



THE ETCHINGS FESTIVAL OF CONTEMPORARY MUSIC

2 FREE CONCERTS

SATURDAY, JULY 12 • SUNDAY, JULY 13

ALL CONCERTS AT 8 PM - CHAPELLE STE. CATHERINE DU PORT

FEATURING PREMIERES BY

Yu-Hsin Chang • Tristan Coelho • Wes Devore • Georgi Dimitrov • Turkar Gasimzada • Sean Harold •
Ursula Kwong-Brown • Julien Malaussena • Timothy Melbinger • Cem Özçelik • Leonardo Silva

AND PERFORMANCES BY FESTIVAL GUEST AND RESIDENT COMPOSERS

Beat Furrer • Garth Knox • John Aylward

Festival organized in partnership with VCCA.

For more information, go to vcca.com/main/international - and click on "Etchings Festival"

LA GAZETTE DU MOULIN À NEF



ART AND COMMUNITY: JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY IN AUVILLAR

While the principal mission of the Moulin à Nef is to provide residencies for artists, writers, and composers, it also provides its facilities to several academic programs. Just as the Moulin à Nef artists reach out to the community of Auvillar, these academic programs find ways to reach out of the studio experience and into the community. Professor Agnes Carbrej and her students from James Madison University are an excellent example.

During a two week residency at VCCA's Moulin à Nef, in May 2013, Agnes Carbrej and JMU students invited passing pilgrims on the Route de St. Jacques de Campostelle into the beautiful Ste Catherine's Chapel in the Port. Here they were offered a chance to rest from their journey and contribute to a huge collaborative drawing. Carbrej and her students asked, "What is the reason for your journey?"

Carbrej said, "As each pilgrim took up a brush to paint, some laughed and barked a few English words, and others worked in complete silence. The visitors wrote poetry and drew images to describe their personal sojourns."

The experience was a moving one for students and pilgrims alike, and the resulting drawing was exhibited in the Chapel for the community to see.

In May 2014, JMU students and Agnes Carbrej will return, with guest choreographer, Chanel Smith, who will work with Carbrej to bring students, guests from the village, and pilgrims together in the chapel to create a work that bridges visual arts and movement. Projected dates for events in the chapel are Friday, May 16, and Thursday May 22, 2014.



Agnes Carbrej with pilgrim. Photo provided by Ms. Carbrej



FRANCE

Le Moulin à Nef
18, Esplanade du Port
Le Port 82340 Auvillar, France
05 63 95 72 91
cfortier@vcca.com
vcca-france.com

UNITED STATES

154 San Angelo Drive
Amherst, VA 24521 USA
Tel: (434) 946-7236
Fax: (434) 946-7239
nmcandrew@vcca.com
splesants@vcca.com
vcca.com

VCCA-FRANCE BOARD MEMBERS

PINKNEY HERBERT
Président - Memphis, Tennessee
EVA DE COLIGNY
Secretary - Roanoke, Virginia
FRANCIS SOHIER
Treasurer - Auvillar, France

VCCA-France would like to recognize the contributions of Chantal Philippon-Daniel and her students at the University of Pennsylvania for the translation of this newsletter.

PRIX MOULIN À NEF 2014: FRANCE ALVIN



France Alvin, sculptor of *St. Sixte*, was selected as the winner of the Prix Moulin à Nef 2014. As the winner of the Prix MAN, she is offered a fully-funded residency at VCCA's Mt. San Angelo in Virginia. She will be provided a private studio, a private bedroom, and three prepared meals each day in a community of 25 writers, visual artists, and composers.

Alvin said: "I was very happy to learn that I was awarded the VCCA prize for 2014, offering a one month stay at the center. I know how beneficial such a stay can be, and I know how rewarding it is to meet and work with other artists from different backgrounds. I'm involved this year in several joint

exhibits, and I'm always searching for new modes of expression with wood found along the banks of the Garonne river."

Alvin's sculpture has been widely exhibited in France and in Tahiti. She will be in residence at the VCCA in Virginia in 2015.

A FELLOW'S PERSPECTIVE

I really enjoyed staying at le Moulin à Nef: I enjoyed the studio, I love the old house, its kitchen, the atmosphere and I had interesting interactions with the locals.

I was lucky to have a huge and bright studio, with a top of the range kiln, that I was able to use, thanks to the wonderful help of our neighbour Susan Saarinen. It was my first time! At the end of my (too short) stay I opened my studio and did an interactive slide presentation of my work, both in French and in English. I had many enthusiastic visitors, asking questions and making interesting comments. They enjoyed the work, the presentation and my *clafoutis*...

The property is magnificent, the old house, "Maison Vieilhescazes" has a real soul. I loved the ceramic tiles on the ground floor; the wood floor on the second floor, so old and natural that you can see through (and hear); the smell of the attic which is so evocative of childhood and hidden treasures... I wanted to stay longer to bake more *clafoutis*, cook more *confitures* (fruit jam), sit on the patio in the back of the house and have my meals there, finish pruning the grapevine above the patio, meet the gardener of the fantastic vegetable garden separating us from the old *chapelle Sainte Catherine*, hike and bike more around

Auvillar and la Garonne, work more with clay...

On my last day I went for a walk in the very early morning, and an old man on a bike stopped by me in the village and asked: "c'est vous sur la photo?" (that's you in "the photo?"); he was referring to the invitation for the Open Studio and Slide presentation which included a small picture of me working with clay. I thought it was the beginning of celebrity! The old man added to conclude: "c'est triste que vous partiez déjà." (it's sad that you are already leaving). It was sad indeed that I already had to leave after this wonderful stay on the bank of la Garonne in one of the most beautiful villages of France.

—Ariel Gout, Berlin, Germany



RENOVATING THE MAISON VIEILHESCAZES

From the moment we unlocked the door to La Cloucado, Moulin à Néf has been a story of success that includes hundreds of productive residencies for VCCA Fellows and dozens of cultural and artistic stays in France by university students and cultural travelers from the world over. Local citizens have welcomed our presence, attending our community events and sharing their own experiences and love of the region.

But...for seven years, our facility wasn't complete. While we were able to lease La Maison Vieilhescazes, the building adjacent to Le Moulin à Néf studios, we were still guests of the Town of Auvillar who were its owners.

The kindness of the Town Council and the success of our presence in Auvillar eventually made the path clear: we were given permission to purchase the property. The four-bedroom 18th Century home next to our property was the perfect size! And the style was just right - quaint, quirky, cozy, roomy, welcoming.

From that day (almost exactly nine years from our first visit as owners of Le Moulin à Néf) we have shared the building with board members, neighbors, friends and Fellows. All agree that our new home needs work - new windows, fresh paint, heat, and insulation. But the building is solid and is perfect for us.



This winter, renovation is in full swing and we will welcome students and Fellows this spring to our old, new, beloved Maison Vieilhescazes. These improvements will allow the VCCA to extend the residency season in Auvillar into the autumn and even winter months in future years.

Thank you to the Town Council and to our generous donor who loves Auvillar as much as we do. And thanks to the Fellows who have visited Auvillar. They are our ambassadors, our diplomats, the sparks that have made us so welcome in France.

Please plan to become a VCCA pilgrim to this heavenly corner of France.

—Sunny Monk, VCCA-Abroad board member and former VCCA Executive Director

PRIX MOULIN À NEF 2013: FLORENCE CARBONNE

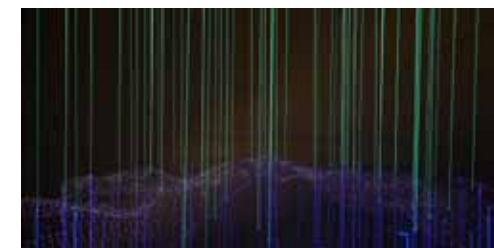
I was awarded the Prix du Moulin à Nef in 2013 and invited to VCCA for a residency in Virginia from August 26 to October 2, 2013. For several years, my work has consisted of large site-specific installations that question the notion of space and the relationship of the work to its public.

When I arrived at VCCA in Amherst, I was pleasantly surprised to find a place with many acres dedicated solely to the welcome and wellbeing of guest artists. It is a great place to immerse oneself in the creative process. Time and space is a luxury that artists have an acute awareness of and need for. It is a commodity that should not be wasted.

During my residency, I had the opportunity to make extraordinary professional and personal connections. I exhibited my work at Riverviews Artspace in Lynchburg, and the local newspaper wrote a nice article about my work. I also did a presentation of my artwork at an event sponsored by VCCA. In addition, during this time, I worked with two

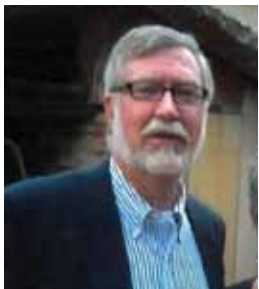
other artists-in-residence to envision an exhibition project. This vision will result in the creation of an art event, and I have been invited to create a piece for this event during a residency in Honolulu, Hawaii.

In this rural Virginia landscape, VCCA is really about immersion, synergy, and giving birth to something new. VCCA is an incubator of ideas and projects.
—Florence Carbonne, Toulouse, France



"Entre Chien et Loup" installation by Florence Carbonne
September 2012

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF VCCA



VCCA is pleased to be entering into another season of programming and residencies at Le Moulin à Nef. With the renovation of the MV we are excited by the possibility to extend residencies into the winter months.

The Fellows are not sparing in their praise of the program in Auvillar. I am often told of how the view over the river inspired a drawing or how a walk through the market added dimension to a novel.

In the Fall of 2015 I will again visit the Moulin à Nef. I am looking forward to getting to know the village better and to celebrating the tenth anniversary of VCCA's connection with Auvillar.

—Gregory Allgire Smith, Executive Director

VCCA FELLOWS IN AUVILLAR 2014

Laura Schwendinger (Jul. 18 – 31) A Professor at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, her music has been performed by some of the leading artists of our day.

Jaqueline Jones LaMon (Jul. 18 – Aug. 7) is the author of two collections and a novel. A graduate of Mount Holyoke College, UCLA School of Law, and Indiana University Bloomington, LaMon lives in Brooklyn, New York and teaches at Adelphi University.

Janet Gorzegno (Jul. 18 – Aug. 7) is a painter from New York City who seeks to inspire spiritual reflection and inquiry with her work. She will be presenting a solo show in May at the Bowery Gallery.

Kathy Flann (Aug. 4 – 21) Her first short story collection, *Smoky Ordinary*, won the Serena McDonald Kennedy Award. Two books are forthcoming, a novel entitled *Twenty Questions*, as well as a short story collection, *Get a Grip*. She teaches creative writing at Goucher College in Baltimore.

Kristina Marie Darling (Aug. 11 – 21) is the author of seventeen books, and a forthcoming hybrid genre collection called *Fortress* (Sundress Publications, 2014). She is currently working

toward a Ph.D. in Poetics at S.U.N.Y.–Buffalo.

Jill Widner (Aug. 11 – Sept. 4) is a fiction-writer and is a graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop. She lives and teaches in Yakima, Washington.

Polly Pen (Aug. 25 – Sept. 11) is a New York City based author and composer. Her award-winning works for the musical theatre have been performed throughout the U.S and abroad. Polly has also enjoyed a career as an actor, singer and teacher.

Anna Jean Mayhew (Sept. 29 – Oct. 24) is a North Carolina novelist. Her first novel, *The Dry Grass of August* won the 2011 Sir Walter Raleigh Award for Fiction and has been translated into French and Italian. Her next novel, *Tomorrow's Bread*, is under way.

Angela Davis-Gardner (Sept. 5 – Oct. 9) is from Raleigh, NC and is the author of several critically acclaimed novels. Much of her recent work has centered around characters of French descent.

Isabelle Smeets (Sept. 22 – Oct. 24) works and lives again in the south of the Netherlands where she grew

up. She has shown her work in Spain, Germany, Bulgaria, Bosnia, Austria, USA and The Netherlands.

Judith Pratt (Oct. 13 – 30) is a mixed media artist who holds an M.F.A. in Painting from American University and an M.A. in Modern and Contemporary Art History from Christie's Education. She lives and works in the Washington, D.C. area.

Joellyn Duesberry (Oct. 20 – Nov. 19) is a self-taught Denver, CO oil painter. Her 50-year career has been recorded by the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center Retrospective in a survey book on her work entitled *Elevated Perspective: The Paintings of Joellyn Duesberry*.

And more Fellows through mid-December, to be announced soon.



18, ESPLANADE du PORT
AUVILLAR, FRANCE
05.63.95.72.91 VCCA-FRANCE.COM

FROM THE RESIDENT DIRECTOR OF VCCA-FRANCE



The winter has passed quickly and my husband John Alexander and I are in the midst of preparing for our return to le Moulin à Nef. We've missed all of you and we look forward to being a part of the life and culture in Auvillar again. 2014

promises to be another season of exciting artistic activities and exchanges between the artists who come to VCCA France and the village.

The Moulin à Nef activities will start in May when James Madison University will again send students to Auvillar to work with JMU instructor of Studio Art and VCCA Fellow Agnes Carbrej. We are pleased to once again welcome Marilyn Kallet and a group of poets in mid-May. In June, VCCA Fellow Robert Reed, Professor of Painting at Yale University, will offer Yale Summer Session, in conjunction with the Institute for Studio Studies for his sixth season at le Moulin à Nef.

The contemporary music festival, Etchings, led by composer John Aylward will take place in July with concerts held in la Chapelle Ste Catherine on the 12th and 13th. A new program will take place from mid-July to mid-August, creative writing with Professor Colleen Kinder from Yale University. The artists will also begin to arrive mid-July for their residencies and I look forward to the varied projects that they will offer and exchanges and friendships that they will make in the community. I hope to see many of you at our events and open studios.

Because of renovations that have taken place in the Maison Vielhescazes under the supervision of our most dedicated volunteer, Francis Sohier, our season at Moulin à Nef will be extended. Because John and I can stay for a maximum of 6 months VCCA will be finding an Associate Resident Director to be on location once I leave. I'll look forward to welcoming him/her and to introducing him/her to the wonderful community of Auvillar.

If you'd like to receive email invites for events and VCCA France news please contact me at cfortier@vcca.com. To see photos during the season: www.facebook.com/VCCAFrance John and I look forward to seeing you again soon.

—Cheryl Fortier, Resident Director

ARTISTS FROM THE MIDI-PYRÉNÉES OR ACQUITAINE REGIONS

To apply for a residency in Auvillar or in Virginia
visit: vcca.com/international



Cheryl Fortier with children from Auvillar, working on the mural on the corner of Rue Saint-Jaques. Photo courtesy of John Alexander

BECOME A VCCA-FRANCE MEMBER

Would you like to be a member of VCCA-France in 2013? The membership fee is \$25. Contact Cheryl Fortier (cfortier@vcca.com) or Francis Sohier.

COMMUNAL DINNER

There will be a communal dinner in the fall for members of VCCA-France. Date to be announced.