PUBLIC ART IN THIS MOMENT OF SOCIAL DISTANCING

EDITED BY WARREN NEIDICH





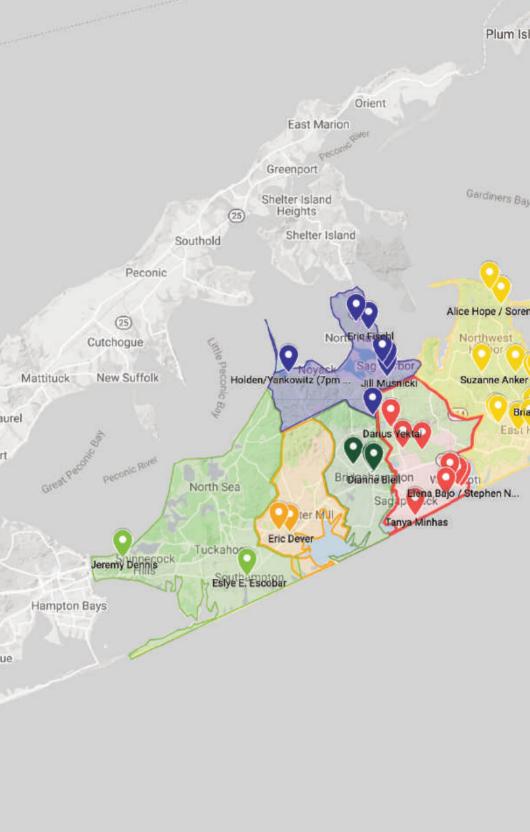






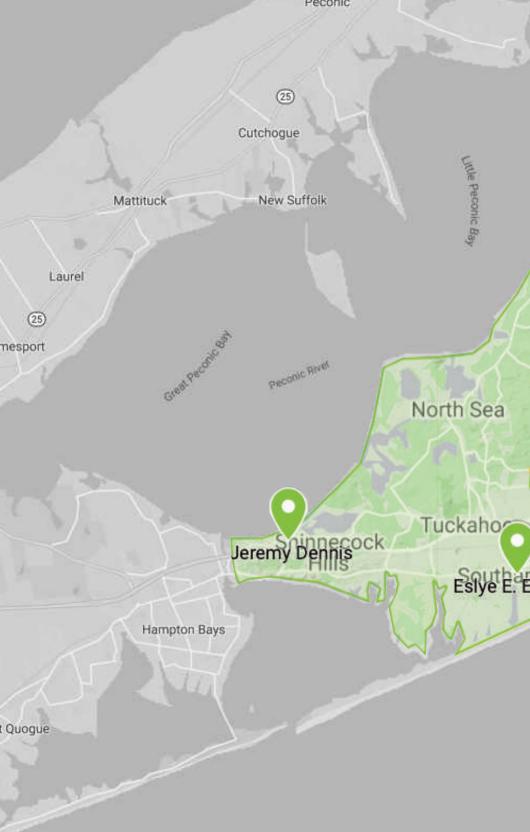
INTRODUCTION

Drive-by baby showers and birthdays have become the norm for celebrating special events during this time of social distancing and the COVID-19 pandemic. Like many others, artists and cultural producers are sequestered in their homes and studios dealing with depressed income, isolation and the fears that precarious futures produce. Enter **Drive-By-Art**, an outdoor public art exhibition that is experienced from the safety and intimacy of one's own automobile. Not only does Drive-By-Art create a sense of needed solidarity within the artistic and cultural communities now entrenched in the South Fork of Long Island, but it also offers an experience that is otherwise severely limited by our current social distancing practices: interacting with tangible objects in the real world.



SOUTH FORK, LONG ISLAND











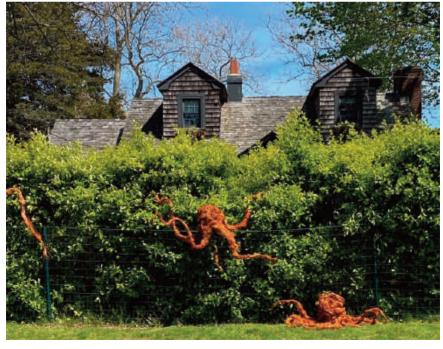
↑ SOUTH-EAST SOUTH FORK, LONG ISLAND

ELENA BAJO

40°54'23.9"N 72°21'52.2"W

Elena Bajo is an artist, choreographer and cofounder of the LA collective D'CLUB dedicated to climate action. Her artistic practice weaves both personal and political narratives into materials and movements that generate new compositions. Her multidisciplinary practice engages ideas of nature and the body as a political and social entity questioning its relationship to ecologies of capital. She works both individually and collectively using choreography, sculpture, performance, architecture, life sciences, text and video.





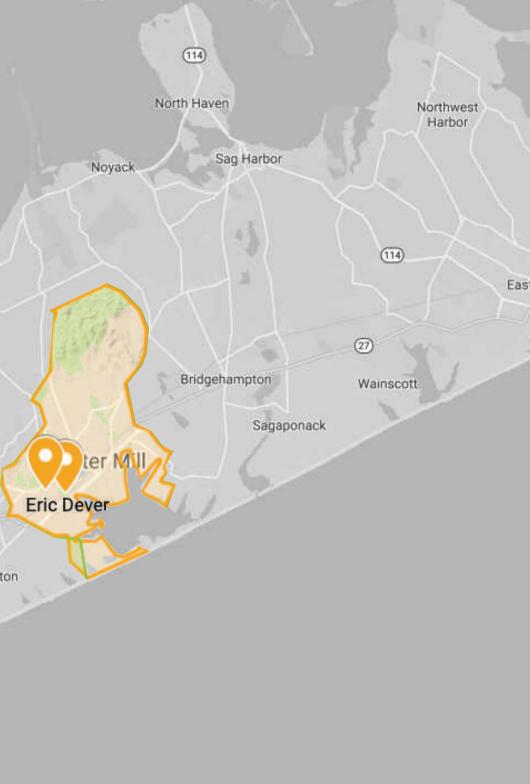
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MONICA BANKS

40°54'23.9"N 72°21'52.2"W

Long misunderstood, underestimated and feared, the octopus is now known to be a highly intelligent problem solver who uses tools to build his own environment and play games. Typically a loner, his exceptional eyesight makes him highly sensitive to his surroundings and he can change shape dramatically to fit through a space the size of his eye or change the color and texture of his skin to communicate with others or hide from predators. In addition to the one in his large head, the octopus has a brain in each of his dexterous and curious arms. Essentially, the artist in Covid-19 isolation is a land octopus.









SOUTH-EAST SOUTH FORK, LONG ISLAND

ERIC DEVER

40°54'23.9"N 72°21'52.2"W

For many, spring marks the beginning of the year. In the southern hemisphere the seasons follow in the opposite progression. I experience spring as a touchstone, a new beginning, a self awareness in nature which my paintings track. This season has been spent much closer to home. I find myself paying particular attention to spring as it unfolds, from a dim yellow or green in March, to pale pinks which build in intensity through April, followed in May by the return of the tree canopy first experienced as red and bright green hues.



SOUTH-EAST SOUTH FORK, LONG ISLAND

JOEL PERLMAN

40°54'23.9"N 72°21'52.2"W

The coronavirus is hard for all of us. I am lucky to have a great studio out here and can work every day. I enjoy the peace and quiet (especially now), but the isolation is getting old. I miss my friends and my peers and looking at a lot of art. No museums, no galleries, no studio visits, no teaching at SVA. My work is very labor intensive and that keeps me busy; but I am ready for more human contact.









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SOUTH FORK, LONG ISLAND