Meet Over Lunch: Of Animacy Reading Group by Nella Aarne

Virtual Talk
Thursday March 17, 2022 | 1:00pm EST

This program will be streamed online via Zoom. Please click on this link at the time of the event.


‘Art Song’ enquires into how the aesthetics of care have been deployed in – and developed into a prominent political facet of – contemporary art practice. Drawing from psychoanalysis, queer theory, current political debates and a selection of case
studies, Nelson asks whether it is possible, or fruitful, for art to always primarily care, heal and repair.

**Under discussion:**

For access to Maggie Nelson’s essay 'Art Song' and further information, please email nella@nellaaarne.art

The full book is available for purchase [here](#)

Reading the selected text in advance is recommended but not necessary, as excerpts will be read together to support open discussion.

**About**

**Nella Aarne** is a Finnish curator living and working in the UK. She convenes the Of Animacy Reading Group and co-directs Obsidian Coast, an independent curatorial platform committed to artist moving image and feminist, environmentally sustainable practices. Her work considers ethical encounters, collaborative learning and redefined notions of productivity. She is invested in critical thought that calls for heightened sensitivity to our own socio-political and material entanglements with boundless subject positions, histories, living beings, molecular compositions, technological apparatuses and infrastructures.

Convened by Nella Aarne, **Of Animacy Reading Group** primarily thinks through feminist engagements with human and nonhuman agents in the material world, spanning philosophy and science. The readings and discussions meander through a multiplicity of concepts and ways of thinking, building a vibrant web of ideas – the shape and character of which organically unfolds over time. Of Animacy fosters learning through open discussion in a democratic space, with an aim to recognise vital alliances for our daily life and political thought. The reading group has previously gathered at the ICA in London from 2017 till 2020 and at Kim? Contemporary Art Center in 2020 and is currently hosted regularly by Obsidian Coast.
Heaven Is A Place In The Mind at Richard Taittinger Gallery
154 Ludlow St, New York, NY 10002
March 10 - April 24, 2022
Opening reception: March 10, 6 - 9pm (RSVP here)

In this solo exhibition, Raúl Cordero (2021 RU alum) features 24 works which he comments upon as follows: "I recount TALES FROM AN INDEXED WORLD, as well as my own assumption that today's REALITY IS THE NEW SPAM. Finding out in the end that HEAVEN IS A PLACE IN THE MIND, which is probably the closest I have

UnHomeless NYC at the Kingsborough Art Museum
2001 Oriental Boulevard, Brooklyn, NY 11235
On view until April 14, 2022

Dominique Paul's performance project The Interactive Median Household Income Dress: Acting as a Social Interface was initially created during the artist's residency at RU in 2015. Exhibited now in the group show UnHomeless NYC, the artist uses a wearable structure displaying the color code and level of median household income, from the US Census Bureau, into the physical space where it originated from.
Sandra Eula Lee (2022 RU artist) transforms familiar objects and materials to disrupt assumptions related to permanence. In Slow Burn, Lee displays works created during the Covid-19 pandemic which highlight society's heavy reliance on technology, including a new version of her Portable Pond which is inspired by the ponds located within East Asian gardens.

The group exhibition WALK! provides an overview of walking as a practice in contemporary art production. It includes the project Male Subject & Female Subject realized by the duo Özlem Günyol & Mustafa Kunt during their residency at RU in 2011 when they hired a private detective to shadow them in New York for a day as a means to materialize external and internal methods of control.
Opportunities

ARMSTRONG NOW 2022 Artist-in-Residence program
Deadline March 15, 2022

In 2022, two residencies will be awarded to multidisciplinary artistic collaborations that draw upon Armstrong’s legacy, using the unique resources of his archives to inform new works that place Armstrong within a contemporary context. Artists will work in collaboration with filmmaker Ben Stamper and the residency will culminate with a public performance.

Velvetpark LGBTQ+ Visual Artist Residency
Deadline May 13, 2022

Velvetpark is accepting applications for their Visual Arts Residency, which awards an LGBTQ+ artist with six months of workspace in Brooklyn to explore and complete a project or body of work.

Donate to RU

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