



Worth Your Salt

An Installation by Annie Albagli

Exhibition Dates:

January 26 - February 4, 2018

Opening Reception:

Friday, January 26, 6 - 8 pm

Where: Please Touch Community

Garden

165 Grove St.

San Francisco, CA 94102

Project O is pleased to announce, *Worth Your Salt*, an immersive installation and ongoing-research and interview project by San Francisco-based artist, Annie Albagli. *Worth Your Salt* is hosted by the Please Touch Garden, an urban community space located at 165 Grove St. directly adjacent to San Francisco City Hall. This installation and performance series focuses on the stories of San Francisco's Bayview Older adult community choir and their intersecting histories with the landscape along the Bay's shore.

Worth Your Salt is a multi-media installation utilizing sound, projection, and live performance. Albagli has combined her two ongoing bodies of work: *The Red Hot Salt Sauna*, recently installed during her residency at Djerassi and an interview and video recording series with The Western Addition and Bayview Older Adult Community Choirs. This outdoor, public installation combines interview recordings, video collaborations, songs and recounted personal narratives experienced within a hot salt room.

For *Worth Your Salt*, Albagli will construct a temporary, hot salt room filled with organic materials mined from San Francisco's shores, such as salt and eucalyptus, which have a history of medicinal and healing qualities. Inside the sauna, participants will be invited to view and listen to a series of interwoven and fragmented interviews from choir members. Visitors can listen while members of the choir recount their personal narratives as they unfold within San Francisco and the continually changing physical landscape of the city's edges. Outside of the sauna, a video work documenting choir members singing to the shores of San Francisco will then be projected onto a neighboring building. Combined, these different installation elements provide a small glimpse into the shore's history, its evolution as it related to industry and defense, and it's ultimate healing capacity to affect those who live alongside it.

Over the course of this two week installation, Albagli will partner with the two Older Adult Choirs, directed by Maestro Curtis, who will host a live performances as well as toning and sound healing workshops. Artist, Kim Zitzow, will lead a series of movement workshops in direct response to the site of the Garden and its positioning within the city.

Worth Your Salt is presented in partnership with **Intersection for the Arts** as part of the INTERSECT SF Series funded by **Grants for the Arts, Project O**, and a generous grant by **The Zellerbach Family Foundation**.

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Additional Public Programs:

Opening: Friday, January 26th, 6:00-8:00

Toning Workshop #1 Directed by Maestro + Nola Curtis: Saturday, January 27, 12 - 1pm

Healing Movement Workshop #1 with Kim Zitzow: Sunday, January 28, 5- 6pm

Sound Healing Workshop #1 Directed by Maestro Curtis: Friday, February 2, 10-1pm

Toning Workshop #2 Directed by Maestro + Nola Curtis: Saturday, February 3rd, 11 - 12pm

Choir Performance #1 Directed by Maestro + Nola Curtis: Saturday, February 3, 12 - 1pm

Healing Movement Workshop #2 with Kim Zitzow: Sunday, February 4, 5 - 6pm

The site will be open the weekends of January 27 - 28 and February 2-3 from 12 - 4pm and by appointment during weekdays.

About the Artist & Collaborators:

Annie Albagli is a video and sound based installation artist whose work delves into personal narratives drawn from specific landscapes and communities. She has held residencies in the U.S., Europe, and the Middle East, including, most recently at, Djerassi, This Will Take Time, and A-Z West. Recent commissions include: a site specific performance and live stream for the exhibition InLight, Bridging the Light a site specific installation for the Corcoran Gallery of Art, and *This is My Love Letter to You...* an interactive installation at the Art Museum of the Americas in Washington D.C. She holds an MFA from Virginia Commonwealth University and a BFA from Boston University.

Project O is a non-territorial gathering space that integrates creative expression into everyday life in the Bay Area to encourage non-traditional art forms embedded in the urban landscape. Through the development of artist-led projects, Project O partners with existing entities to activate public space. Project O points to opportunities for collaboration within and across artist communities, making clear the need for accessible art spaces in the Bay Area.

Please Touch Garden began In 2010 when artist GK Callahan partnered with the [Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired](#) to embark on an ambitious project - the greening of a public eyesore into a multi-use community space that would be accessible to all, regardless of disability. Please Touch Community Garden has grown from that vision. Located on public land, the garden is an example of an interim-use solution, and also serves as a demonstration space for various urban agriculture strategies.

The Community Music Center's Older Adult Choir Program provides the many personal, social, artistic and quality of life benefits that musical activity can bring to older adults.

Maestro Curtis (Older Adult Choir Program, Choir Director) is a musician, producer, composer, sound alchemist, scholar, author and martial artist with a strong background in Jazz, classical, gospel and sacred geometry music. Maestro has over 40 years experience in the recording industry and has produced, written and/or performed with such artists as Al Green, The Ojays, George Benson, Dorothy Morrison (the original singer of "Oh Happy Day"), Gospel giants including Rev. James Cleveland, The Hawkins Singers and Lenny Williams (Tower of Power). Maestro has also played with The Count Basie Orchestra and the Duke Ellington Orchestra.

Nola Curtis (Older Adult Program, Accompanist) is a vocalist, musician, teacher, dancer/choreographer, and former ice skating coach with a Bachelors of Science in Business Management and a minor in music. She is a student of world renowned music virtuoso, producer and author Maestro Curtis. Nola has worked as a session vocalist on some 15 CD recordings, has opened for music icons like Michael Franti and has had the honor of being lead vocalist with the Internationally known Jazz Hieroglyphics.

Kim Zitzow (Movement Instructor) is a locale specific, environment sensitive bricoleuse. She constructs multimedia archives to express ecological relations in micro locations in order to discover something of the macro systems which command this late industrial biosphere.