone can give them (at least in the kinds of places where personal freedoms are taken for granted) but for the most part we relegate the privilege to well-ensconced institutions that have the time and money to do such things. And naturally, they do it in a way that suits them best.

This leads us to the brilliance of the Acker Awards for Avant Garde Excellence. The Acker Awards are a rare example of institution-building by two groups that are always called upon for the work of bolstering and glorifying society but rarely given their due: the cutting-edge creative and activist communities. Here in New York, Clayton Patterson and friends have taken on the task of creating a structure of acknowledging important people in the artistic and sociopolitical fields who are often overlooked by the power centers of our city, whose boards are commonly stacked with those who seem to prefer the safely dead and redundantly vetted over the dangerously alive and under-celebrated.

This kind of formal recognition given through the Acker Awards to those around us whose work enhances the human experience creates a power center that is much freer from the warping influences of things like money, inherited social position and self-reinforcing patterns of exclusion that tend to build up in traditional institutions like grit in an engine, and are in fact antitheses of real creative energy. And in the process we are feeding a social mechanism that magnifies our powers by making us more aware of each others' talents, leading to things that might not otherwise be dreamed of.

One of the things I like best about the Acker Awards is the way they came into being without any lengthy series of discussions among artistic or industrial leaders. Someone saw a need for them and decided to make them happen. Arbitrary? Yes – like all awards programs. People just got together and made them. And the realization of this is an important step in freeing society from the compunction about creating new institutions to counter the ones we unwittingly rely on to set the framework of our lives.

So next time some institution has gotten your goat, take a cue from the Ackers, and start your own – be it an awards program, a rabble-rousing rag, a rock 'n roll bar or a learning center – and open up some new vistas on our shared lives.



# COMMENDATION FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH ACTIVISM:

## AAA FRIDGE

In 2021, Artists, Athletes and Activists (AAA) founded New York City's first plant-based community fridge, from which anyone can take free food, in front of Overthrow Boxing at 9 Bleecker Street, and soon after installed a second fridge outside of the Essex Street Market and inside multiple New York City public schools. The Plant-Based Community Fridge initiative has provided thousands of struggling families with fresh fruits and vegetables.

The AAA also personally welcomes newly arrived asylum-seekers with housing advice and referrals to social services.

Additionally, AAA founder Power Malu brings chefs to Overthrow Boxing Club to



teach vegan cooking with ingredients from the Fridge so that people can learn how to make tasty, nutritious plant-based meals.

Another form of AAA activism, which occurs with the help of Dennis Flores, has been getting post-hurricane emergency supplies, including water, generators, batteries, food and clothing, into the hands of people in Puerto Rico.

The New York Times  
**New York Today**

October 23, 2022



Victor J. Blue for The New York Times

### How New Yorkers Are Stepping In to Help Asylum Seekers



# THE 2021/2022 8TH ANNUAL ACKER AWARDS

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- JOHNNY VELARDI - ART
- JOHN WYATT - PHOTOGRAPHY

# HOWIE ABRAMS

WRITING, NONFICTION

Queens native Howie Abrams launched In-Effect Records in 1988, releasing titles by Agnostic Front, Bad Brains, 24-7 Spyz, Scatterbrain, Prong, Sick of It All, Nuclear Assault and others. He then moved over to Roadrunner Records, where he signed Shelter, Madball, Vision of Disorder, Black Train Jack, Die Monster Die and Dog Eat Dog. Howie also handled product management duties for Type O Negative, Biohazard, Sepultura and more.



Abrams then joined the staff at Jive Records/Zomba Publishing, where he brought punk legends Misfits, Killswitch Engage, Mudvayne, The Pietasters, and platinum pop-punkers Bowling for Soup to the label. Howie later went to Warner Chappell Music, where he worked with Brooklyn rappers ILL BILL and Lordz of Brooklyn, plus Long Island rockers Brand New.

In 2013, Abrams turned author, penning a number of books, including: *Finding Joseph I: An Oral History of H.R.* from Bad Brains, *Hip-Hop Alphabet*, *The ABCs of Metallica* and *The Blood and the Sweat: The Story of Sick of It All's Koller Brothers*, among others. He is currently finishing work on Agnostic Front guitarist/founder Vinnie Stigma's *The Most Interesting Man in the World* and *The ABCs of the Grateful Dead*.

# PEGGY AWESH

ART



Since the early 1980s, Peggy Ahwesh has forged a distinctive moving image practice exploring female sexuality, subjectivity and troubling the boundary between the body and the machine. By working with nonprofessional performers as well as repurposing existing images, Ahwesh embraces an improvisational strategy that probes the critical potential of play with attention to the materiality of bodies and media technologies. She articulates a feminist commitment to the marginal across so-called “high” and “low” forms of culture.

Select exhibitions include *Girls Beware!*, Whitney Museum of American Art (1997); *Visions Machines*, Spike Island, Bristol, England (2020, traveled); *Cleave*, Microscope Gallery, Brooklyn (2019); *Artist in Focus*, Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival (2017); *Heart Land*, JOAN Gallery, Los Angeles (2020); Whitney Biennial (1991, 1995, 2002); and the third body, screening & conference BFI, London (2013). Ahwesh's films *Martina's Playhouse* (1989), *The Deadman* (1989), *Strange Weather* (1993), and *Nocturne* (1998) are in the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art.

# ERIC BLITZ

## MUSIC

Eric Blitz is a drummer/percussionist/performance artist/activist having worked in the music and art scene in NYC and California since the 1980s.

Some of the groups he has performed and or recorded with are The False Prophets, Missing Foundation, the Robert Kennedy Assassination, Greg Ginn, Urchestra, Artless, Foxtwot and currently EXP( a new group with Jack Natz).

Eric was influenced by most all of the extreme arts of the 20th century.



As an activist Eric has worked with World War 3 Illustrated artist/activist Seth Tobocman in both Arts In Action( street performance) and as well since 2002 with the multi-media group Continuity of Struggle. This group took words, images and sound to the stage dealing with many social issues here in the city and globally.

Having been on his own since an early age life has been rough but fun. Both drugs and sex work were part of his youth...Eric has 22 years clean and works sometimes as a recover coach and helps others who have been involved with sex work.

In the present Eric plays in EXP and also in Astral Knife(a noise performance duo) with his soulmate and wife, artist, performer and Butoh dancer J. Gonzalez-Blitz.

# JONATHAN BOYARIN

## HISTORY

Jonathan Boyarin's work centers on Jewish communities and on the dynamics of Jewish culture, memory and identity. He has done fieldwork in and written about Jews in Paris, Jerusalem, and the Lower East Side of New York City.

He has extended these interests into comparative work on diasporas, the politics of time and space, and the ethnography of reading. He is also a Yiddish translator. He chronicles the contemporary Lower East Side Jewish community in

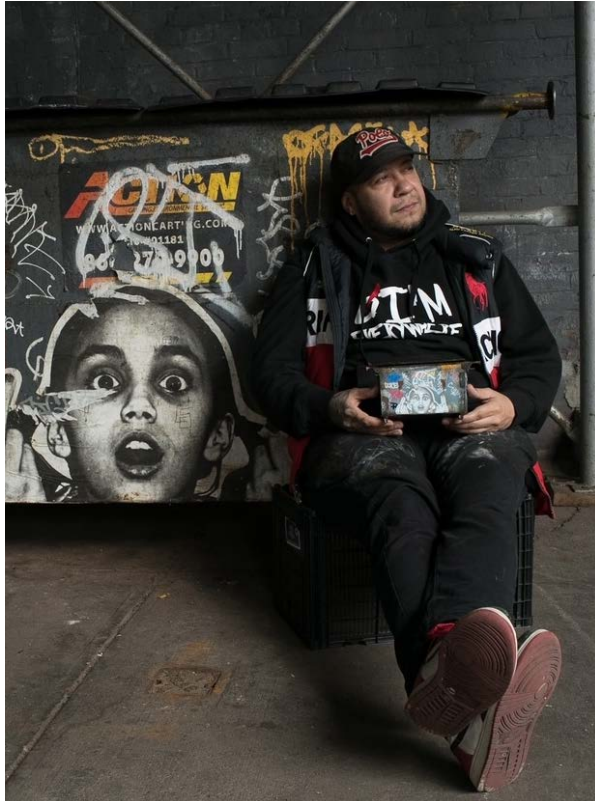


Mornings at the Stanton Street Shul (2011) and Yeshiva Days: Learning on the Lower East Side (2020).



# DANIEL CORTES

ART



Daniel Cortes is an artist from the Bushwick section of Brooklyn, New York. His work is influenced by his childhood years growing up as well as the 90s era in New York. He creates miniature models that bring to life the urban landscape of the city. Daniel's interest in miniature models began during his youth.

Daniel was intrigued by the level of detail noticeable in the play sets used by toy companies. His attention was significantly drawn to the backgrounds displayed in the toy's commercials and

packaging, though not included with that toy, so he would construct his own. G.I. Joe and Transformers were among his favorites. This curiosity motivated him to start creating his own miniature dioramas. Using his imagination with household items, such as cardboard, cereal boxes and glue, he began creating small-scale reproductions of regular sized items.

Sometimes the most obscure objects can become the catalyst for a new creation, as every gum stain, sticker and rust-worn gate tells a story. Blighted façades and distressed structures are the very scenes which fuel Daniel's attention to detail. He also recreates miniature scaled vintage advertising posters and graffiti art on his models. Daniel's miniature models take the viewer on a gritty romantic journey through New York that everyday passersby have overlooked.

# JOSE "FREAKY FRIDGE" CRUZ

ART



J. De La Cruz, "Freaky Fridge" to the neighborhood, is a Lower East Side staple. "The Mayor of the Lova," as he was graciously dubbed during a hit debut pop-up in April 2022, is known to just about everyone in the hood.

A young street hustler turned artist, designer and now entrepreneur has made his mark in the artistic community and started building his creative legacy by telling his own story of the Lower East Side. Expressing his talents as a young man tagging up the streets of New York City, where he grew up, to finding his way to Clayton Patterson's graffiti door. Building a unique reputation for himself, today, he uses the medium of imprint to immortalize the streets of the famous Alphabet City and East Village.

Creating a vision and a brand that uniquely represents his perception of what it's like to live and breathe in the L.E.S. That is how he tells his life story. Congenialized streetwear bringing popularity and recognition to places like St. Marks Place, Mott & Mulberry Streets, and the most popular street of them all, Avenue B, his home. The brand tells the story of a merged community and the tales that have been left behind. The people who come and go and those who make it a point to be everywhere.

A humble kid from the projects, now a father to a beautiful daughter named Callie, came to a reckoning when he went on his first international trip. He realized that there is an unparalleled uniqueness to his neighborhood and his community. He also realized that the world is a very big place and that the Lower East Side and everything it represents belongs anywhere and everywhere. That is his art.

# Al Diaz

ART



Al Díaz's career spans five decades. Born and raised Puerto Rican in New York City, by age 15 he was an influential first-generation subway graffiti artist known as "BOMB-ONE." His friendship and artistic collaboration with high school schoolmate Jean-Michel Basquiat on SAMO©, (a late 70s Avant-garde graffiti tag project) has been noted often in contemporary art history.

Díaz later contributed percussion to numerous musical recordings and performances, including Basquiat's historic 1983 record, "Beat Bop," (considered to be one of the earliest hip-hop albums).

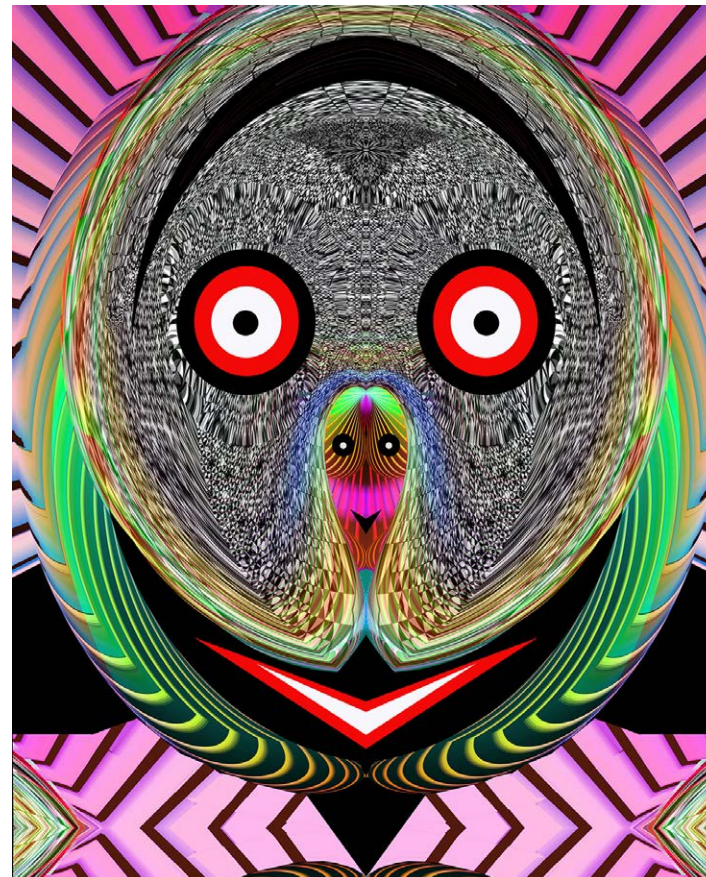
Díaz is sought after as an expert of New York City counterculture art. He appears often in publications, as a highlighted speaker for a variety of panel discussions at universities and museums (including Smithsonian Institution, the Brooklyn Museum, The New School and Christie's Education), and has been featured in several films, including Boom for Real: The Late Teenage Years of Jean-Michel Basquiat, BBC's American Masters — Basquiat: Rage to Riches and Jean-Michel Basquiat: The Radiant Child.

Díaz' current creative practice in Brooklyn includes gathering the standard "WET PAINT" signage used throughout the NYC MTA, and reconstructing them to create clever, poignant anagrams in various mixed media and public art formats. His work is shown and privately collected internationally.

In 2018, Diaz authored SAMO©...SINCE 1978, an in-depth, color-illustrated history of the street art legacy that he began with Basquiat in the late 70s. A notebook that Díaz made with Basquiat in his teens is currently held in the collection of the Yale University Beinecke Library.

# EARL EINHORN

ART



Earl Einhorn is a pioneer in the field of digital art. Acclaimed by the computer graphics organization SIGGRAPH for his trailblazing work, Einhorn first started programming in the FORTRAN language in 1968 on the IBM/360/65 for the Equitable Life Insurance Co.

As he tells it, "In 1975 I drew my first eight-dimensional hypercubes by hand. The computer wasn't ready for me. I started

with EGA (640 by 350 resolution), then VGA (640 by 480) in B&W and finally 1024 by 768 full-color. In 1991 I did a bunch of T-shirts using my hypercube designs.

"In about 2000 I found a way to make pictures 12,000 pixels wide with the full 16.7 million colors the computer can do. In March 2002 I was first published by Computer Graphics World. I got very sick about 12 years ago and lost an eye. I could barely walk! I spent all my time on the computer trying to make pictures that no one has ever seen. I do not base my art on any artist and each piece is totally different. I use my artistic skills to make a new world of digital art where art based on the computer would be considered fine art."

# RAY FELIX

## ILLUSTRATION

Ray Felix is a Bronx native born in 1973. He is a graduate of the School of Visual arts Class of 1999/ 2000. His comics include “Bronx Heroes ®1.0: “Runaway Slave”, Bronx Heroes® 2.0 : The Greatest Hero Black Power®, Heavy Traffic™, Enter: The Roach™ and “A World Without Superheroes®”. Ray Felix is also the founder of the community-based organization, Bronx Heroes Comic Con®, and Co-Founder of Women in Comics Con™, which promotes literacy and education through the practice of reading and creating comics.



Felix has freelanced with off-Broadway productions such as “The Monkey King” from Great Small Works (2006), Cathay: Tale of 3 cities in China (2007) with director Ping Chong and designer Stephen Kaplan.

Ray Felix is the winner of numerous awards and grants such a “BRIO - Bronx Recognizes Its Own, 2002, CAG Award- Community Arts Grant 2011-2016,(NYSICA), New York State Council on the Arts in 2011-2016, The Sherman Foundation, New York Community Trust award, The National Endowment for the Arts, Bloomberg Philanthropies, and the Lambent Foundation of Tides Foundation for 2011. Felix was also awarded a “Citation of Merit” by The Bronx Borough President, Rubin Diaz Jr. in 2013, for his community-based work and teaching at-risk LGBTQ youth.

# DENNIS FLORES

## VIDEO ACTIVISM

Dennis Flores is a multimedia artist and activist, born and raised in Sunset Park, Brooklyn. He is the founder of El Grito, a grassroots community-based organization that advocates around issues of discriminatory policing. In the mid-1990s, influenced by the Young Lords party, Dennis and the street organization he belonged to – deemed a “gang” by law enforcement officials – began organizing around social justice issues. He and others began to organize with families of victims of the police amid the political unrest of the Rudy Giuliani mayoral era in New York City.



One of the pioneers of the modern-day “Copwatch” movement in New York, Dennis began 1995 to organize patrols of everyday people to film and document police misconduct. The use of video to not only expose police brutality but to help exonerate those who were arrested and criminally charged, laid the foundation for the growing police accountability movement seen across the country today. Currently, Dennis cofounded Copwatch Media, a community-based journalism project publishing articles about law enforcement’s effects on hyper-policed Black, Latinx and non-white communities. Copwatch Media also serves as a media watchdog for local and national news reporting that is deferential to law enforcement (“Copaganda”) and hosts a database that catalogs police profiles and incidents of misconduct.

# BURNING BUDDHA

## MUSIC

Burning Buddha was given a “legal” which does not matter. He started out at 6 years old miming to the Rolling Stones on Ed Sullivan with a broomstick as an instrument.

“My mother caught me and decided I should have a guitar. This stuck. I then wanted to be ‘Something.’ I spent many years trying to become ‘Something.’ I played in bands during the CBGB/Mudd Club era. The band most known was called ‘Polyrock.’ I found this to be a dreadful existence.



“At one point I ran off to the Himalayas and spent 19 months living in a cave. In this cave I found the answer. The goal is to be ‘Nothing.’ Burning Buddha is the beginning of that quest to become ‘Nothing.’ The name ‘Burning Buddha’ derives from devotion to the devotion of Thích Quảng Đức who on June 11, 1963 self-immolated. Burning Buddha returns me to my actual purpose, as the rubber band instructed. The purpose is ‘Sound’ and only sound. I do not matter; I am merely a vehicle from which the sound can be disseminated. I care not for anything other than ‘Sound.’”

# GALINSKY

## POETRY



Galinsky is a performance coach, director, producer, writer, prison activist and New York City town crier. He is founder of GalinskyCoaching.com, has directed and co-written over fifty TEDx Talks, and he works with teenagers in Rikers Island Jail and jails and prisons throughout New York State. His one-person play “The Bench, A Homeless Love

Story” ran at the off-Broadway Cherry Lane Theatre and had an extended run at the East Village Playhouse and in Hollywood’s Hudson Guild Theater. His first self-published book of poetry and plays, “Scribbling on Spaghetti,” was published by Don’t Tase Me Books. Galinsky runs a live poetry night, “Poetry in New York,” the third Thursday of each month at the Book Club Bar in Alphabet City.

# J. GONZALEZ-BLITZ

## ILLUSTRATION

J. Gonzalez-Blitz is an artist who paints, draws comics, makes music and video, and practices Butoh dance.



Born in Hell's Kitchen and diagnosed with schizo-affective/bipolar disorder, after a turbulent childhood she returned to her New York City home to live the art life.

She participated in art shows at Max Fish and Mars Bar as well as ABC No Rio and a New Museum show on zine culture. She has had comics published in numerous anthologies including the Eisner-winning Drawing Power and downtown staples such as World War 3 Illustrated and NY Waste. She has also sung in the New York punk band Mz. PakMan, Michael Shenker's Squatter's Opera, and in a choir for British artist Ed Atkins at Performa 19.

# ETHAN HILL

## PERFORMANCE ART

Ethan Hill is a filmmaker based in New York working on a documentary about Michael Wilson, Illustrated Man from the Coney Island Sideshow. Previous work experience includes over 20+ years as an award-winning portrait photographer in the magazine business. A partial client list includes Entertainment Weekly and New York Times. He is an instructor at the International Center for Photography and has work included in the permanent collection of the National Portrait Gallery, London.



# SID KAPLAN

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Sid Kaplan, master black-and-white printer and photographer, was born in the Bronx in 1938 and began photography at age ten. He set up his own shop, Custom Work Darkroom, on East 23rd Street overlooking Madison Square Park in 1968, and it was here that he and Marvin Schwartz photographed and developed the photos for Alexander Calder's "Calder Circus" for the Whitney Museum of Art in 1970 and for the Artist Calendar for the Museum of Modern Art in 1974.

In the Eighties, Sid settled into his current residence, complete with a custom-built darkroom, or as he calls it, "The Picture Kitchen." He's worked with such illustrious clients as Robert Frank, W. Eugene Smith, Philippe Halsman, Ralph Gibson, Duane Michals, Louis Faurer, Joan Roth, Weegee and Allen Ginsberg.

Sid Kaplan's work is in the permanent collection of the The Museum of Modern Art, Museum of the City of New York, The New-York Historical Society, The Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, The Art Institute of Chicago, International Center of Photography, and Portland Museum of Art in Portland, Maine.



# STEVE MARCUS

## ILLUSTRATION



Steve Marcus (aka smarcus) has received honors and awards from the American Society of Illustrators. He has several works in the permanent collection of the Oakland Museum of California, The Jewish Museum of Florida – FIU, The Yiddish Book Center, The Harvard Library, Yivo Institute for Jewish Research, The Miami-Dade PLS, and private art collections in the United States and abroad. He has collaborated with Allen Ginsberg, Ken Kesey, Timothy Leary, Richard Stratton, The Norman Mailer and Miguel Pinero Estates, The New Orleans Jazz Museum, and The Red Hot Chili Peppers.

He's created artwork and illustrations for High Times Magazine and the infamous Cannabis Cup, the United Nations, The New York Times, MTV, Guitar World, Tattoo International, The Source, Condé Nast Publications, Esquire, Time Out NY and Nickelodeon. He has designed posters for the world famous Fillmore in San Francisco and the creator of the infamous cartoon, Three Thug Mlce and is a member of the American Guild of Judaic Art.

# MARC H. MILLER

## CURATING

Marc H. Miller is an artist, curator and archivist whose work often focuses on the cultural and visual history of downtown New York. For twenty years Miller lived on the Bowery, a period documented in his website *98 Bowery: 1969 – 1989; View from the Top Floor*. Miller believes that history is inevitably subjective, that there is not one truth and that every person experiences the world differently. *98 Bowery* tell the story of the East Village as he lived it.

Highlights include Miller's collaboration with Bettie Ringma on the photo series "Bettie Visits CBGB"

(1975-78) and the related painting "Bettie and the Ramones" by Curt Hoppe (1978). Miller co-curated the exhibition *Punk Art* at the Washington Project for the Arts (1978) and *Hey Ho Let's Go: Ramones and the Birth of Punk* at the Queens Museum (2016). He worked with Paul Tschinkel on the videotape series *ART/New York* (1981-85); and wrote the Miller's Memorabilia column in the *East Village Eye* (1983-1986). With Alan W Moore he co-edited the book *ABC No Rio Dinero: The Story of a Lower East Side Art Gallery* (1985). Miller's company Ephemera Press published a map of the East Village with artwork by James Romberger and Marguerite Van Cook (2001). He's also the founder of online *Gallery 98* (2013-present).



# SETH TOBOCMAN

## ACTIVIST ART

Seth Tobocman is a comic book artist whose work often deals with political issues from a radical and independent point of view. He founded the magazine *World War 3 Illustrated* with Peter Kuper in 1979 and has been part of the editorial collective ever since. His work has appeared in

The *New York Times*, *The Village Voice*, *Heavy Metal* and many other magazines. He is author of a number of graphic books including *You Don't Have to Fuck People Over to Survive*, *War in the Neighborhood*, *Portraits of Israelis and Palestinians*, *Disaster and Resistance*, *Understanding the Crash*, *Len (A Lawyer in History)*, and *The Face of Struggle*. Some of these books have been



translated into French, Italian, Korean, Spanish and Greek.

Tobocman's art has been shown at the Museum of Modern Art, The New Museum of Contemporary Art, The Museum of The City of Ravenna, *Exit Art* and *ABC No Rio*.

His images have been used as posters, murals, banners and tattoos by people's movements all over the world, from squatters in New York's Lower East Side to the African National Congress in South Africa.

# ROGER MIRET

## MUSIC



Born in Cuba, having fled to the U.S. with his family to escape the Castro regime during the late 1960s, eventually settling on the Lower East Side of New York City. He is a pioneer within the New York Hardcore punk scene, joining the seminal band Agnostic Front as their vocalist in 1983, and releasing classics of the genre such as *United Blood*, *Victim in Pain*, *Cause for Alarm* and many more over the next several years. Miret also fronts his own solo group, Roger Miret and The Disasters, as well as The Alligators.

Roger published his critically acclaimed autobiography, *My Riot: Agnostic Front, Grit, Guts and Glory* in 2017, and was the subject of the highly regarded documentary film, *The Godfathers of Hardcore*. He currently lives in Scottsdale, Arizona with his wife and children.

**-Roger's bio by Howie Abrams, and photo taken by Todd Huber.**

# JB NICHOLAS

## JOURNALISM



JB Nicholas is an investigative reporter, photojournalist and First Amendment activist. During 2018 and 2019 he successfully sued Hollywood director Steven Spielberg and the New York Police Department for censorship, the results of which included in new, fairer regulations governing revocation of NYPD-issued press credentials.

Nicholas also served 12-2/3 years in prison for manslaughter starting in 1990. While incarcerated he earned a college degree and in 2001 formed the nation's first prisoner-run prisoners' rights organization. His legal work lead to fairer

parole hearings in New York as well as the recognition of prisoners' right to organize.

Nicholas later worked as a news photographer and investigative reporter, leading to enactment of new laws raising New York's age of criminal responsibility to 18, reform of New York's parole revocation laws, the cancellation of a planned new \$1-billion jail on Riker's Island, greater access to drug treatment for prisoners, and the removal of statues of Confederate generals Robert E. Lee and "Stonewall" Jackson that were displayed at the Bronx Community College's Hall of Fame of Great Americans.

In 2022 JB Nicholas completed a memoir entitled *Hidden Worlds That Shine: My Odyssey from Killer to Journalist, from Riker's Island to the White House and the Outlaws I Met Along the Way*.



# ANTHONY PEDONE

## FILMMAKING



Anthony Pedone was born in Dallas but spent the formational years of his life growing up on a ranch in Clayton, NM. He spent the 80's and early 90's playing in bands and studying music composition at Southwest Texas State University.

By 2001 music was dead. Heroin and meth and fraud earned Pedone 36 felonies in four states. While incarcerated he earned a certificate in writing social commentary from Penn State, and upon his release and began making films.

Since 2006 he has produced, written, directed, or shot over 30 features, documentaries,

and short films that have premiered at Sundance, Tribeca and Slamdance.

In 2012 Anthony received a grant from The O'Connor & Hewitt Foundation and founded the Victoria, Texas Independent Film Festival where he served as program director for nine years, and created youth film programs and provided gear grants to incentivize first-time filmmakers. Through this process, Anthony was able to connect with artists and filmmakers who would open up a world of healing through new creative partnerships and collaborations.

Recently, he co-produced the Emmy-nominated documentary, Stockton On My Mind for HBO with NYC director Marc Levin, at Blowback Productions.

Anthony continues to serve filmmakers and artists to cultivate inclusion, cultural growth and collaboration through his organization, Film Exchange.

# EDWARD RIVERA

## VIDEO

Edward Rivera is best known as a content producer and editor whose ability to use a strongly creative talent that is informed by a well-developed technical skillset is widely acknowledged in the industry.

Working as a marketing specialist for the past 15 years, Rivera has produced high-quality marketing content and coordinated hundreds of campaigns for Fortune 500 companies. His extensive experience as a marketer has augmented his abilities as a creative director.



Adept in filmmaking, Edward has expert-level videography and cinematographic skills and has produced high-visibility content acclaimed for heightening digital marketing presences. Edward has worked on various critically acclaimed films, documentaries, projects and commercials and is known for bringing an undying passion and skill to his work.

# LUCY SANTE

## WRITING

Lucy Sante was born in Verviers, Belgium, lived in New York City for almost thirty years, and now lives in the Hudson Valley. She is the author of *Low Life*, *Evidence*,

*The Factory of Facts*, *Walker Evans*, *Kill All Your Darlings*, *Folk Photography*, *The Other Paris*, *Maybe the People Would Be the Times*, and *Nineteen Reservoirs*. Her awards include a Whiting Writers Award, an award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, a Grammy (for album notes), an Infinity Award from the International Center of Photography. She has been a Visiting Professor of Writing and the History of Photography at Bard College since 1999.



# RAQUEL SHAPIRA

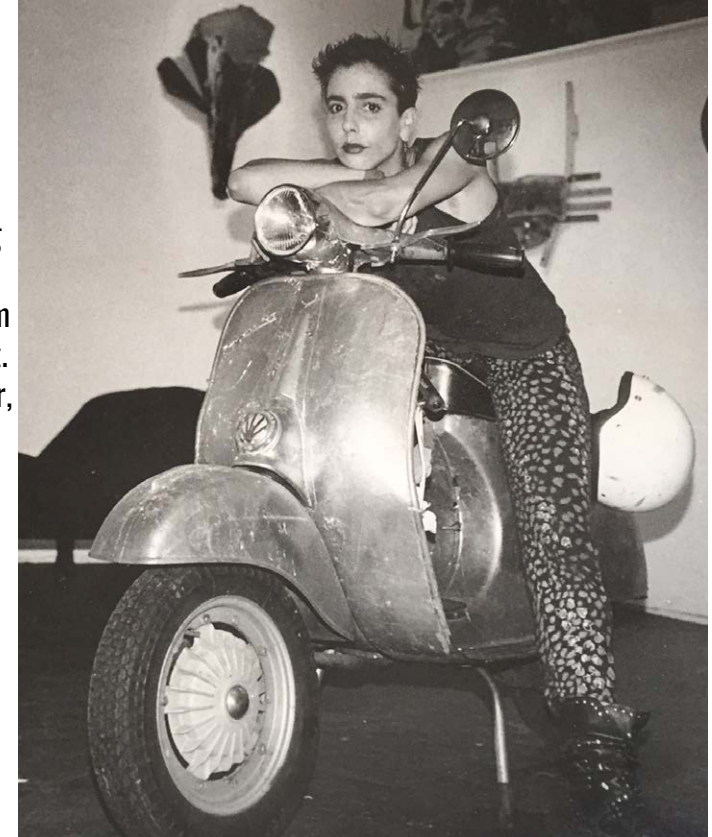
## GRAPHIC ARTS

Raquel Shapira, a longtime resident of the East Village, is a poet, graphic designer and performance artist.

In 1986 Shapira, along with Tri Garraty, ran the New York Theater Asylum venue on East 9th Street. Asylum produced theater, poetry, music, art shows and occasional acid parties.

Starting in 1988, she began a career as a graphic artist and book designer, and has since designed and produced numerous publications for New York's artistic community, working with organizations including Anti-Utopia Editions (Bruce Witsiepe, Nadia Coen, Tony Pionotti and others), Bullet Space (Andrew Castrucci), The Living Theater, Smut Fest (Jennifer Blowdryer), and writers and artists Garrick Beck, Jessica Slote, Jeanne Liotta, Bradley Eros and numerous others. Other design credits include East Village Eye's 2016 Special Edition and Gathering of the Tribes magazine's second issue, plus several books under Steve Cannon's Fly By Night imprint.

Shapira has performed at Dixon Place, Franklin Furnace, the Nuyorican Poets' Café and other venues, and has self-published two books of poetry, *Thoughts of Flesh and Blood* and *The Story*.



# ELISSA SAMPSON

## HISTORY



Dr. Elissa Sampson is an urban geographer who studies how we actively use the past to create new spaces of migration, memory, activism and heritage. She is a lecturer in Cornell's Jewish Studies program, where she teaches courses on Jewish cities including New York's Lower East Side, her home for more than forty years. A neighborhood activist, she has been involved in fighting to preserve historic immigrant buildings, community gardens and

much else.

Dr. Sampson has worked to digitize a section of the confiscated archives of the Yiddish-speaking immigrant Left housed at Cornell's Kheel Center, Catherwood Library. Based largely on this archive's holdings related to the Jewish People's Fraternal Order (JPFO) of the International Workers Order (IWO), she organized a public, online academic conference, Di Linke, a week-long series of webcasts in December 2020.

Dr. Sampson is the author of "Revisiting Their Words: An Archive of the Jewish Immigrant Left," in *Cultura Judeo-progresista en las Américas* (Buenos Aires, Imago Mundi-CEHTI-ICUF, and of entries on the Jewish People's Fraternal Order, and Jewish Americans, respectively, in the *Encyclopedia of the American Left*, edited by Paul Buhle, Mari Jo Buhle, (Oxford University Press, also forthcoming, February 2023). She has also been featured in films and TV programs pertaining to Jewish immigrants, their institutions, politics, and businesses.

# SUE STRANDE

## ART



Sue Strande was raised in Wisconsin, where her mother attended the Layton School of the Arts and had her daughter drawing daily at three from models. Strande has lived and worked in New York most of her life. She has done semi-performative photographic, installation and film work and spent time teaching art in the university system, in public high and middle schools and with young children.

Strande holds an MFA in Drawing and Painting from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, attended The School of Visual Arts, Hunter College and The Skowhegan School of Painting and

Sculpture.

Her work derives from analyzing fragments of the everyday world: body art, creative movement and dance-informed choices related to figuration. Most work is done as both figurative and landscape painting. Many are scenes of classically styled nudes in minimal landscape painted in oil, acrylic, watercolor and fresco, while the look of the work evolves in process.

Strande attempts to trigger mutual memories in viewers that surface in such actions as the synchronized swimming she performed as a teen. She has received grants from Art Matters and Artists Space and has had a solo exhibition at The Vaana Raatihuone Kultuurikeskus in Turku, Finland.

# WALTER STEDING

## ART

Walter Steding has been a musician, visual artist, and former painting assistant to Andy Warhol. A violinist, Steding first played with the Electric Symphony where he developed his own electronic instruments—namely a synthesizer triggered by a biofeedback device that coordinated his music with light-up goggles. He later performed as a soloist at art galleries and at NYC clubs, such as CBGB's and Max's Kansas City, opening for bands including Blondie, Suicide and the Ramones. He has worked as a recording artist and performer with Blondie, Jim Carroll, David Byrne, Chic, and Robert Fripp. In 1980, he formed his band Walter Steding and the Dragon People and released records on Red Star and Animal Records.



Steding met Andy Warhol at the downtown club Infinity. He was asked to perform at The Factory and Warhol later acted as manager and producer for Steding's music; the only other musical group Warhol ever managed was The Velvet Underground. Steding was also a regular on Glenn O'Brien's underground cable series, "TV Party." Steding continues to live in NYC and has written, directed, scored, and acted in films and plays, including Polyester, Union City and Downtown 81.

He is currently a member of the rock band Crazy Mary.

– Puma Perl

# JOHNNY VELARDI

## EVENT CURATING



Johnny Velardi received his education at Parsons School of Design, and later at the School of Visual Arts. He resides in the East Village, where his family has lived since the early 1920's. An artist, curator and musician for 35 years, Johnny V is well known as the guitarist for the notorious punk band pUbLiC NulsAnCe.

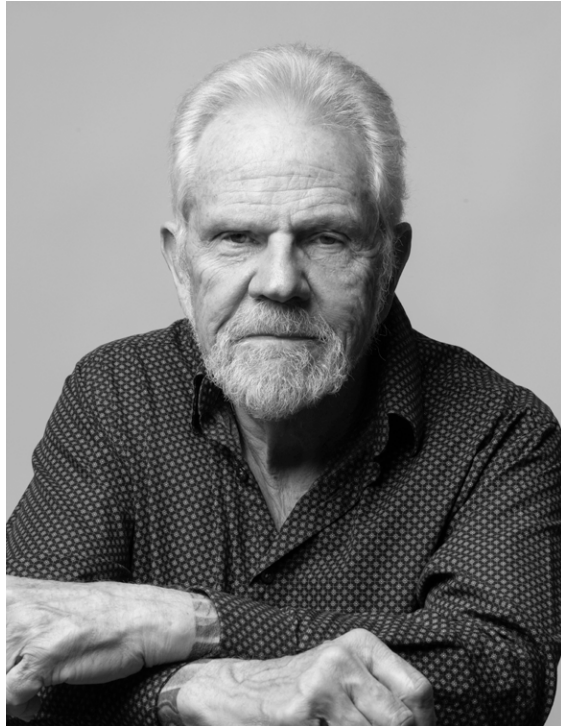
He has organized, curated and exhibited community art shows starting with ATTACKART! (1988, Stockwell Gallery), Metropolis Apocalypse (2008, Supreme

Trading), and Metal=Heavy and Twisted (2009, Anita Durst Chasama). He has exhibited in numerous group shows at the National Arts Club and the Salamugundi Museum of American Art.

Johnny V had his first solo show, Terminal Buzz, in 2012 at RMS Studios at 188 Stanton Street. Other shows he has curated and exhibited at RMRS include (S)HE IS STILL HER(E) Lady JayP-Orridge Memorial (2014), SpringtimeSurge (2015), Demolition Exhibition (2016), The Greatest Art Never Seen. In addition, he has shown at The Sound Of Color, The Lower East Side Then and Now, A Rivington School Show (Fusion Arts Museum), and Devastation Nation 2016: After the Election.

# JOHN WYATT PHOTOGRAPHY

Photographer John Wyatt has concentrated on people who are dedicated to getting heavily tattooed or passionate about fighting in mixed martial arts or boxing. The spirit and originality of his subjects are reflected in their portraits. The interviews of his subjects adds an artistic and interesting dimension to his portraits.



Wyatt began photographing tattooed people in 1973, mostly in New York City. One of the people that he began photographing was legendary tattoo artist Thom deVita in the Lower East Side, where he tattooed underground. He photographed Thom for the next forty-five years.

In 1977 he started doing portraits of tattooed people for a book project, and continued for twenty-six years until it was published in 2003. At that time, his book of heavily tattooed people was historic.

Wyatt's work has been exhibited in galleries and museums throughout the United States. Two monographs of his work have been published: *Under My Skin* and *Tough Guys*. He has also had work published in magazines and books and is included in permanent museum collections.

Currently he is photographing deteriorating Rust Belt cities; his current photographic project is of the town of Bombay Beach, California, at the Salton Sea, and its residents.

-sponsor-

## CLAYTON CAPS



The Clayton Cap changed the history of the American baseball cap. Previously, baseball caps were worn by workingmen or athletes. The only embellishment was on the front panel: "Yankees," "Mets," "Diesel Power" and so on. Sometimes embroidered gold leaves were glued to the peak. My wife, Elsa Rensaa and I were the first designer baseball cap makers to attach a hand signed brand signature label to one panel of our custom, one of a kind caps and to embroider our blue signature on our multiple design caps. Because our caps are all hand made, they are all slightly different. However, the biggest

breakaway from tradition was to extend embroidery around the whole cap and on the peak. Ours was a radical change to the baseball cap concept. Our custom caps, each with an original design detailed to our customers' desires, were made one at a time. They were also hand numbered inside until late 2000. We are still the only people in the world making these kinds of custom caps.

We had the freedom to do what we wanted with a simple item, transforming a symbol of American culture into something artistically mutable. The caps became sculptures covered in my drawings. We were the first to make unique embroidered caps in wool, some with a leather peak. We also made them in plaid and pinstripes using all kinds of materials and material combinations that would not show up elsewhere for a few years. The Lower East Side also had a wide range of extraordinary fabric shops that sold ends of every fabric possible and at great prices. A few such places were Belraf on Stanton St., Diamonds on Ave A, and Beckinstein's on Orchard St.

Elsa and I are both artists who have survived as outsiders and on our own terms. We had to find legitimate alternative ways to survive – and the caps made us a good living for a number of years. I consider the caps to be works of art, an idea shared with several famous and well-known people who have been our customers over the years. We have probably made over 300 custom caps for artists including Jim Dine and David Hockney and film personalities Gus Van Sant and Matt Dillon. We also did a custom Clayton design jacket back for Mick Jagger.

<http://www.claytonpattersonles.com/clayton/>

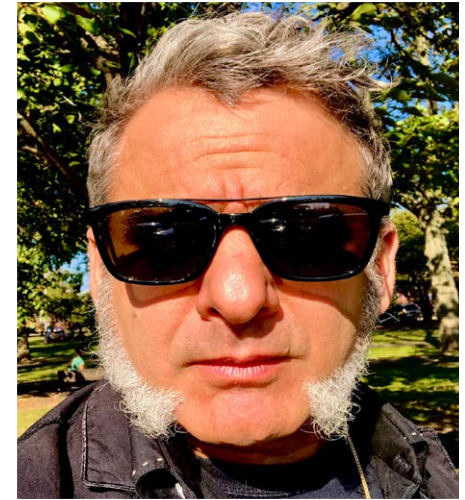


Photography by Pawel Trocha of Zbigniew

# ANTHONY ZITO'S POSTHUMOS COFFEE CUPS 2021/2022

## ANTHONY ZITO

Zito's Posthumous Cups are part of the NY Acker culture, serving the creative community to remember those who have come before.



The Cups reintroduce the inspired persons, all of whom have contributed to the creative evolution of the avant-garde community. They might have left the physical realm but are intact in our memories. Zito, a portrait artist from the LES, draws the portraits onto a symbolic surface, that of a coffee cup.

Downtown, NYC, where the notion of progress is constantly looking forward, a cup of coffee transcends economic lines and also allows a moment of respite to appreciate the figures upon which our progress has been built.



# MIGUEL ALGARIN

1941 – 2020



Miguel Algarín, poet/playwright/educator and a guiding force behind the Nuyorican poetry movement, was born in Santurce, Puerto Rico, and lived most of his life in New York City. His voice and presence commanded attention on and off stage. The principal founder of the Nuyorican Poets Café (with the late Lucky Cienfuegos and the late Miguel Piñero), he decided to rent a space across from

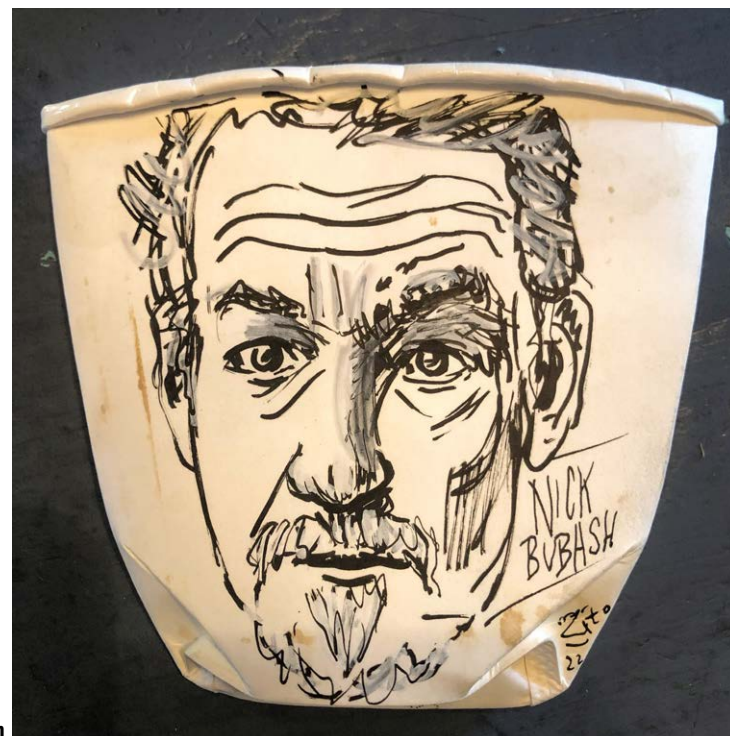
his East 6<sup>th</sup> Street apartment as a venue for the increasing number of poets who'd been gathering at his place. The Café was born in the early 70's and introduced neighborhood kids and residents to poetry that not only resonated, but made writing accessible to all.

Algarín held the position of Professor Emeritus for his 30 years of service at Rutgers University. He played a vital role in establishing Nuyorican literature as a genre and compiled with co-editors two volumes of poetry and one of plays, in addition to his solo publications and translations. He was the winner of three American Book Awards, and became the first Latino to be granted the Before Columbus Lifetime Achievement American Book Award. But most importantly, his heart and soul belonged to his community.

- Puma Perl

# NICK BUBASH

1949 – 2021



Nick Bubash was a sculptor, painter, printmaker, assemblage maker, and legendary tattoo artist. Nick lived most of his life in Pittsburgh, PA. While in NYC in the 1970s, Nick met the legendary tattoo artist Thom deVita. Thom was impressed with Nick's drawings and later taught him to tattoo. Nick was the only person who tattooed with

deVita. Thom later encouraged Nick to enroll in art school, and he began his studies at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia. He graduated with the highest honors and earned multiple awards and a scholarship to study and work in India. Nick is collected by the Library of Congress and the Carnegie Museum of Pittsburgh. His work is in numerous private collections. He has had a solo show of his work at the Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh in 2016. That same year he received an Acker Award.

His sculptures and drawings reflect his spontaneity, creativity, humor and idiosyncratic sensibility.

Nick has been a loving, great father to his two adult daughters, Bella and Georgia. He was a loyal, generous, and kind friend to all who knew him, especially to his friend Thom deVita. Nick drove from Pittsburgh to Newburgh, NY, for years, assembling a wooden box portfolio of art by himself and other artists, including deVita to pay tribute to Thom and benefit him.

The grief of Nick's sudden passing has devastated all those who loved him.

- John Wyatt



# JACKIE CURTIS

1947 — 1985



Jackie Curtis was born on The Lower East Side of NY as John Curtis Holder Jr in 1947 from a short lived union and was raised on Second Avenue by his mother Jenivieve, Aunt Josephine and grandmother Slugger Ann, owner of the legendary Slugger Ann's Tavern in the East Village.

Curtis debuted at 17 in 1965 in Tom Eyen's Miss Nefertiti Regrets at LaMama Experimental Theater which starred Bette Midler (whose 1970's stage persona would be influenced by Curtis) after which he started writing plays.

Beginning in 1967 he started performing with The Playhouse Of The Ridiculous whose dynamic founder John Vaccaro gave Curtis licence for outrageousness. Curtis took to the streets in what can only be called "anti-drag" never hiding that she was a "he", and ushered in an influence that is still felt today but sadly Curtis's prescience is ignored. Curtis's influence would create NY's Glitter Glam movement and as a singer and poet he influenced what would come to be called punk. Not only was Curtis's femme presentation a persona so was his "male" persona famously alluded to in Lou Reed's song Walk On The Wild Side." In 1969 Curtis preciently stated "Not "she" not "he" just me , Jackie."

- Penny Arcade



# MR. FOX

Some called him Bobbie, some called him Fox, some called him Mr. Reid. All knew him as a hard-working African American gentleman from the Lower East Side who loved the arts, especially jazz.

Reid rubbed shoulders and hung out with New York's jazz greats, especially his good buddy, famous saxophonist and band leader Jackie

McLean, who lived at 484 East Houston Street. Mr. Fox and Jackie would hit the jazz circuit in the early days together and also hang out in local dives like Club 17 on Avenue D and the Parkside Lounge on East Houston Street. Mr. Fox convinced Dave Brown, manager of Club 17, to let him book jazz acts at the club. This kicked off a jazz renaissance in the neighborhood.

From the late 1950s through the mid-1960s, New York below 14th Street was home to a thriving black bohemian scene. Black writers, painters, and jazz musicians moved downtown in search of cheaper rents and a more tolerant racial atmosphere, and were soon mixing with their white counterparts in bookshops, taverns and jazz clubs. And Mr. Fox was right there to help forge this transition. It was nothing strange to see Mr. Fox bring a bunch of white jazz enthusiasts from the Half Note on Spring Street down to Club 17 on Ave D or the Crimes Club on 4th Street to sit and hear some tunes.

Mr. Reid was a steely eyed visionary who was instrumental in bringing jazz to the Lower East Side.

## E.F. HIGGINS, III

1949 — 2021



Few have embodied the Lower East Side *ouvre* like Ed Higgins. Born in Wisconsin, the longtime resident of Ludlow Street was known for a whimsical aesthetic that emanated from the land of Doo Da, a nation of his own creation dedicated to his brand of Dadaism. This branch of the movement had a humorous slant that often took the form of mail

art, in which he created Doo Da postage stamps, reproduced on color Xerox, pierced with his own perforator and sent to fellow artists and enthusiasts.

Heavily influenced by comics and popular art, Higgins promulgated his unique style and sensibility that often included his signature hexagonal flying “Wing Nut,” a term he also applied to himself. Perennially jocular and good-natured, Higgins was a constant fixture of the downtown art scene, a living reminder not to take oneself too seriously. Even so, Higgins himself was a prodigious worker, creating hundreds of artworks and participating in scores of shows all over the world. Higgins’s joyful effervescence and indomitability served as antidotes to the kind of grim materialism that is the bane of art everywhere.

- Leonard Abrams



## M. HENRY JONES

1957 – 2022

We are saddened to relay the unexpected and tragic passing of M. Henry Jones, a singular artist whose animated films, kinetic sculpture, and 3-dimensional photographs provide a fortuitous glimpse of future advances in technology, as well as the impact these changes had on art.

As an early participant in the East Village art scene, Jones was part of a gifted group of artists that included Keith Haring,

Kenny Scharf and John Sex, all of whom attended the School of Visual Arts, and later helped create the nightclub-infused art celebrated in MoMA’s 2018 exhibition *Club 57: Film, Performance, and Art in the East Village, 1978–1983*. Much of Jones’ early art connects to the downtown music scene and was first shown in nightclubs as an innovative form of multi-media entertainment.

Fans of Jones often refer to him as a “technical genius” but he is probably better described as a forward-looking visionary blessed with stubborn perseverance. Because his first works date nearly a decade before the widespread use of computers and digitization, Jones was restricted to labor-intensive analogue techniques to create effects that would soon be facilitated by digital programs like Photoshop. Today we marvel not only at the visual effects he produced but also at the arduous, time-consuming processes he needed to use to achieve them.

# KASOUNDRA

1938 — 2021

Collagist, occultist, designer, former assistant to Joseph Cornell, cohort of Harry Smith, collector extraordinaire, and so much more, Kasoundra was and remains emblematic of the kind of unique artists that created and sustained the New York underground from 1960 until her death in 2021 at age 83.

Kasoundra was held against her will for ten years by Adult Protective Services, marooned in nursing homes she didn't need, her work stolen, her rent-controlled apartment manipulated away from her, her savings drained while the court system ignored the pleading of her many friends. She never lost her sense of humor, and she bore this horror with patience and hope.



- Penny Arcade

# KEITH PATCHEL

1955 – 2021

Keith Patchel. July 23, 1955 – August 7, 2021, an award winning New York City-based film composer, died unexpectedly last year of a heart attack. At the time Patchel was CEO of Plinkout, a music education software startup for children. In 2016 he composed an opera entitled *The Plain of Jars*, for which he received the 2017 Acker Award for Composer/Producer of the Year. In 2015 he composed the *Pluto Symphony* for the Hayden Planetarium (an official selection for the nomination for the Pulitzer Prize in Music 2015).

Patchel was also the composer in residence at the MusEdLab (an NYU music education software development initiative), and performed with Gryphon Rue at Theater for the New City and with his Venus Ensemble, also at the TNC. A veteran of the NYC rock/punk scene, Patchel also contributed to Richard Lloyd's *Field of Fire* album.



# DEE POP

1956-2021

Dee Pop a/k/a Dimitri Papadopoulos, was a journalism student in Buffalo in 1977, interviewing rising punk rock figures like Richard Hell, hanging out with Lester Bangs and playing in a band called *The Good*. Soon he decided to go back home to New York City and become part of its exploding music scene, which notably included the Bush Tetrads, in which he became the drummer and a founding member.

In 1979 guitarist Pat Place left noted avant-funk bandleader James Chance's *Contortions* and formed a new combo with Laura Kennedy, Cynthia Sley and Dee Pop. He was an unusual drummer: a sensitive person, a poet. He could be melodic. He was integral to the band. He didn't just bang away – he really listened.

Pop left the band in 1982 to branch out in other directions with his new wife, Deerfrance, in the band *Floor Kiss*. Other notable collaborations included the *Gun Club*, *Billy Bang*, *The Clash*, *Gary Lucas* and *James Chance*.

Dee was an amazing dad to his daughter, Nicole, and son, Charlie, hard as it was juggling a music career and family. An indispensable part of the downtown music scene, Dee will be missed by all who were touched by his generosity, humor and camaraderie.



# HOWIE PYRO

1960 – 2022

Howie Pyro born Howard Kusten, started early in the punk scene as founder of possibly the first underage punk band, The Blessed, in 1977, and was also a member of the Freaks, The Chelsea Smiles, D Generation and Danzig. He co-founded the Greendoor Party in New York City, the infamous club Coney Island High, and was a member of the Blacklips Performance Cult. He also collaborated with Johnny Thunders,



Ronnie Spector, Rancid, Joey Ramone, Genesis P-Orridge, The Misfits, Debbie Harry, Kid Congo Powers, Ed “Big Daddy” Roth, Jayne County and Alan Vega.

A world-renowned DJ, Pyro hosted the groundbreaking show, Intoxica! Radio, an infectious two hours of primitive 45 RPM records from the deep underbelly of the original rock ‘n roll era.

Howie Pyro died peacefully from complications due to COVID-19-related pneumonia, following a liver transplant and long battle with liver disease. The beloved and influential bassist, DJ scenemaker and troublemaker devoted his life to everything weird, wonderful and wild in music. Howie will be laid to rest at Hollywood Forever Cemetery. There will be a big celebration of his life in the near future.

He is survived by his sister, Robin Hartmann, nephew and niece Rory and Leah Hartmann, former wife, Andrea Kusten Matthews, and many cousins.

In honor of Howie, please consider donating to UCLA Division of Liver and Pancreas Transplantation: <https://www.uclahealth.org/transplants/liver/make-a-gift>

# BETTIE RINGMA

1944 – 2018

Bettie Ringma was born in the Netherlands during the last winter of World War II. The Netherlands was the last country to be liberated and the Nazis claimed most of the available food to feed their army. She barely survived the threat of starvation and even experienced a clinical death, but was brought back to life by her desperate mother.



There were no toys in postwar Netherlands, but she found joy in little things created from found objects. Her eager eye spotted the most beautiful or useful objects in the trash and she joyfully thanked “Santa Basura” – her “God of Trash.” Bettie had a gift of discovering beauty in unexpected places and turning it into art.

Bettie lived in the East Village from 1975 until her death in 2018. From 1974 through 1982 she collaborated with Marc H. Miller, starring in their photo portfolio “Bettie Visits CBGB” and in the large painting “Bettie with the Ramones” (by Curt Hoppe).

Bettie held an MA in Art Therapy from George Washington University. In New York she worked variously as an art therapist, yearbook photographer, graphic artist at Marvel Comics, nightclub photographer and New York icon. Her photographs have been exhibited, published and kept in many private collections.

- Eva Dorrepaal

Photo by Curt Hoppe

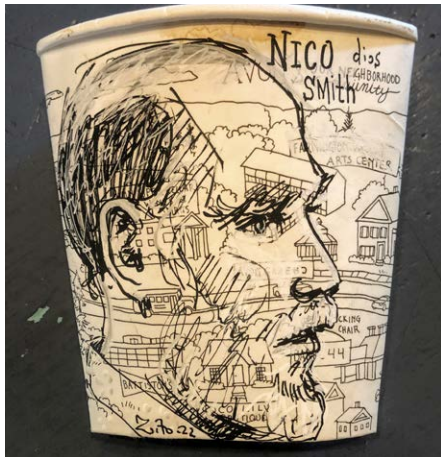
# MARILYN ROBERTS

1939 —2021

Marilyn Roberts was a pivotal force in the Off-Off Broadway movement and beyond. In the course of her long career she acted in several feature films, including *Looking for Mr. Goodbar*, *Heaven is Waiting*, *The Image* and *Boxiganga*, the latter a European experimental film from a play by the Danish theater artist Elsa Gress.

Marilyn did much work with the La Mama Acting Troupe, which performed numerous plays in Europe. One of them, *Futz*, a Rochelle Owens play about a man in love with his pig, included Marilyn as Mrs. Soots. They also acted in the filmed version of the play, with Sally Kirkland added to ride nude on the back of a giant sow. This became a cult classic, inspiring the likes of John Waters and other socially radical directors.

Ms. Roberts also appeared on many television shows, including *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*. Marilyn, who lived for many years in the West Village at Westbeth in a big space overlooking the Hudson River, was a beautiful lady with blue eyes and blonde locks. She passed away in January 2021 at the age of 82. She will always be remembered by those who admired, loved and adored her.



# NICO SMITH

1942 – 2022

Nico Smith, born in Westchester, NY and a decades-long East Village resident, was a dedicated abstract painter whose highly regarded work often took a back seat to an oversized personality. Irascible, cantankerous and disputatious, Nico loved to talk about anything and everything to just about anyone who could put up with his high-volume oratory. An energetic bon vivant, Nico is described by his surviving son Mickey as “a self proclaimed genius, fashionista, art expert, science expert, expert in world affairs, cars, music, film...he enjoyed good food and

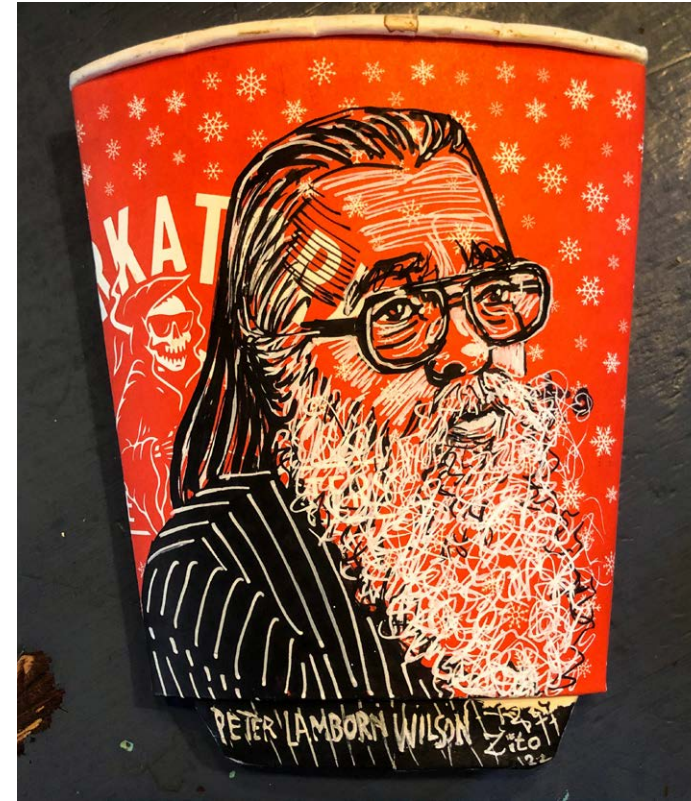
company and cooking. He lived a full life and we agreed at the end he did it all,” which also included a thriving alfalfa sprout business, his own gallery and an art band. As former band member and longtime friend, the artist Robert Petrick put it, “Nobody knew how to play, really. We were trying to make sounds, and we succeeded at that.”

While Nico did not succeed commercially as a painter, Petrick described his art as “inspiring from a conceptual point of view. I was always surprised that he could come up with something new within the framework of his minimalistic style.”

56 - Leonard Abrams

# PETER LANBORN WILSON

1945 – 2020



Peter Lamborn Wilson first entered my mind a quarter-century ago when he broadcast weekly over the local Pacifica radio station, well after midnight, two-hour monologues on various subjects. What caught my attention was not only his verbal facility and his greater learning but the depth and originality of his anarchism. As he synthesized the classical curriculum of Manhattan’s Columbia College (before he dropped out) with certain

exotic interests and experience, he thought like no other American intellectual. As PLW he was commonly known.

His interests included Sufi traditions, Islamic art, pirates, peaceful secession, angels, American anarchism, and much else. Under the pseudonym of Hakim Bey he published *T.A.Z.: The Temporary Autonomous Zone* (1991), his single most influential text, a paean to chaos, that has had surprising influences, as the strongest books do as they make their way in the world. Some of these effects are identified in a Wikipedia entry solely on T.A.Z. Influence notwithstanding, nearly all PLW books have come from not from profit-minded commercial publishers but from smaller presses whose governing editorial principle is not profit but love.

For me the classic PLW essay is “Gone to Croatan” (c. 1994), which identifies pre-Revolutionary libertarians by reading between the lines of familiar history. Thus, Philadelphia became an under-regulated city because its despot is mostly absentee, the layouts deposited in Roanoke (VA) simply surrendered to the local natives.

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# SEAN VASQUEZ

1961 – 2021



Sean Vasquez, reared in the streets of Brooklyn, moved to the Lower East Side to found East Side Ink, in his apartment, and became part of a new wave of tattooists rocking the old school boat with new artistic flair.

Vasquez blazed a trail as a tattooist across the world: Sacred on Broadway and Triple X Tattoo studios in midtown

as well as gigs in LA, the UK, Austria and Japan, where he became part of a well-known tattoo family as Hori Karasu. Known for his eccentric, colorful style and his polymath approach to life and learning, he never stopped evolving and finding new artistic expressions that influenced his tattooing. Exploring his Mayan roots with hand-tapping methods and his Nordic roots through a newfound spirituality, perfecting the art of bonsai and recording music, he was a true renegade renaissance man.

Sean is survived by his “third time lucky” wife, as he liked to call her, soulmate and tattoo partner Leticia, children Rachel, Nikki, Hagen and Alma Luna, grandson Arkham and his mother, Barbara. He will be remembered by his blood and chosen family as a most loyal respected brother, by his colleagues across the globe as a talented, generous mentor, the tattoo community as a passionate trailblazer, his clients a caring artist and most of all for his drive to create.

# NICK ZEDD

1958 – 2022



Seeing *They Eat Scum* by Nick Zedd (then known as Nick Zodiac) in 1979, I knew I was watching an instant punk classic. Blood, guts, sexual perversion and humor, all wrapped up in an 8-millimeter DIY package: Nick’s debut feature film had everything that made punk great. And Nick himself embodied the unwritten punk ethos like few others.

The founder and champion of Transgressive Cinema, a movement dedicated to the obliteration of unquestioned social norms, Nick was always direct and unfiltered, often scathing and never self-aggrandizing. Nick was surprisingly thoughtful, with a shy, almost childlike smile that would break out whenever he felt a kind word or an act of friendship.

Stomping through his adopted home of Mexico City, where I hung with him several times in the last few years, he cut an imposing figure in his black leather trench coat and motorcycle boots, an underground celebrity in a city that adores punk but doesn’t really care for gringos. Mexico City is not an easy place for artists, but Zedd stayed there, he said, to be close to his young son, Zerk, now ten years old.

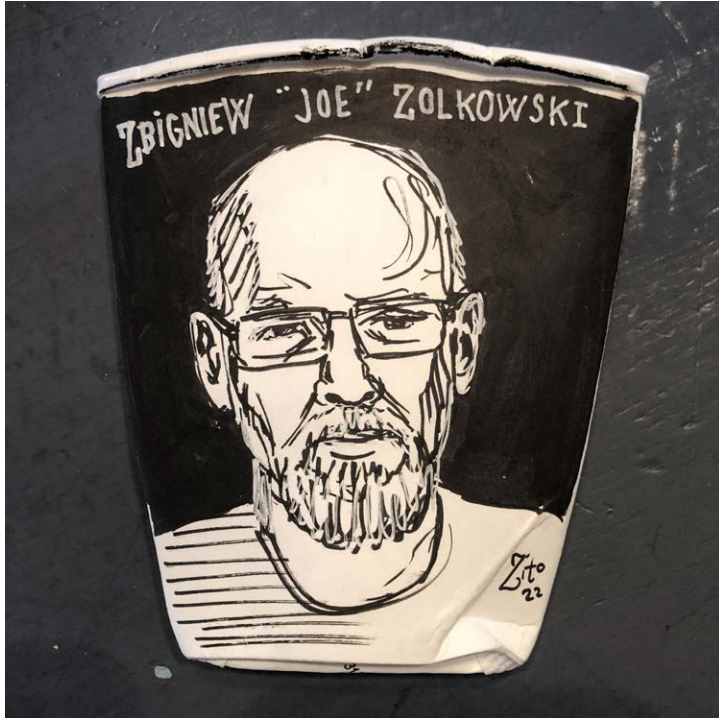
Nick always rolled with the punches, always did work, first in the Lower East Side, then Brooklyn, then Mexico City, where he began living in 2011, making music videos and DJ’ing at clubs and bars to support his painting, filmmaking and family, but cancer brought on by hepatitis C – all too frequent among our demographic – proved more than he could handle.

Nick is survived by Zerk, and the boy’s mother, Monica Casanova. He will be missed by many.

- Leonard Abrams

# ZBIGNIEW "JOE" ZOLKOWSKI

1950 — 2022



Zbigniew Zolkowski, a/k/a Joey Baby, was born in Poland in 1950. He came to the US with his family when he was eight years old, and settled in Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

Zolkowski earned a BFA in 1972 at the Columbus College of Art. He was a recipient of the Phillip Johnson scholarship and got his MFA in 1976 from the University of Oregon.

His work encompasses a variety of media like drawing, painting, sculpture, performance art, collage, sticker art and ecological protest art.

Zbigniew was heavily influenced by the surrealist movement and the work of Marcel Duchamp and his ready-mades, as well as the educational and ecological thinking of Rudolf Steiner, and the work of Joseph Beuys.

Joey Baby created sculptural installations in many New York metropolitan areas, including sidewalks, parking lots, riverfronts and junkyards. He possessed the ability to find inspirations for his sculptures in the garbage that is put out every day on the streets of New York City. He transformed these materials to create fantastically amusing and provocative works of art to the enjoyment of accidental passersby.

Between 1995 and 1998 he ran the Catch 22 art gallery in the East Village, where he curated art shows, poetry readings, music and film events.

Zbigniew died in 2022, after completing his last street installation on Kissena Blvd in Flushing, Queens.



Faced with this grim prognosis, Coss started to get in shape using the tools he had -- his prison cell and his own body weight. Within six months he lost 70 pounds and replicated his successful formula of body weight exercises with 20 other inmates. Then he launched CONBODY, a prison style bootcamp that has gained over 70,000+ clients and has hired 50+ formerly incarcerated individuals to teach fitness classes. Since the launch of his company he's been featured in over 200 major media outlets such as NBC, CNN, The New York Times, Men's Health and has been a 3 time TED Talk Speaker. He's also won major pitch competitions such as Pitch for Good by TOM's shoes and the YPO shark tank competition, which combined raised \$2,000,000.

Today Coss co-founded CONBUD, which is looking to hire formerly incarcerated individuals to build a personal and impactful presence in the cannabis market through potential dispensaries that he's looking to open under the CAURD program.

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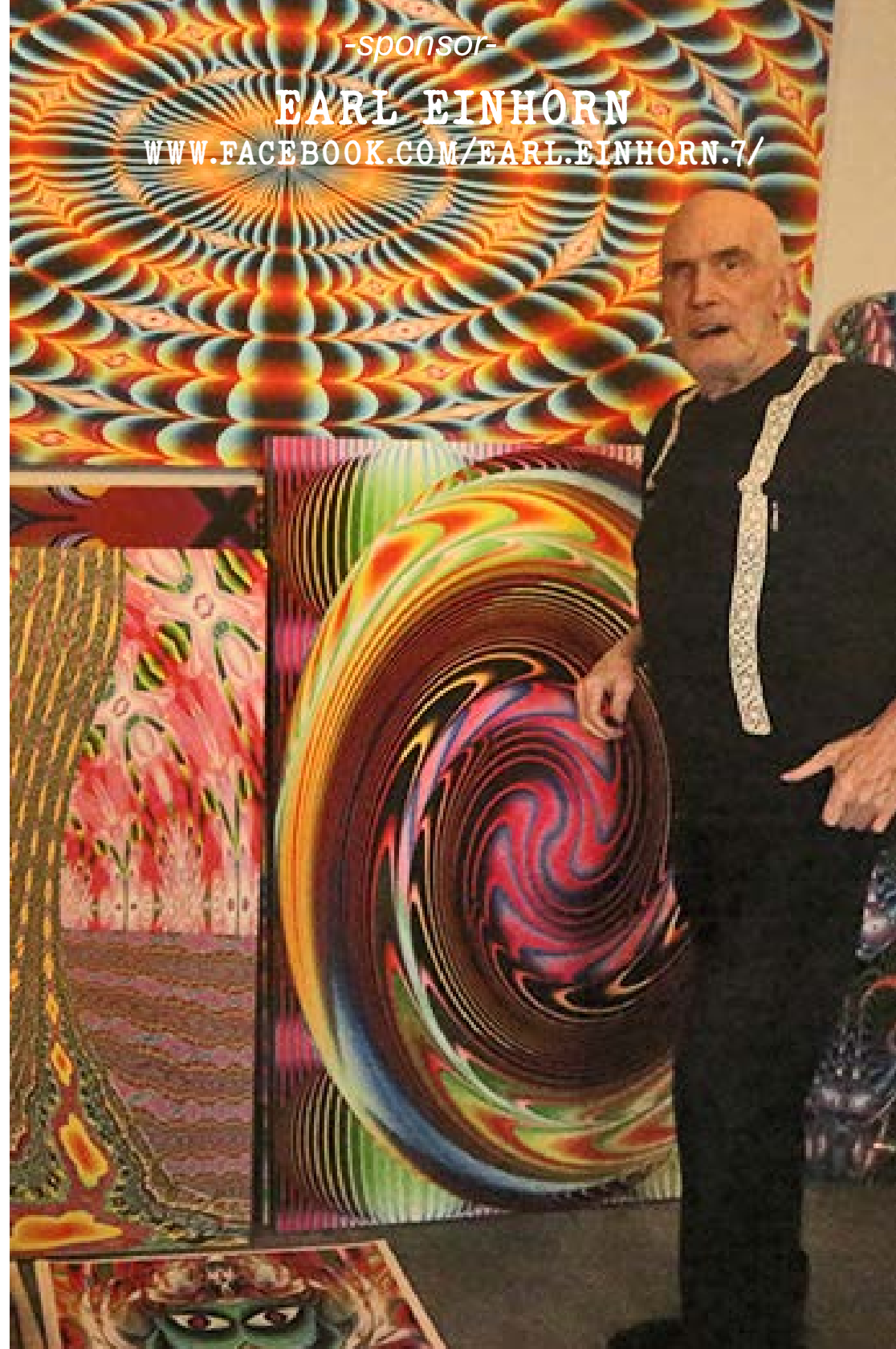
NICO DIOS  
FOXY USA

Nico Ponce de Leon Dios is a native NY'er and cannabis entrepreneur. Nico has had a lifelong involvement in the arts and counterculture and is an original member of the IRAK crew. Currently Nico sits as the president and co-founder of the California cannabis brand "Foxy"™.

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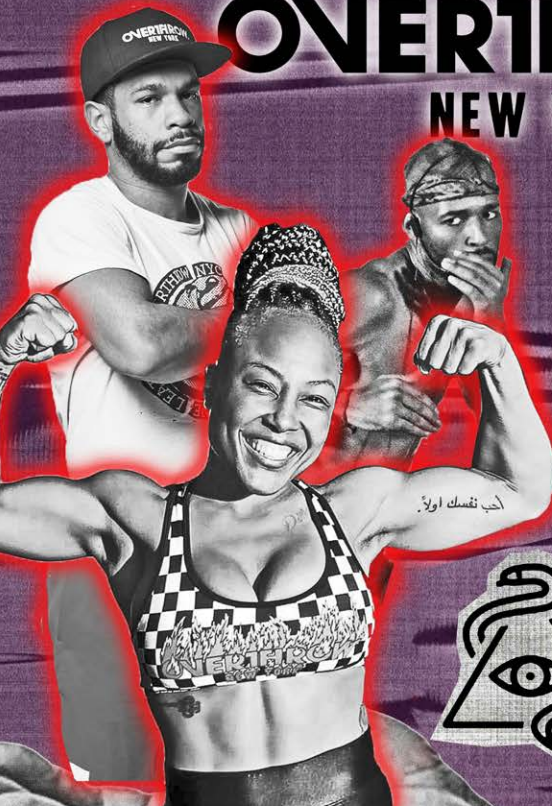




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Look for exciting news  
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very soon.

# THE 2021 ACKER AWARDS TEAM

Founder & Director **CLAYTON PATTERSON**

Editor **LEONARD ABRAMS**

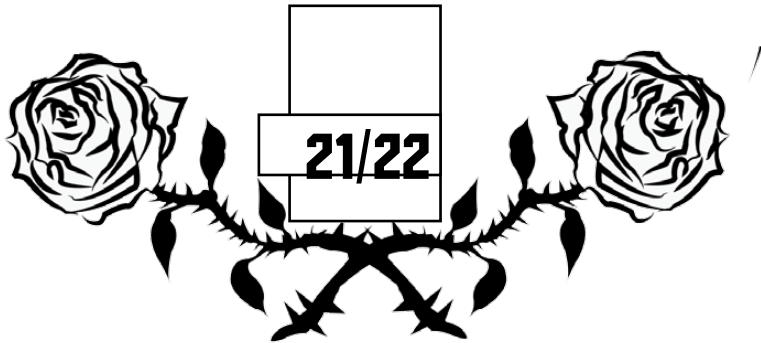
Designer **JOHN GAGLIANO**

Front cover **PAWEL TROCHA**

Back cover: **CLAYTON PATTERSON**

Website: **DIETMAR KIVES**

NY Ackers Creator: **CLAYTON PATTERSON**



# NY ACKER AWARDS

[WWW.NYACKERAWARDS.INFO](http://WWW.NYACKERAWARDS.INFO)

## NY ACKER CONTRIBUTORS



JERRY PAGANE



JACK WATERS



PETER CRAMER



CLAYTON PATTERSON



ELSA RENSAA



MEHDI MARTIN



JOHN GAGLIANO



PUMA PERL



REY FELIX



Westley Wood was lucky to have come across Andy Keator (in 1987) retired machinist having worked in the construction of submarines. Andy created the two-part tattoo machine frame “Star” selling it and other supplies. He took on Wes as recipient of his knowledge making machines, needles, tubes, coils and power supplies.

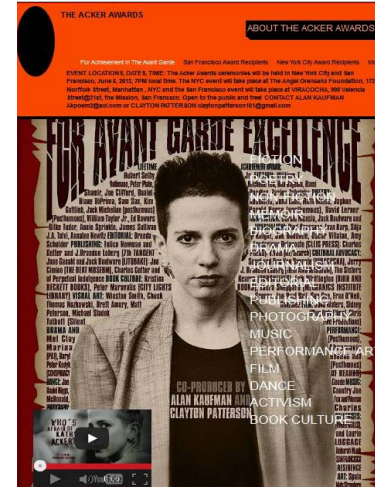
Wes sold Andy’s products from his apartment on Ludlow Street making everything from scratch. Lucky again that he lived around the corner from Clayton Patterson who invited him to come to his New York Tattoo Society meetings. Meeting others with the same tattoo fever catapulted him into this newly forming New York tattoo world.

Wes registered his fledgling company August, 1989 as Unimax Supply Company. From then on it was developed in tattoo and body piercing supplies after training at Gauntlet’s 5th Ave. store in 1995.

There is another side which he picked up from Clayton: opposing those who seek to dominate and control tattoo, whether through regulations from the outside or inside tattoo. It started by working with Clayton when he and I were voted by the tattoo community to represent their views in dealing with the NYC legalization effort in 1997-8. Since then he has written and petitioned against the NYS effort to require “ink shots”; NYC’s effort to require sterile water as the only mixing ingredient for ink: wrote an examination of the entire Suffolk County tattoo regulations at the request of Suffolk resident William Rafti; critiqued Scottish Professors 3 in particle wanted to control tattoo; have to get title, ; wrote to FDA to continue their hands off policy; criticized article attempting to sway the FDA by medical authority; wrote to counter Ohio new piercing regulations, wrote opposing Oregon efforts to “Professionalize” Tattoo and Piercing; developed the arguments against Kentucky’s piercing rules; wrote opposing “cosmetic” companies’ efforts to take over the right to make ink.

# PAST NY ACKER AWARDS

## ACKER RECIPIENTS 2013



**EDITORIAL:** Ron Kolm and Jim Feast  
**WRITERS:** Richard Kostelanetz , Peter Lamborn Wilson, John Strausbaugh, Eddy Portnoy, Rami Shamir  
**POETRY:** Bob Holman, Steve Dalachinsky, Eileen Myles, Jim Brodey, Patricia Smith, Harry Nudel, Lionel Ziprin (Posthumous), Dorothy Friedman August, Konstantin K.Kos-minsky

**FICTION:** Carl Watson, John Farris, Janus Eidus

**THEATER:** Judith Malina(The Living Theater), Crystal Field (Theater For The New City), Taylor Mead, Augusto Mecharize, Mark “Hapi Phace” Rizzo, Stephen “Tabboo!” Tashjian, SUNPK (Peter Kwaloff), James “Ethyl” Eichelberger

**BIOGRAPHY:** C.Carr  
**ART:** Boris Lurie (Posthumous), John Evans, Jose “Cochise” Quiles, Elsa Rensaa, Dash Snow (Posthumous), Jerry Pagane, Anthony Dominguez, Peter Missing, Joe Coleman, Spider Webb Joey “SEMZ” McCarthy, Fly

**PUBLISHERS:** Dan Simon (SEVEN STORIES PRESS), Jim Fleming (AUTONOMEDIA)

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** Ira Cohen, Alice O’Malley, Paula Grimaldi-Reardon

**PERFORMANCE:** Tuli Kupferburg, Valery Oisteanu, Carol “Red Ed” Braddock, Steve Ben Israel

**VIDEO:** Nelson Sullivan, Fred Jordan

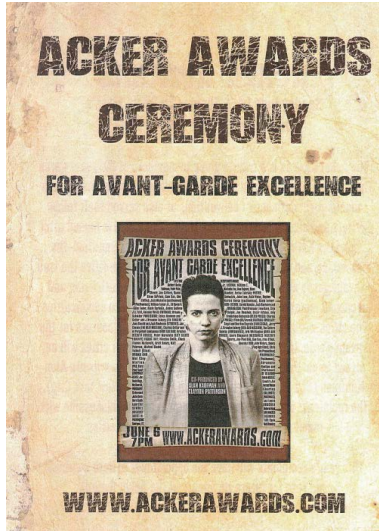
**FILM:** Nick Zedd, Howard Guttenplan (Millennium Film Workshop), MM Serra (FILMMAKERS COOP), Michael Sladek

**COMMUNITY SUPPORT:** Patricia Parker (VISION FESTIVAL), Klara Palotai, Jody Weiner, Monica Ponomarev, Lia Gangitano, - Westley “Wes” Wood - Joseph “Cuz” Camarata, Lucien Bahaj  
**BUILDING PRESERVATION AWARD:** Angel Orensanz

**MUSIC:** Danny “Lord Ezec” Singer, James “Jimmy G.” Drescher, William Parker, Lach Anti-Folk, , Ramond “Raybee” Barbieri (Posthumous), Joey Semz (Joe McCarthy), Freddy “Madball” Cricien  
**VENUES:** Steve Cannon (TRIBES), Hilly Crystal (CBGB), Al Orensanz and Maria Neri (ANGEL ORENSANZ FOUNDATION)

**HISTORIANS IN FILM:** Jeremiah Newton, Eric Ferrara

# ACKER RECIPIENTS 2014



**LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT:** Marc Levin  
independent film

**CONCEPTUAL AND PERFORMANCE ART:**  
Sur Rodney Sur & Geoffry Hendricks,  
Kembra Pfahler

**VISUAL ART:** Jim Power, Boris Lurie, Dietmar Kirves, Ed F Higgins III, Arleen Schloss, Mac McGill. Helen Oliver Adelson, Bill Hiene, Julius Klein, Phoebe Legere

**MUSIC:** Matthew Shipp, Phoebe Legere, Gary Lucas, Mark Birnbaum

**CULTURAL ICON AND PERFORMANCE ARTIST:** Candy Darling

**ART SPACE DEVELOPMENT:** Jack Waters, Peter Cramer

**JOURNALISM:** Sarah Ferguson

**70 COMMUNITY ART:** Anton Van Dalen.

**TATTOO:** Tom DeVita

**ART CRITICISM:** Erik LaPrade

**FILM:** Marc Levin, Bradley Eros, Coleen Fitzgibbon

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** Gail Thacker, Bruce Meisler

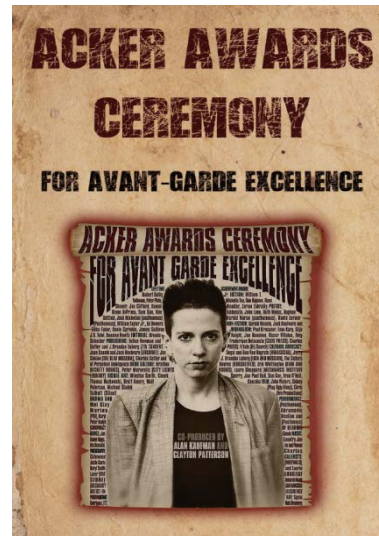
**EDITORIAL:** Romy Ashby

**SCULPTURE:** Tom Otterness

**THEATER:** Robert Hiede, John Gilman, Edgar Oliver

**THEATER DESIGN:** Helen Oliver Adelson

# ACKER RECIPIENTS 2016



**Lifetime Achievement** - Arturo Vega

**Art Criticism** - Anthony Haden-Guest

**Cartoon Illustrator/Punk Historian** - John Holmstrom

**Community Gardens and Art Shows** - Carolyn Ratcliffe

**Community Medical Doctor** - Dr. David Ores, M.D.

**Journalism** - Alice Torbush, Chris Flash, Leonard Abrams.

**Cultural Facilitator** - Brian "Hattie" Butterick

**Filmmaking** - Sara Driver

**Folklore** - Steve Zeitlin

**Music** - Chris Rael, Samoa Moriki

**Photography** - David Godlis, Marcia Resnick, Q. Sakamaki, Stanley Stellar, Robert Butcher, Kate Simon

**Performance** - Penny Arcade

**Poetry** - Eliot Katz

**Tattoo History** - Michael McCabe

**Tattoo Art** - Nick Bubash, Mike Bakaty

**Writer** - Puma Perl

**Visionaries & Creative Inspirers** - Dick Zigun, Rev. Richard Ryler, Shiv Mirabito, Zia Ziprin

**Video** - Pat Ivers, Emily Armstrong

**Visual Art** - Antony Zito, Curt Hoppe, Ethan Minsker, James Romberger, Marguerite Van Cook

## POSTHOMOUS AWARDS

Michael Cesar  
Vali Myers  
Snuky Tate  
Dean Johnson  
Lincoln Christopher Caplan  
Carlucci Bencivenga  
Hank Penza  
Valerie Caris Blitz  
John Evans  
Frenchy  
Jack Smith  
Patrick Geoffrois  
Hilly Kristal  
Chloe Dzubilo  
William "Bill" Rice  
Gregory Corso  
Allen Ginsberg  
Fred Rothbell Mista  
Gerard Little  
Florynce "Flo" Kennedy  
Bittman "Bimbo" Rivas  
Raymond "Raybeez" Barbieri  
Taylor Mead  
Spider Webb  
Dee Dee Ramone  
Joey Ramone  
Wendy Wild  
Rockets Redglare  
Grady Alexis  
Linda Twigg  
Marty Matz  
Martin Wong  
Denis Charles  
José Rivera  
Tuli Kupferberg  
Yuri Kapralov  
Jorge Brandon  
Baba Raúl Cañizares 09  
Ethyl Eichelberger  
Holly Woodlawn  
Emile de Antonio  
Quentin Crisp

# ACKER RECIPIENTS 2017



**MC** - Phoebe Legere –

**Presenter producer** Clayton Patterson

**Memorial Cups** Zito

**Candy Daring Activism Award** - Sur Rodney Sur.

**2016 Video Of Ceremony** - Nancy Wolfe, Ethan Minsker,

**2016 Animation of ACKER Box** – Ethan Minsker

**Cartoon Illustrator** - Natania Nunubiznezh

**Activist Playwright** - Sarah Schulman

**Art & Science of Boxing** – Carlito Castillo

**Tattooing** - Friday Jones, Michelle Myles,

**Theater Actor** - Mari-Claire Charba, Marilyn Roberts, Barbara Kahn, Lois Kayan Mingus, Charles Schick, Regina Bartkoff

**Music** - Felice Rosser, Cheryl Pyle, Eden Brower & John Heneghan

**Community News** – Lincoln Anderson Lucky Lawler

**Art** - Charles Mingus 3rd, Theresa Byrnes, Lucky Lawler, Leslie Lowe, Victoria Alexander, Agathe Snow, Zen Browne, Jane Dickerson, Istvan Kantor.

**Writer** - Jennifer Blowdryer, Shelley Marlow, Magie Dominic

**Sexual Evolutionary.** - Veronica Vera..

**Feminist Porn Genre** - Candida Royal

**Photography** - Toyo Tsuchiya, Jackie Ruden,

**Performance Art Collective Organizer** - Mary Campbell and Viv Vassar,

**Community Support** – Wendy Scripps

**Science** - Carter Emmart

A Trans Media Storyteller Countess Alex

**Video** - Anne Hanavan

**Composer Producer** - Keith Patchel

# ACKER RECIPIENTS 2018

**MC**  
Kembra Pfahler

**Box**  
Steve Ellis

**Bio-booklet design**  
Andrij Borys

**Pre-show entertainment**  
Keith Patchel & his Venus Ensemble & special guest poet Bob Holman

**Lifetime Achievement**  
Philly Abe – Leslie Sternbergh, Adam Alexander

**Community Activist**  
Eugene Fedorko AIDS service – Kate Huh – Jim Fouratt “CULTURALINSTIGATOR” - Charles Krezell - gardens founded LUNGS (Loisaida United Neighborhood Gardens)

**Community support, venue**  
Lorcan & Gennie Otway

**Writer**  
Deborah Pintonelli - Julie Patton - Chavisa Woods - Susan Sherman lesbian writer, memoirist - Edward “Eak” Arrocha & sideshow performer & historian Publisher Jeffrey Cyphers Wright & writer, Tod Lippy & magazine design, Foxy Kidd & avant-garde Goodie magazine

**Theater**  
Roman Primitive Albear (aka primitive luna), director & video - Rolando Vega, Custom



**design & performance** – Jaguar Mary X, performance.

**Art**  
Shan Elhome painting & tattooing - Sally Young - Chris Tanner – Joanne Pagano Weber & art director for Alternative New Year’s Reading - Emma Griffins tattooing & art - Kasoundra Kasoundra collage & illustrator & life model

**Poetry**  
Bruce Weber, curator & Alternative New Year’s Reading - Betty LaRoe

**Music**  
Ruby Lynn Reyner - Perry Masco, aka PeeWee - Kathryn Bloss folk musician & community support

**Film**  
Katryn del Mar

**Performance**  
David Leslie & creative curator - Rolando Vega & custom design - Jaguar Mary X - Jemeel Moondoc free form jazz.

**Archival Producer**  
Lewanne Jones & Archival Researcher & Documentary Producer

**Sponsor**  
The Villager & Overthrow Boxing producer Clayton Patterson

# ACKER RECIPIENTS 2019

## LIFE TIME ACHIEVEMENT:

Crystal Fields [Theater for the New City]. Jan Herman [editor, writer, blogger]

## CANDY DARLING AWARD:

Cynthia Carr [writer, historian, intellectual]. Presented by Ruby Lynn Reyner. CONTRIBUTION TO DOWNTOWN THEATER PRODUCTION [making everything happen]: Lori Seid presented by Alice O'Malley.

## ART:

Alexandra Rojas, Brigitte Engler, Carol Ann Braddock, Linus Coraggio, Mimi Gross, Andrew Castrucci [gallery], Marty Martin [community support].

## THEATER:

Susana Cook [playwright], Vit Horejs [puppetry & producer], Melba LaRose.

## PERFORMANCE:

John Kelly & art, Bina Sharif, Anne Lobst, Lucy Sexton Dancenoise.

## FILM:

Larry Fessington [director & producer], Beck Underwood [producer & animation], Tessa Hughes [Freeland & curator], Jacob Burckhardt, Tom Jarmusch.

## VENUE:

Erez Ziv [theater], Trigger Smith [music], Liber-74 rad Guerra [culture creative director].



## HISTORIC PRESERVATION:

Andrew Berman.

## COVER:

Rolando Vega.

## MUSIC:

Chris Iconicide & documenting, Jesse Malin & venue, Joff Wilson & mentor, Power Malu & community support, Johnny Velardi & art, curator.

## WRITER:

Bonnie Sue Stein [writer/producer], David Hershkovits [writer/publisher], Michael Carter, Brian Belovitch, Lee Ann Brown [Poetry], Carlo McCormick [historian].

## PHOTOGRAPHY:

Efrain Gonzalez.

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT:

Lilah Mejia.

## JEWELRY:

Spencer Fujimoto [skateboarding community].

## DIRECTOR/CURATOR:

Ted Riederer & artist.

## SKATEBOARDING:

Alex Corcoran [marketing, event planner, community].

## TAATOO ARTIST:

Tommy Houlihan & studio, Baba Austin & studio.

## VIDEO:

Brian Neff, Alicia Angel.

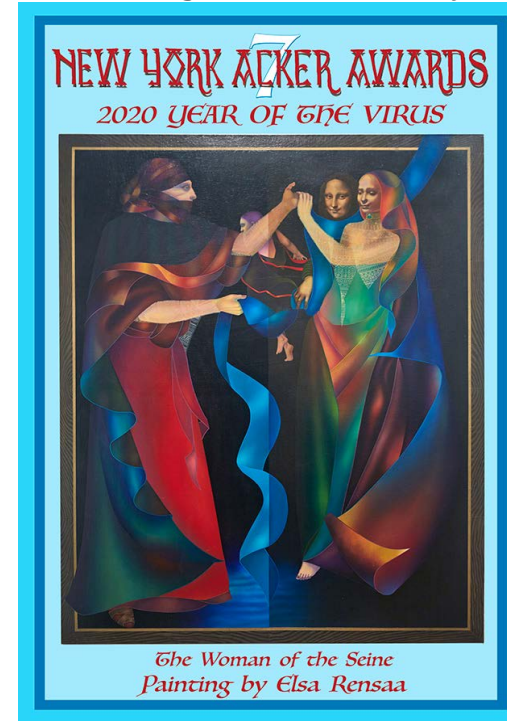
## 360 PHOTOGRAPHY:

Roman Dubchak, RoyalZ.

# ACKER RECIPIENTS 2020

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**Candy Darling Award** — Julian Voloj



**Purple Heart Award** — M.M. Serra

**Poetry** — Claudio Marte

**New forms of digital documentation** — Alessandra Zeka

**Painting** — Elsa Rensaa, Eileen Doster and Stephen Lack

**Community Activism and Photography** — Andre Cirilo

**Health fitness** — Saes aka Michael Halpern, Coss Marte.docx

**Performance** — David Huberman and Jorge Clar

**Songwriter** — Emily Duff and Joe Sztab-

**Musician** — Dina Regine, Gass Wild, and Susan Rakowski

**Jazz** — Eric Paulin

**Show Organizer and host** — Frank Wood, Matthew Hupert and Tom Clark

**Political Activism/Feminist** — Fran Luck

**Dancer** — Gina Healy

**Publisher** — Jane Ormerod, Peter Carlaftes and Kat Georges

**Photography** — Johan Vipper

**Video** — Mitch Corber and Nina Sobell

**Printed Matter** — Venus Max Schumann

**Tattooing** — Mehari Bakaty

**Archivist** — Mehdi Matin

**Biography** — Nhi Chung

**Memoirist** — Nicca Ray

**Poetry** — Louise Landes Levi

**Storyteller** — Phillip Giambri

**Drawing Project** — Rew Starr

**Journalist** — Scott Stiffier



# NY ACKER AWARDS

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