

February 2024 • vol 25 • issue 282

# HIPFISH MONTHLY

alternative press serving the lower Columbia Pacific region

**FisherPoets Gathering 2024  
Highlights Inside  
Plus Art in Conjunction**

**How To Be A  
CITIZEN FISH  
by nancy cook**

**Theatre of War  
by susan banyas**

**Spotlight: 2 Astorian Artists  
Nick Knapton/Jeanine Oleson**

**Au Naturel Returns at CCC**

I ♥ FISHERPOETS

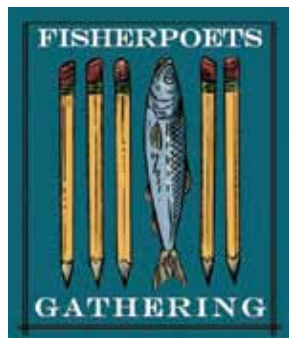
Cover: Corey Arnold Photography

# There's Always Something New at The Liberty!

## Fisher-Poet's Gathering

5:00 - 11:00 pm, Feb 23-24, 2024

A celebration of the commercial fishing industry in poetry, prose and song, the Fisher-Poets Gathering has attracted dedicated fans to Astoria since 1998. The Liberty is the largest venue for the Gathering, and over two nights you'll hear personal, authentic stories of life on the water – swirling waves of teamwork and loneliness, growth and acceptance, love and loss.



## Mike Super – Magic & Illusion

7:00 pm, Wednesday, October 16, 2024

They say lightning doesn't strike in the same place twice, but Mike Super's all-new Magic Show begs to differ. Our audience raved and demanded we bring him back – so



get your reserved tickets early. Mike's new 2.OH! SHOW!™ brings you never-before-seen magical, jaw-dropping moments, taking his uniquely branded evening of mystery to a whole new level.

## Petty Fever – Tom Petty Tribute

7:00 pm, Friday, March 8, 2024

Petty Fever delivers an amazing and memorable salute to the musical legacy of Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers,



performing classic hits such as American Girl, Free Falling, Breakdown, Running Down a Dream, I Won't Back Down and many more. This full production tribute has earned multiple awards, including the 2017 & 2018 Las Vegas FAME Award for "Outstanding International Tribute Band."

## Liberty Theatre Guided Tours

12:00 & 1:00 pm, most Saturdays

Step into the captivating world of the historic Liberty Theatre in downtown Astoria – and explore this architectural beauty like few have before. Our new guided tours will entertain you with tales of this cherished landmark's rich history and vibrant present. \$10 Adult, \$8 Senior, \$5 Youth.

## Ilwaco High School Music Night

7:00 pm, Wednesday, March 6, 2024

Join us for an entertaining evening of music from the Ilwaco High School Music Department! As part of our "Homegrown Series" mission of supporting educational programs in the performing arts, The Liberty Theatre offers our stage to local high schools once a year – free of charge – for students to perform and raise funds for their needs.

Buy your tickets today! Online or at the Box Office.

[www.libertyastoria.org](http://www.libertyastoria.org)

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# FISHERPOETS GATHERING

The FisherPoets Gathering is back in Astoria February 23-25, in person as it ought to be, celebrating for the 27th year commercial fishing and its community in story, song and poetry.

## HIGHLIGHTS

At Obelisk Beer Co. about 8 o'clock Thursday night fans and startled regulars might find a few fisherpoets at the mic warming up though scheduled performances don't begin until the following day.

Fisherpoets take to stages Friday evening from 6 to 10 p.m. and Saturday evening starting at 5 p.m. at seven venues downtown: the Astoria Brewing Company, the Columbian Theater, Fort George's Lovell Tap Room, KALA, the Liberty Theatre, the Ten Fifteen Theater and Xanadu. Fans of fisherpoetry can expect to hear authentic creative voices from Alaska, British Columbia, the West Coast as well as from New England and Chesapeake Bay. The complete current schedule, available at [www.fisherpoets.org](http://www.fisherpoets.org), guarantees a variety of pleasant surprises and old favorites at each venue so fans who choose to can sit tight and worry less about chasing radio fish.

Following evening readings, the FisherPoets Gathering continues until hosts chase guests out. **FRIDAY NIGHT** at KALA drop in for DJ D'Fish and the annual Fishermen's Dance. Elsewhere, the Columbian Theater hosts the annual **FisherPoets at the Line Poetry Slam**.

**SATURDAY NIGHT**, Beerman Creek continue their evening set late at the Columbian Theater. The Umpteenth Annual Fisherpoets Gathering Poetry Contest begins at 10 pm at the Liberty Theatre. All fisherpoetry fans bearing an event button are welcome to have a go. Rules will be announced Friday at the Gathering. Elsewhere, following evening readings Rebecca Kraft invites us to linger at WineKraft's annual Singers' Circle.

Special Events at the FisherPoets Gathering start Friday afternoon this year at Astoria's Astor Library. Will Hornyak and Ron McDaniel offer performance tips and techniques

for poets and storytellers. Jon Broderick offers encouragement for frustrated writers.

**SATURDAY'S SPECIAL EVENTS** schedule is packed with workshops and presentations at Pier 39 and at Astor Library. Learn how to tie useful knots, how traditional salmon reefnetting works, which publishing options best suit you, how progress continues toward healthier watersheds and oceans, how to sing harmony with confidence. But first, Rob and Tiffani Seitz invite fans to South Bay Wild Fish House for a speed BS session.

**FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AFTERNOONS** from 2 to 4pm. WineKraft Wine Bar hosts the Gathering's Open-Mic. Everyone with a FPG event button is welcome to have a go. Sign up on site.



Duncan Berry at RiverSea Gallery

Deep Sea Angler Fish

**ASTORIA'S ART GALLERIES** are participating again. Imogen Gallery is featuring large format photographs by Corey Arnold. Astoria Visual Arts hosts group show *Fish Tales*. ( See Fisher Art - p15) Saturday afternoon the RiverSea Gallery, featuring work by fisherpoet and gyotaku artist Duncan Berry, invites the public to enjoy a presentation with him joined by other fisherpoets. The Columbia River Maritime Museum offers a Friday gyotaku workshop by Berry at the Barbey Maritime Center for fisherpoets and their friends. See the [fisherpoets.org](http://fisherpoets.org) website to learn if any of those limited tickets remain. All proceeds go toward encouraging young fisherpoet writers.

Lamenting the loss of fisherpoets Jon Campbell, Harlan Bailey, Sue Hanson, Smitty Smith and dear others the FisherPoets Gathering presents **SATURDAY AFTERNOON** at the Columbian Theater, the third annual Campbell's Last Set, a cheerful affair where various fisherpoets celebrate the works of those whom the Gathering now misses and wants to remember.



The Art of Ray Troll

The FisherPoets Gathering will wind up Sunday morning at the Columbian Theater, first with a Gospel harmony sing-along just for fun, followed by the Readers' Farewell Mic, a very short last poem from everyone who's still around and already awake.

Fans may still find fisherpoetry Sunday afternoon at the Cannon Beach Arts Association Gallery or Sunday evening at the Inferno Lounge until, at last, the 2024 FisherPoets Gathering peters out like a salmon run.

Details and further reliable information on these Special Events, the Evening Reading Schedule and the 2024 FisherPoets Gathering itself can be found at the FisherPoets Gathering website [www.fisherpoets.org](http://www.fisherpoets.org).

The FisherPoets Gathering Gearshack will pop up again, thanks to Port Town Property Management, in Suite A, downstairs at 1154 Commercial St. There fans can buy their \$20 event button good for all events all weekend. Those 18 years and younger are admitted free so bring the kids though high-schoolers may be disappointed to learn that fisherpoets have agreed to watch their language.

**BUTTONS** are also available now at Astoria Brewing Co., the RiverSea Gallery, Imogen Gallery, Old Town Framing and the Astoria-Warrenton Chamber of Commerce.

Fisherpoets, trying to recoup travel expenses or remediate poor fish prices, again offer books, cds, art for sale at the Gearshack. Thanks to local and sometimes distant generosity, the **FISHERPOETS GATHERING SILENT AUCTION** posts up there again, too. The FPG Gearshack will be open mid-morning until 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

**KMUN** will broadcast and stream performances live from 6 to 10 p.m. from the Liberty Theatre for those who can't make it.



Corey Arnold at IMOGEN Gallery

German Gillnetter



# HOW TO BE.....A CITIZEN FISH: Best Tips

By Citizen Fish Nancy Cook



Pick up a copy of *SING THE SALMON HOME* from Empty Bowl Press. A big collection of poetry and prose by SW Washington Writers dedicated to the preservation and protection of the gifts of salmon bestowed by a beautiful living earth. Get your's at the FPG Gearshack this February.

**1. BUY SUSTAINABLY HARVESTED FISH**, preferably local, wild, and fresh, or fresh-frozen-at-sea products whenever possible. Astoria's beloved **South Bay Wild** serves up a delicious mostly local spread, but their website shares a sad fact: "Right now, 90% of seafood harvested in the U.S. is exported. And we import 80% of what we consume."

That's a ridiculous trend we must turn around. Seeking direct market, locally landed fish straight from fishing families keeps dollars here on the coast, supports fair pricing, and reduces waste and carbon footprint. Watch for those signs on the road; hit the Hammond or Warrenton marinas. Or shop at locally owned markets like **Northwest Wild Products in Astoria**, **Fish Stix Fish Market in Warrenton**, **Jesse's Seafood in Ilwaco**, the **Ole Bob outlet at Pier 39**, **Josephsen's Smoke House**, **Bell Buoy in Seaside**, **Ecola Seafoods** in Cannon Beach. The **North Coast Food Web's online market** offers day boat seafood from Ilwaco's TreFen.

Next time you're off to Seattle, skip the I-5; drive the Willapa; **shop the Goose Point, Ekone**, or other oystereries. **Astoria Co-op** does a great job stocking fresh local ground fish. And **Bay City Garibaldi Coast** is a hotbed for locally landed seafood. Garibaldi is also home to **CSFishery** (Community Sustainable Fisheries). Order online with neighbors; team up to make the gorgeous drive. Don't know these spots? The good folks at Oregon Sea Grant maintain a local seafood map at <https://seagrant.oregonstate.edu/where-to-buy>.

Costco, Fredgies, and Safeway also support NW wild. The challenge is to choose well, don't be cheap, do your research. When purchasing frozen or canned fish, check the label. If you don't can your own albacore, seek out Pacific troll or pole & line caught tuna. Bookmark the awesome **Buyer Guides at Monterey Bay Aquarium's Seafood Watch**, which includes option to search "Best Choice" by species, right there on your phone in the freezer section.

**2. WHEN DINING OUT, ASK!** Quite a few local restaurants do serve sustainably sourced seafood, but conservation minded consumers need to be choosy. Ask about those fish & chips or chowder; you might be surprised who's serving albacore from Asia when they could be frying up local rockfish. If the menu doesn't specify, by all means ask. If there's no local seafood, leave a feedback card. Speaking up can make a difference. Which leads to my next point.

**3. SPEAK YOUR VALUES. MAKE LOCAL ENGAGED CITIZENRY A HABIT!** Life is busy, but if we care about the health of our watersheds, we have to make time to attend town halls, listening circles, write those letters to support habitat conservation, clean energy policy, equitable water and land use policy, dam removal, and other legislation which impacts fisheries. Mitigating climate change and associated ocean acidification is also fundamental to the health of global fisheries. Local buzz around Western Oregon State Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) reminds citizens that Fish are Forests Products, too! Trees not only sequester carbon; trees grow back. Salmon stocks can recover, too, but once a run is on the brink of extinction it's a long upstream swim. Right now, West Coast salmon stocks need all the help they can get: removal of fish barriers, clean, clear gravels for spawning, ample woody debris, and plenty of shade to keep waters cool. In short, salmon need a healthy estuary, plus real creeks in real forests. Timber Unity in this region is impressive, but it's high time we witnessed an equally vocal commitment to our invaluable local fisheries as well.

**4. SUPPORT HABITAT RESTORATION** by joining a local Land Conservation group. This region is blessed with many: **North Coast Watershed Association**, **North Coast Land Conservancy**, **Necanicum Watershed Council**, **Lower Nehalem Watershed Council**, and the newer **North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection**; the list goes on. And watershed restoration projects can be a whole lot of fun. Get the kids involved young. Encourage schools to engage in service learning. Educate yourself, educate your loved ones. Together we can make a difference for our local fish and fishing families.

## CommUNITY Rallies for Fisher Families Bornstein Seafood Ilwaco Landing Fire

LAST MONTH'S INFERNO at Bornstein's Seafood Ilwaco Landing was surely a tragedy for local Dungeness crabbers and their families. However, the outpouring of support was also deeply inspiring—a true litmus test revealing the strength and resilience of our local fishing communities.

Hundreds, including firefighters from 8 of 11 SW Washington fire agencies, gathered on the last Thursday in January to watch helplessly as intense flames and billowing smoke overwhelmed responders to quickly level the wooden dock, a valuable crab and albacore staging and landing hub for both Washington and Oregon crews. An estimated six thousand crab pots, carefully rigged for the February 1 opener were destroyed in the fire. Skipper Zeke Estrella, of the *Sunset Charge*, alone lost 600 pots valued at approximately \$300 each. Six figure losses, up in smoke, and potentially no crab season opener.

Then came a King Tide of support: an Ilwaco Tuna Club GoFundMe page to recoup costs of lost gear raised more than \$110,000 in a few days. And within 24 hours crabbers all along the West Coast filled trucks with pots and gear, hitting the road to Ilwaco to support those (often their own competitors) impacted by the fires.

In a miracle of community spirit, the crew of *Sunset Charge* had re-rigged and loaded a full deck of pots within 72 hours. And gratitude was burning bright:

"Thank you to everybody that helped me. We never would've (expletive) made it. I've never seen anything like it before," Estrella said.

A buzzing port of fishermen's wives and others gathered to feed volunteers and help however needed. The experience of camaraderie was so inspiring, **Fisher Poet Amy Sharp of Westport, is seizing the momentum to found a nonprofit FishHER: Columbia Pacific CommUNITY Alliance** devoted to supporting fishing families and advocating for the habitats they depend on.

Lifelong fisherman and crabber Peter Nornes revealed a forward thinking "no-point-in-dwelling" attitude in a Seattle Times interview. "In our line of work... you run into snags like this," he said. "To be a really good commercial fisherman, you become a really good problem solver."

It's sad, but true: crisis can bring out the best in folk. Though it's not always so visually obvious, there's no denying the larger ecological crisis our local fisheries are weathering. All of us who care about Columbia Pacific waters, fisheries, and fishing families can take inspiration from this demonstration of true commUNITY. And Hipfish's CITIZEN FISH pep talk provides some great reminders of just how to do that.







## Inside the Month:

FPG HIGHLIGHTS . . . p3

CITIZEN FISH . . . N. Cook p4

INCO NEWS . . . L. Caplan p6

Book Events . . . p7

Theatre of War . . . S Banyas p8-9

Astoria Art Natives . . . p10-11

Theatre/Perf. . . p14

Art Happens . . . p15-16

CALENDAR DAY BY DAY .. p12-13

## COLUMNS

Word Wisdom . . . Nason p21

Pet o' the Month . . . Cooper p21

Flash Cuts Movie Haps . . Kanekuni p22

Free Will Astrology . . . Brezny p23

Desdemona Speaks . . . J. Altruda p19

(returns next month)

Whole Planet Health . . . Hammit p24

Chew On This . . . M. Meyers p25

Architect Hound . . . E. Wheeler p26

HIPFISHmonthly is located at 1017 Marine Dr in Astoria.  
By Appt. call 503.338.4878

## ADVERTISING INQUIRIES 503.338.4878

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hipfish@charter.net.

HIPFISH is produced on the web at:

[www.hipfishmonthly.com](http://www.hipfishmonthly.com)

Hipfish is printed at the Astorian

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# FOREST POETS

NORTH COAST Communities for Watershed Protection invites you to the first Forest Poets event in the Lovell Taproom at Fort George Brewery and Public House. The event will feature readings from several North Coast poets, including the award-winning Robert Michael Pyle, Jim Dott, Jennifer Nightingale, Reba Owen, Logan Garner, and Lauren Mallett. Their poetry selections will be inspired by, and celebrate, our temperate rainforest ecosystem that has forests and bodies of water which serve as muse for many of us living in the area.

This first Forest Poets event is being coordinated by North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection and Fort George as a part of the brewery's Thursday Lecture Series. Doors will open at the Lovell Taproom at 5:00 p.m., allowing time for mingling, food, and drinks before the event begins at 6:00 p.m. During the event, there will be a brief intermission. You will also get to hear from NCCWP about current and upcoming plans in Clatsop and Tilla-

mook Counties, and how you can get involved with efforts to safeguard and restore your local watershed.

North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection is a 13-year-old grassroots organization located on the North Coast of Oregon. While NCCWP opposes logging and spraying in all drinking watersheds, it continues to focus on Jetty Creek in Rockaway Beach because it offers the best example of how logging activities were allowed to compromise, and possibly destroy, a town's drinking water. The NCCWP goal is to prevent logging and pesticide use in all community water sources (regardless of land ownership), and to end pesticide applications near where people live, work, and recreate. Its mission is to raise awareness to accomplish these goals.

To learn more about NCCWP:  
[healthywatershed.org](http://healthywatershed.org)

**Forest Poets, Thursday, February 29, 6-8pm. Fort George Lovell Taproom in Astoria.**



LEWIS AND CLARK National Historical Park invites everyone to participate in the 27th annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) February 16 through 19. In this worldwide citizen science opportunity, anyone can count wild birds anywhere on one or more days and enter their sightings at [birdcount.org](http://birdcount.org). The information gathered by tens of thousands of individuals helps track bird population changes on a massive scale. The GBBC is a joint project of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, the National Audubon Society, Birds Canada, and Wild Birds Unlimited.

From Friday, February 16, through Monday, February 19, visitors to Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, Fort Clatsop can join in the count by recording bird observations in the park and make plans to count birds in their own backyards. Binoculars will be available for loan within the park.

Along with the actual bird count, the park will be sharing other bird-related activities. A "Great Pink Heron Scavenger Hunt" will be on-going using the Netul Trail along the Lewis and Clark River. A "Birds of Fort Clatsop" display may be viewed in the visitor center. A variety of bird field guides and bird-themed items are available for purchase at the Fort Clatsop Bookstore operated by the Lewis & Clark National Park Association, the park's non-profit education partner.

Park hours 9-5pm each day. Admission \$10 per adult and free youth 15 years and under. America the Beautiful passes and Oregon Pacific Coast Passports are accepted for free admission.

Check [birdcount.org](http://birdcount.org) for more information.

## LCPS FILM NIGHT: FILMS ABOUT ARCHITECTURE AT KALA

JOIN the Lower Columbia Preservation Society (LCPS) for an evening of film and discussion about some of the best architecture in the world. From the Alhambra to Zaha Hadid, we'll explore the genius of design in two short films with time left for comments and discussion. This monthly series is sponsored by the LCPS. A FREE event with suggested donation of \$5.

**Wed, Feb 7. Screening at 7pm. Light fare and beverages available for purchase. Doors open 6:30pm. At KALA Performance Space, 1017 Marine Dr. in Astoria. FMI: [ericwheeler2@gmail.com](mailto:ericwheeler2@gmail.com)**



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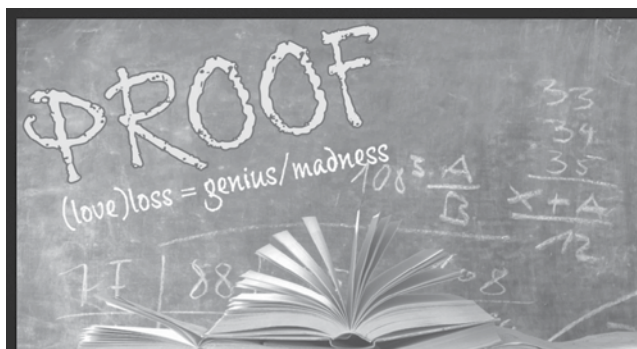
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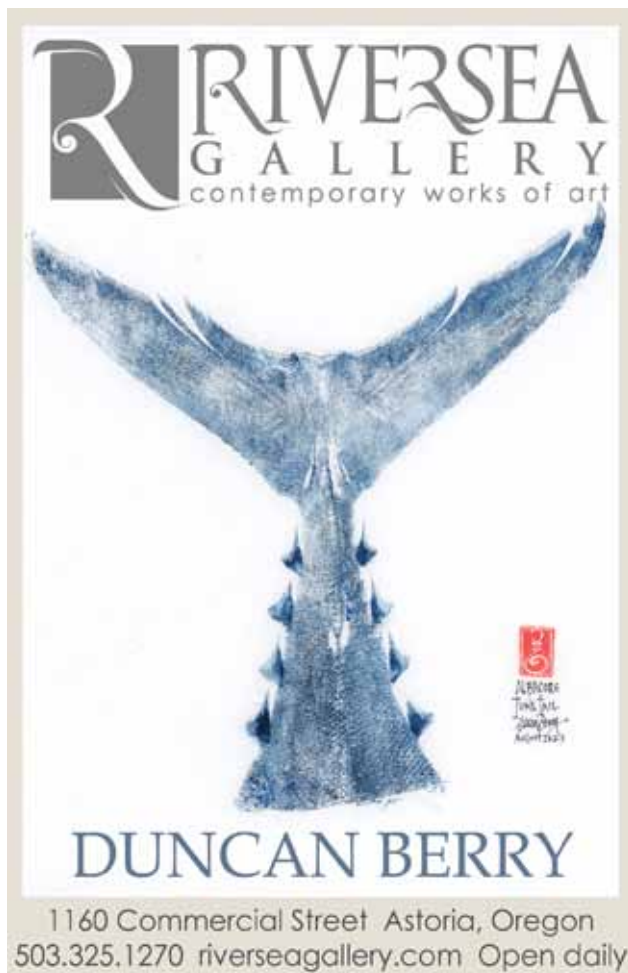
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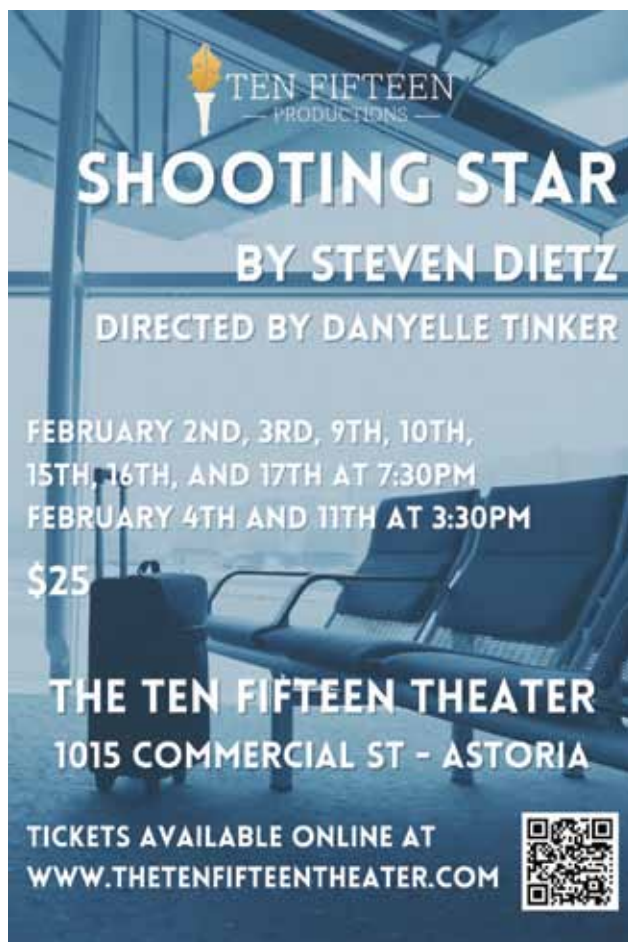




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*"We must be free not because we claim freedom, but because we practice it."  
William Faulkner, American author*

## 10 STEPS TO SAVING OUR FREEDOMS

"This will, in many ways, be an exceedingly difficult year.... But we are so seasoned, so strong, and so organized that I feel certain we will be able to rise to the occasion and deliver unexpectedly good results.

"We kind of have to."

"So here are my 2024 New Year's resolutions—at least where politics are concerned. Please feel free to adopt as many of them as seem useful to you.

1. I will do everything that I am able to do to help save democracy. Notice I say everything, because this, if there ever was one, is the year to leave it all on the field. But I add "that I am able" because we must all work within our own limits. Some will be able to do more, some less. It's OK. Let's all just do as much as we humanly can, while being honest about what that is.
2. I will spread good news relentlessly. Part of how we'll win is by spreading the word about all the great things Democrats—and Biden—have accomplished. We know what they are. Many, many Americans don't. Every one of us must now become an Ambassador for Biden and the Democratic party. Also, keeping morale up is going to be key. This will help.
3. I will ask everyone I talk to if they are registered to vote, and help them register if they aren't. ...If they're not obviously a Trump supporter I will tell them "your voice matters!" and I will make sure they are ready to vote.
4. I will repeat the words "A vote for a third-party candidate is a vote for Trump" everywhere I can, as loudly as I can, as often as I can.

5. I will ignore polls. Like, IGNORE THEM. They. Have. No. Purpose. Whether they are "good" or "bad" our work remains the same. They are also deeply unreliable and heavily manipulated.
6. I will stay in the day and do what I can. Obsessing about what will happen in November, or next month, or even next week is pointless. I will ask, every day, "What can I do to be helpful to our cause today?" And I will do that.
7. I will remember to eat, to sleep, and to recreate.... All of it is to make me a more effective tool for helping to save democracy.
8. I will "go where it's warm." In other words, I will seek out calm, determined, and generally hopeful sources of information. They must, of course, also be factual, but they should not be fear-mongering, cynical, or hysterical. I will gravitate towards those who aren't just dwelling on the problem, but are proposing solutions.
9. I will remember, and repeat often to friends and family, that "the many are more powerful than the money." This is not just wishful thinking. We have seen it over and over again. Remembering it is key.
10. I will write the following and post it on my bathroom mirror: "The object in this mirror is stronger than it appears." Then I will remember it. We can do this. We must do this. And we will."

*INCO thanks Jessica Craven for for these resolutions from her Chop Wood, Carry Water newsletter, January 2, 2024.*

*Indivisible North Coast Oregon (INCO) defends democracy by opposing authoritarianism, bigotry, and corruption. Sign up to get our weekly e-newsletter at [www.incoregon.org](http://www.incoregon.org), or contact [incoregon@gmail.com](mailto:incoregon@gmail.com). Indivisible North Coast Oregon is on Facebook.*

## From Muck to Masterpiece - Register Now For A Nehalem Estuary Journey

Wheeler, OR - In a collaborative effort to raise awareness and take tangible steps toward conservation of the Nehalem River Estuary, four regional organizations call on you to participate in a Nehalem Estuary journey, which includes education, action and art.

Dive into a thought-provoking panel discussion of *Estuary Management, Monitoring, and Restoration on the Nehalem*, February 6th. Take restoration action at Alder Creek Farm on February 11th. Join the feature event on March 9th, the *13th Biennial Estuary Cleanup*. This celebrated community event showcases the collaborative spirit and commitment to the environment, enhancing both our quality of life and our local economy.

Then, drop into creative mode with local and visiting artists, and turn estuary trash into art masterpieces. The resulting artworks will be showcased at the News and Espresso gallery in Manzanita throughout April and for the *Trash Bash Art Festival* in May. Rally your friends and family, and register for these events TODAY! Together, let's commit to the preservation of this vital ecosystem.

**EDUCATION:** Into the Muck - Estuary Management, Monitoring, Restoration  
Date: February 6th Time: 5:30-7:30pm Location: NCRD Kitchen/Gallery, Nehalem

**ACTION:** Restoring our Estuary- Seed Bomb Making and Planting  
Date: February 11th Time: 10am-Noon. Location: Alder Creek Farm, Nehalem

**ACTION:** Biennial Nehalem Estuary Cleanup  
Date: March 9th Registration/Check-in: 7:00am Location: Waterfront Park, WheelerART:

**MARINE DEBRIS ART WORKSHOP** for Families  
Date: March 15th from 1:00-6:00pm Location: NCRD Kitchen, Nehalem  
Artist Leaders Reeve Wortel and Elizabeth Roberts will guide ALL AGES through the making of a gallery-ready trash art piece. No registration necessary.

**ART:** Marine Debris Art Workshop for Adults  
Date: March 16th Time: 12:00-5:00pm Location: Alder Creek Farm Barn  
Elizabeth Roberts leads an engaging workshop focusing on adult trash art concepts. Participants will have the opportunity to display their creations at News and Espresso in April and at the Trash Bash Art Festival in May.  
Learn more and register at [nehalemtrust.org](http://nehalemtrust.org)





## Cloud & Leaf to Celebrate 20 Years Champagne Shindig!

INDEPENDENT BOOKSTORES have been holding the fireline against ignorance for centuries. These days, the blaze has crept way too close for comfort in too many pockets of society, but bookstore owners and librarians have suited up.

**Holly Lorincz**, the newest owner of Manzanita's Cloud and Leaf Bookstore, says, "I'm grateful to live in a community that supports books. Our little store turns twenty years old in March... I want to celebrate not just the authors who create paths to knowledge and empathy, and the readers who seek and share ideas, but also my heroes, those brave protectors of the printed word who've had to don their flame-resistant cardigans and stand strong in a time when we should be way past intolerance of the unknown."

In order to celebrate two decades of selling books and the people who've kept the rural store alive and thriving, Lorincz is hosting what she calls a "Champagne Shindig" on **Saturday, March 2, from 2 to 6 PM**. This free community event, supported in part by a grant funded by Transient Lodging Tax dollars through Tillamook Coast Visitors Association, will be held under a large commercial tent in front of the bookstore. Complimentary cake and champagne will be catered by Manzanita's Offshore Grill and local band StayTuned Manzanita will be playing the blues, while four PNW authors will be available to sign their books.

"A big book party is just what this world needs, with loud music and cake and probably a raging March storm to make it exciting," says Lorincz. "Let's hoist a glass to the printed word!"

The author line-up for Cloud and Leaf's Champagne Shindig signing table is impressive: Rene Denfeld, Liz Prato, Anna Quinn, and Carlos Reyes.

**Rene Denfeld's** award-winning writing has been praised by Margaret Atwood as "astounding." Her best-selling novels will be available at the event: *The Enchanted*, *The Child Finder*, and *The Butterfly Girl*. The forthcoming *Sleeping Giants* will be available for presale and complimentary signed bookplates.

**Liz Prato**, Editor at Large at Forest Avenue Press and a popular teacher at conferences, is the award-winning author of three books: *Kids in America: A Gen X Reckoning* (essays); *Volcanoes, Palm Trees, and Privilege: Essays on Hawai'i* (a Top Summer Travel Read by the New York Times, and a Finalist for the Oregon Book Award); and the short story collection, *Baby's on Fire*.

**Anna Quinn** is the author of two popular novels, including *The Night Child*, listed as #1 Best Real Psychological Fiction on Goodreads and Ingram's 2018 Best Book Club Book. Her second novel, *Angeline*, is officially releasing in paperback mid-March but will be available for a special early release at the Cloud and Leaf event.

**Carlos Reyes**, the publisher of Trask House Books, is a noted poet and translator. Of his work, Carolyn Kizer said: "Mr. Reyes is one of our local and national treasures." His newest book of poetry, *The Empty Chairs of February*, is releasing this month. This title will be available for signing, as will many of his other books.

**March 2, 1-6pm. The event is free, located at Cloud and Leaf Bookstore, 148 Laneda Ave, Manzanita. Further information can be found at the website for Cloud and Leaf Bookstore (<https://cloud-leaf-bookstore.square.site>) or on Instagram and Facebook.**

## WORD .....

### Author/Poet Major Jackson March 1

THE MANZANITA WRITERS' SERIES presents author and poet Major Jackson who will read from his latest collection, *Razzle Dazzle*, and the following day give a workshop.

Residing in Nashville Tennessee he is the Gertrude Conaway Vanderbilt Chair in the Humanities at Vanderbilt University. He is an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and serves as the Poetry Editor of *The Harvard Review*.

"Major Jackson possesses an almost superhuman ability to see himself and his world clearly. His sixth poetry collection, *Razzle Dazzle: New and Selected Poems 2002-2020*, reads like a superhero's origin story." -Erica Wright, in Chapter 16.

A recipient of fellowships from the Academy of American Poets, Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, John S. Guggenheim Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, and the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University, Major Jackson has been awarded a Pushcart Prize, a Whiting Writers' Award, and has been honored by the Pew Fellowship in the Arts and the Witter Bynner Foundation in conjunction with the Library of Congress.



**Reading: Friday, March 1 at 7:30pm. Admission \$30. At St. Catherine's Episcopal Church, 36335 N Hwy 101, Nehalem. Tickets online at [hoffmanarts.org](http://hoffmanarts.org). Workshop, Sat. March 2 at 9am-noon at the Hoffman Center. FMI: [hoffmanarts.org](http://hoffmanarts.org)**

### Poetry Reading with Cliff Taylor

THE CANNON BEACH History Center & Museum kicks off its annual lecture series this February, welcoming local author and poet, Cliff Taylor on Thursday, February 15th at 4:00 p.m. as he will be doing a poetry reading from his collection of stories. Taylor is the author of "The Memory of Souls" and "The Native Who Never Left." Signed copies of his books will be available for purchase at the museum.

Cliff Taylor is an enrolled member of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska. He is a writer, poet, speaker, and storyteller. His essays and poems have been published both online with [lastrealindians.com](http://lastrealindians.com) [1], where he is a regular contributor, and in print with *The Yellow Medicine Review*, *Jelly Bucket*, *Oakwood Magazine*, and *Hipfish Monthly*. He is the author of *The Memory of Souls*, a memoir of the Sundance and his walk/life with the little people, and the recent poetry collection *The Native Who Never Left*. A Nebraskan through and through, he currently resides on the Oregon Coast with his sweetheart of many years.

**Cliff Taylor at The CB History Center, Thurs, Feb 15 at 4pm. A FREE reading with suggested donation to the museum. 1387 South Spruce Street, Cannon Beach.**

### AAUW Features Local Women Writers

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION of University Women (AAUW) Astoria will host a panel discussion by local women authors and why they write. The program begins at 6 p.m. at the Astoria Library Flag Room.

The authors and their subjects will be Florence Sage, poetry; Arline LaMear, children's books; Kestrel Gates, birth and postpartum depression; Marianne Monson, historical fiction; and Ann Ornie, novelist.

**February 16, 6pm at the Astoria Library Flag Room in Astoria.**

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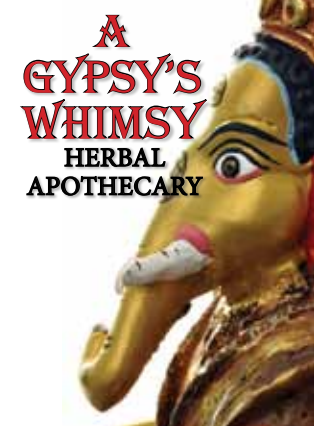


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# Theatre of War

By Susan Grace Banyas

“We believe the third Intifada should be cultural, with poetry, music, theatre, cameras, and magazines.”

– Juliano Mer Khamis, founder of The Freedom Theatre in Jenin Refugee Camp, assassinated in 2011.

I AM A DESCENDANT OF QUAKERS, who speak truth to power by bearing witness to reality. We are seeing a genocide right before our eyes, like when George Floyd was choked to death in real time. Genocide is the worst form of racist violence. Israel is under investigation in the International Court of Justice for the crime of genocide. The Center for Constitutional Rights (US) is suing Biden-Blinken- Austin for aiding and abetting Israel’s genocide of the Palestinian people.

Hamas, a non-state player, will be tried for war crimes, the political origins and strategies brought to light.

Israel’s failure to protect its own people plus the mechanisms of operating an apartheid state, will also be part of the investigation of terrorist activity in the holy lands.

Award-winning Israeli journalist, Gideon Levy, poses the big questions. “What happened on October 7th and how did it happen? There was no

army on this day, the most sophisticated intelligence in the world, who knows the color of the underwear of each Palestinian, all of sudden didn’t know anything? And where was the army after the attack started? And above all, the question that bothers me the most, does the attack on the 7th give Israelis the right to do anything they want forever, without any limits, no legal limits, no moral limits?”

He describes how Israeli media is completely committed to IDF/Israeli propaganda. “In Israel, you see only the soldiers, only the families of the hostages, only the scenes where you don’t see Palestinians at all. This is not new, this dehumanization of the Palestinians. You can watch for hours on Israeli TV and have no idea what’s going on, that the Palestinians are human beings. This is almost a taboo. Don’t mention them as human beings.” (Gideon Levy interview/Democracy Now.org, Dec 17, 2024).

Joe Biden’s staffers warned him not to talk about beheaded babies because the report had not been verified. But he kept repeating it, like a Howdy Doody puppet, beheaded babies. A fabrication, but the damage was done. Palestinians behead babies and rape women, so it’s okay to pulverize them. On-the-ground in Israel, Jewish American journalist Max Blumenthal exposes these fabrications on the independent news website *The Grayzone*.

Award winning journalist, author, and former bureau chief for the *New York Times* in the Middle East, Chris Hedges, delivered this lecture at the Sanctuary for Independent Journalism in Troy, NY on Dec 7, 2024.

“It is a grave mistake not to take the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians seriously. This rhetoric is not hyperbolic. It is a literal prescription. The Israeli military, intelligence services, arms and technology industries, drones, surveillance technology including spyware technology, facial recognition, software biometric gathering infrastructure, along with smart fences, experimental bombs, AI controlled machine guns—they’re all tried out on the captive population in Gaza. These weapons are then certified as “battle tested” and sold around the world. Israeli is the 10th biggest arms dealer on the planet. It sells its technology to 130 nations, including military dictatorships.

Gaza is the prelude to a frightening new world order.”



1948 - Signing of the UN Declaration of Human Rights and the expulsion of Palestinians from their homelands



In Hedges’ conversation with Miko Peled, (The Chris Hedges Report) former IDF Special Forces soldier and son of an Israeli General, who fought in the 1967 war, Peled describes how children are indoctrinated in Israel to be completely aligned with the IDF’s militaristic ideology through education, repression of speech, and visual symbols. “This whole notion that being violent and militaristic and racist and being conquerors is somehow a response to the Holocaust is absolute madness. But when you’re in it, you don’t ask questions.”

JEWISH VOICES FOR PEACE “the largest progressive anti-Zionist organization in the world” has a news feed and links to on-going developments and is an essential player in the world-wide network opposing the rise of Jewish fascism.

“We are organizing a multi-racial, cross class, intergenerational movement of Jews in solidarity with the Palestinian freedom struggles,” their

website states clearly, “to shake the US-Israel alliance by fundamentally changing the financial, cultural, and political calculus of Jewish support for apartheid and for Zionism.... We are fighting for a thriving Judaism for the future of the Jewish people.”

We made an agreement, we-the-international-body, back in 1948 when Eleanor

Roosevelt co-authored the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. She’s in the window of the Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education (Portland). When I called the museum to ask about human rights for Palestinians or a statement on the genocide, the woman hung up on me.

~

The Palestinian people were going about their days having tea, having babies, caring for their old, negotiating check points with heavily armed, trigger happy guards, calming traumatized children living in brutal conditions, some snatched away as teens, 6000 people in military prisons with no charge, many of them young when... Boom, their world is flattened. Whole families are wiped out.

A horror show unfolds before our eyes. There is no denying that this is what we are seeing. Trucks of food are lined up at the border of Gaza, but Israel wants the people across that line to starve. One phone call would do it. Hello, this is Joe. Ceasefire. Send in the trucks. But no.

Palestinian news rooms send their teams out so the world can see what is going on. 120 journalists have been killed, many directly targeted. Two journalists were driving on location when their car was hit by a precision bomb, delivered by the US. Boom, gone. One of the men was the son of a bureau chief for Al Jazeera, who had already lost his wife and two children. His colleague said, “The journalists here are humble people. They will be back on the streets.”

This war, a moral and military failure, is not about protecting borders, ferreting out bad guys, humanity’s flaws, God’s will, who’s ahead in the polls, or honoring memory. There is nothing honorable about ethnic cleansing and genocide. I owe it to my anti-war, anti-slavery, anti-authority ancestors to bear witness to what I see.

Witness the document and the reality.

Witness universities shutting down free speech.

Witness the one Palestinian voice in Congress silenced and demonized.

Witness the killing power of the weapons America hands to Israel.

Witness the sacrifice of children -- 10,000 children -- crushed, limbs blown off, dying of pain, no anesthesia, starving, bad water, vomiting, no home, no future.

Witness a country “gone mad on war,” Dr. King said in 1967 denouncing the Vietnam War, “like some demonic, destructive suction tube.

Welcome to the Theatre of War in Gaza

We pay for the production.

Find our seats, read the credits, producers, sponsors, owners, donors, composers of perception.

Tis the season of the tinsel.

O Little Town of Bethlehem, the choirs sing, genocide in the background in the holy lands,

like David and Goliath,

the Palestinian Jew on the cross,

why have you forsaken us?

Stiff white men with worn-out words

embrace at the airport, flags flapping,

blue ties, tight lips, behind dark shades,

foul smells, like death, like cheap talk,

performance art with no heart.

The audience is leaving the theatre,

outraged by the shoddy statecraft,

most of the UN, the East, the Global South.

The European crowd with their box seats,

set binoculars aside and stay put.

We-the-people with the popcorn,

In the cheap seats, in the back rows,

popping the corks, head for fresh air,

big elephant question mingling among us.

Will they get away with this?

A genocide right before our eyes?

We move to the Backstage zone for a smoke.

Back wall of the theatre blown out,

Reality rushes in. Buildings collapse

on people, schools, hospitals, mosques,

libraries flattened, snipers popping,

bomb shaking screams, shouts of terror,

a man sobs over little white bundles.

Health workers wrap the dead

in white cloth like little mummies.

Bundles next to a wounded mother.

Baby Jesus in a manger on a pile of rubble.

People step out of the carnage,

no masks, no script, they speak.

One by one, they offer stories.

We didn’t know, we say.

This is how it is, they say,

breaking through the 4th wall.

This is how it is behind the curtain

at the Theatre of War in Gaza.



The Palestinian Ambassador

Husam Zomlot, Ambassador to UK, has lost family in Gaza.  
“We will not forget. Look what is happening to international order. This madness is not going to stop at the borders of Israel. More than six arenas are engaged now. All Israel is doing is exposing the savagery and barbarism this whole entity is about.”

Ambassador Zomlot—democracynow.org Dec 29, 2023

The Independent Journalist

Sharif Abdel Kouddous calls out the journalism community’s silence in the face of what is the deadliest conflict for journalists in decades as a “bias being laid bare.”  
“There are reports that people remaining in the North (of Gaza) are digging with their bare hands trying to find their family members, and the streets have been turned into graveyards.”  
He is a documentary filmmaker, journalist, and one of the co-producers of PalFest, Palestinian Festival of Literature, that began in 2008 as a “cultural initiative committed to the creation of language and ideas for combating colonialism in the 21st century.”

Kouddous—democracynow.org/Targeting of journalists, Nov 17, 2023  
Palfest.org  
The Killing of Shireen Abu Akleh (on youtube.com)

History Lesson

Palfest sponsored a conversation in NYC between esteemed Palestinian-American historian, Professor Rashid Khalidi and author Ta-Nehisi Coates, moderated by legal scholar and writer, Michelle Alexander.  
Last summer, Coates was invited to PalFest and came back changed. “How did I not know this history?” he confesses. “And if I’m a latecomer to the Palestinian cause, I’m also a latecomer to the cause of nonviolence, but I’m here now.”  
“What is it we need to know?” Michelle Alexander asks Rashid Khalidi, author of *The Hundred Years War on Palestine*.  
“Zionism...is a political...economic... military project, but is also a public relations project. It has sold a picture which people have swallowed with their mother’s milk. We do not give \$3.8 billion plus the \$14,000 billion for anything having to do with sentiment. It has to do with strategy...oil... imperial interests... votes... money... the concentrated political power of the Evangelic right.”

The Conversation sponsored by PalFest youtube.com

The Jewish Activist

National spokesperson for **IfNotNow**, Eva Borgwardt: “Prior to October 7th, our focus was around the campaign of AIPAC (American Israeli Public Affairs Committee), making sure that the Jewish public, in particular, and the American public understand that, these days, the money AIPAC is spending on elections is from far-right billionaires... If AIPAC is determined to tell the American public that speaking out and opposing an unfolding genocide is beyond the pale and realm of political acceptability, what is going to become of us and what is going to happen to this world?”  
IfNotNowmovement.org  
AIPAC and US elections, jacobin.com Nov 14, 2023

The Palestinian Christian  
Reverend Munther Isaac:

“The hypocrisy of the Western world is transparent and appalling. To our European friends, I never ever want to hear you lecture us on human rights or international law again. In the shadow of the empire, they turn the colonizer into the victim, the colonized into the aggressor. We are outraged by the complicity of the church. If you are not shaken to the core, there is something wrong with your humanity. If we as Christians are not outraged by the genocide, by the weaponization of the Bible to justify it, there is something wrong with our Christian witness, and we are compromising the credibility of our gospel message.”  
Christmas sermon in Bethlehem, democracynow.org, Dec 26, 2023

The Palestinian Poet

Beloved poet, Mosab Abu Toba, was captured and detained by Israeli forces. The video testimony came shortly after his release. His poetry collection, *Things You May Find Hidden in My Ear* won the American Book Award and was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. International outcry led to his release.  
Video account, democracynow.org, Dec 7, 2023  
Recent testimony, newyorker.com, Dec 25, 2023

The Jewish Writer

In her essay, *In The Shadow of The Holocaust* in The New Yorker (Dec 9, 2023), Masha Gessen writes about how Israel has waged an incredibly successful campaign of “setting the holocaust outside of history” and itself outside of humanitarian law, by weaponizing the “politics of memory.” She expresses alarm about how the far right has hijacked antisemitism and is using Jews to further a fascist agendas, while Jewish and European establishments, normalizing evil, “stumble into the darkest moments.”  
Interview with Masha Gessen, PBS Amanpour & Co. ( on youtube.com)



The Palestinian Writer

Refaat Alareer died on December 7th when his sister’s apartment was flattened by an Israeli air strike. He, his brother, his brother’s son, his sister and her three children perished. A poem is his last tweet.  
This tribute is written by one of his students, Jihad Abusalim. “Echoing the title of Refaat’s book, *Gaza Writes Back*, we will continue to write back. We, his students and those who hold his words and memory dear, will persist in narrating his stories and ours. We will keep telling these tales until we claim our rightful place in the world, until we are free.”  
Tribute, thenation.com Dec. 15, 2023  
Tribute and last tweet, aljazeera.com Jan. 16, 2024

The Artistic Director of The Freedom Theatre

The artistic director of The Freedom Theatre in Jenin Refugee Camp, Ahmed Tobasi was released after being held for 24 hours, which he describes in this interview, standing in his theatre and home, both trashed by IDF soldiers, while his colleague was dragged away with no word yet.  
Ahmed: “We are not terrorist, we are artists. When they (the children) come to the theatre, they start to learn how to be a storyteller, how to tell their stories, how to imagine. Many of the artists in the West Bank, in Gaza have been killed, imprisoned, shot, tortured just because they are artists, doing art.”  
“I’m asking all the artists in this world, all of our friends around the world, we have to unite. We have to fight not just for Palestinians. We have to fight for this planet, for humanity, for each community and each country under occupation. We can live together without all this hate, without all this violence. We have Friends of Freedom Theatre in New York and they are Jewish. This is not about religion or the Jewish people. It’s about a crazy, violent, brutal state who tried to colonize this area.”  
End interview w. Peter Schumann, Director of Bread and Puppet Theatre, democracynow.org Dec. 15, 2023

Witness the spirit of resistance,  
The Freedom Theatre, a Life Force,  
the power of culture, not a culture of power,  
Edward Said called this flip of the script.

Now a wide shot, a bird’s eye view.  
Audience and actors intermingle,  
like it’s normal to open the curtain,  
move back and forth across the line,  
share our witness and our stories,  
like we care about our world and  
the children of the world.

“My poems are my tears.” Mosab Abu Toba reads. Poets have gathered to help rebuild the Edward Said Library in Gaza City by sharing their words. “We don’t die so long as there are witnesses, so long as there are clouds.” He read his last poem in Arabic, a strong sound, a new rhythm.

A reading for the Edward Said Library with Mosab Abu Toba-youtube.com

If I must die,  
you must live

to tell my story

to sell my things

to buy a piece of cloth

and some strings,

(make it white with a long tail)

so that a child, somewhere in Gaza

while looking heaven in the eye

awaiting his dad who left in a blaze-

and bid no farewell

not even to his flesh

not even to himself-

sees the kite, my kite you made,

flying up above

and thinks for a moment an angel is there

bringing back love

If I must die

Let it bring hope

Let it be a tale

If I must die  
Refaat Alareer

*Susan Grace Banyas is a multi-media storyteller and choreographer residing in Astoria, Or*  
*Gratitude to independent media and courageous journalists who produced the Backstage voices. Deep bow to Ahmed Tobasi and his colleagues at The Freedom Theatre for this artistic vision of international creative solidarity. May they be released from prisons.*  
*May they stay alive.*  
© Theatre of War, Susan Banyas



## NORTH COAST



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# Brooklyn-cum-Astorian Artist Jeanine Oleson Wins The Rome Prize

By Dinah Urell

SITTING IN A BAR in Astoria this past January, enjoying time with two artist friends, one said, "I was either going to dedicate my life to becoming a punk rock singer, or I was going to be an [visual] artist," this pertaining to graduating from high school and moving to Portland. Contemporaries at Astoria High circa the late 80's, the other artist admitted that when beloved art teacher Nancy Kem suggested she go to the Chicago Art Institute, she was like, "What's that?"

Nick Knapton and Jeanine Oleson did follow their passions. Art buyers are gravitating towards Knapton's gritty, Berlin-born spirit in painting, his very successful show wrapping up at Imogen Gallery in Astoria, with still time to take in selected held-over works. Interdisciplinary artist, Oleson, who resides in Brooklyn and is an Associate Professor in Art and Design at Rutgers University has just flown the coop with her life-long partner in tow, for Italy, as a Rome Prize winner.

While most people in this region, friends and family, know Oleson as the down-to-earth, easy-going girl who grew up riding horses in Olney with a large extended family, her career as an artist is another world.

And what this world now offers is a six month all expenses paid, plus a substantial stipend, residency at the American Academy in Rome—a leading American overseas center for independent studies in the fine arts and humanities. The Rome Prize, a prestigious award, with a 3% acceptance rate (Harvard ranks 4%) supports innovative artists, writers and scholars living and working together. Planting the seed by American architects, painters and sculptors in 1893, the concept of an American school for artists in Europe, it was Rome that was decided upon—a veritable museum of masterpieces of painting, sculpture and architecture throughout the ages, would be the best location for the school.

Jeanine Oleson did go to the School of the Art Institute of Chicago with the help and encouragement of teacher/art connoisseur Michael Foster and art teacher Kem. "As a young person I was always drawing and making things, it was really important to me. I remember going to work with my mother at Clatsop Community College, and I'd tape together ledgers from the college and draw on it and then just keep taping stuff to it," says Oleson. "So, when I got to high school I loved art class and Nancy Kem. She had a cool way of living and thinking, and she was a style icon. She took very good care of me and made sure I had a place to be in high school. She was very important in that way."

Oleson earned her BFA. "I was this kid from Olney, with zero exposure to art, who ended up in art school in Chicago. I was 17. I learned so much. It permeated my brain." After graduating she worked at the institute in the visiting artists program for three years, before attending grad school at Rutgers and moving to The Big Apple. "It was a good experience. I was able to make work, and just learned more and more. Being in New York is such a huge learning curve—you see so much."

As an interdisciplinary artist, Oleson works with images, materials and language that takes shape through performance, film, video, sound and

installation, and artist collaboration. Twenty four years passed her graduate degree, her large scale works have been staged in New York, Los Angeles, Atlanta, Korea.

To understand the breadth and thread of Oleson's work, check her documented website, [jeanineoleson.com](http://jeanineoleson.com). There you can dig into her 2014



The Breath Lung. An analog and digital sound instrument. CONDUCT MATTERS/HAMMER MUSEUM, L.A.

experimental opera, *Hear, Here* at the New Museum, New York, NY, or her collaboration on the participatory project, *Photo Requests from Solitary* that provides images to people held in solitary confinement as a means of humanizing connection and support efforts to end the practice in US prisons and jails.

In 2017, Oleson's *Conduct Matters* ran at the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles from May – August. It was about copper. Says Oleson, "The show came out of thinking about contemporary relationships to the material that supports our contemporary life, and in particular copper. It's a paradoxical material; everything that we're doing, like the camera your using is filled with copper, all of the walls are filled with copper and other kinds of conductive materials, and they make everything that we take for granted in contemporary life possible. And it's also a major process of extraction in capitalist culture."

Through exhibition and performance the show included video, photography, catalytic sound instruments wired by copper, a large hand-woven rug to anchor the components, and the musical instrument the Breath Lung, made in collaboration with a brass instrument technician. Described by Hammer curator Connie Butler "With humor, pathos and pleasure . . . the irreconcilable contemporary relationship between bodies, labor, resources, and art."

While in Rome, Oleson will be researching backdrops, scrims, monitors, and lighting—the onsite study of theaters from Greek and Roman antiquity, to build a body of work around the development of theatrical perspective and the technologies of space in relationship to the rise of Western imperialism. On her mental template over the years, she's been considering how to do a project about Tsunami waves and the cyclical, geological connection to her home turf – Astoria. This may play a part in her work in Rome.

"I feel so lucky that I grew up here. It's a specific kind of culture and I feel I have a different sense of the world because of it. I'm not as alienated from natural processes as compared to many who grew-up in limited life settings. And I think I owe my love and appreciation for craftsmanship to people and culture here. I honor that in my heart all the time."



PHOTO: Dinah Urell



# Berlin/Astoria Nicholas Knapton

## A bright showing at IMOGEN

By Mike Francis

CONSIDERING THE ROAD Nick Knapton has traveled, the January ice storm that disrupted his exhibition at the Imogen Gallery was only a minor setback.

Sure, freezing rain made Astoria slicker than a hagfish convention and put Second Saturday on the skids — including the opening of Nick Knapton's exhibition, *Conversations with Gavi* — but his life has had many chapters, and his show is getting a second life, too.

Imogen owner Teri Sund said some of Knapton's work will remain on display into the first week of March, which is good news for Knapton and for North Coast artwalkers.

The show has been more than two years in the making, said Knapton, who returned home to Astoria from his second extended stay in Berlin in February two years ago. The exhibition sweeps in an array of Knapton's experiences, highlighted as reflections of his lengthy, philosophical talks with his friend Gavi in Berlin, but also visions of the Columbia River, of flowers in vases, and abstracts named for Berlin's infrastructure, e.g., Storkower Straße, Weisenseer Weg, etc.

From abstracts to life drawings to landscapes, the work is bold and vivid, a representation of Knapton's journey from Astoria to Berlin and back — two times. Many are large, commanding the room and conjuring visions from that are both familiar and novel; Columbia River Series #2, for example, is 35" x 60" oil in bright reds, indigo and ochre.

The show is named *Conversations with Gavi*, Knapton said, because as he was pulling the pieces together, he reflected that his favorite times in his European sojourns were his daylong talks with his friend Gavi. Gavi is a gregarious Scotsman who also washed up in Berlin, and was always prepared to drink tea and talk about the state of the world and the state of the human soul. Knapton and he spent a lot of time together.

Knapton is a prodigal son of sorts. He moved with his family to Astoria from the United Kingdom when he was a preteen, graduated from Astoria High School and then earned a bachelor's degree at Portland State, where he studied art and took an intensive course in German. He was inspired to become an artist by Royal Nebeker, he said, and embarked on a career that sometimes seemed like counter-programming to prevailing fashion. In Europe for example, he



PHOTO: Dina Ueli



*Standing Female with Letters* ink, acrylic and beeswax on paper 15.5x10.5

Painted a lot of still lifes featuring flowers in vases, even as other artists were working conceptually, or even as performers. (Gallerygoers with long memories may remember his *Flowers for Clémentine* exhibition at Imogen in 2015.)

"Many people have asked me why I moved to Berlin, which I did in 1994 at the age of twenty-three, and then again in 2011 when I was aged forty," says Knapton. "The question is always difficult to answer because Berlin especially East Berlin is a place where people stereotypically escape from, but strangely enough people of my ilk, artists, rebels, political activists, musicians, and people who basically did not fit in to wherever they had come from fled to. These people were basically people from everywhere, congregating in Berlin in the 1990's after the Fall of the Berlin Wall. And Gavi and I were a couple of the people amongst thousands who just ended up there. These years were extremely formative for me and have basically shaped my personality and my work as an artist."

During his most recent stint in Germany, he operated on the fringes of Berlin's lively creative scene, returning home to Astoria for family reasons when pandemic restrictions were still in force. That's when he started to work on the current exhibition at Imogen. And now it's here.

Ice storms or no.

*Nicholas Knapton, Conversations with Gavi, with pieces on display through March 4 at Imogen Gallery, 240 11th St., in Astoria*



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## Let the countdown begin!

THE HAYSTACK ROCK AWARENESS Program returns to the beach for its 2024 season on February 16th! Come down and explore Haystack Rock with a team of **Rocky Shore Interpreters** on the beach, daily during low tide, all the way to November 30.

Interpreters will be on the beach to educate visitors about the tide pool and bird life found at Haystack Rock. You may even be able to learn how to scratch a jellyfish tummy.

Complete beach schedule [www.haystackrockawareness.com](http://www.haystackrockawareness.com)

## Tuesday 6

### LECTURE & LITERARY

Ric's Poetry Open Mic. 7pm at WineKraft in Astoria.

### HAPPENING

Winter Waters Astoria X Buoy. An evening celebrating local seafare, with an emphasis on sea vegetables. Demos, tastings, ocean trivia, and more Free, 5 – 8pm at Buoy Beer/Astoria Food Hub. Get tickets at [winterwaterspnw.com/events/astoria-buoy](http://winterwaterspnw.com/events/astoria-buoy)

Winter Movies at Main. Groundhog day. 6pm at the Tillamook Library.

Netarts Bay Stewardship Day. Winter planting event. Help revitalize the campground at Cape Lookout State Park. Volunteers are needed to help plant native vegetation in and around the campground. 10am – 2pm at Cape Lookout State Park. FMI at [netartsbay-webs.org](http://netartsbay-webs.org)

## Wednesday 7

### MUSIC

Classical Guitar Works and the Stories Behind Them. Enjoy the early renaissance and modern Spanish guitar stylings of Bruce Charles at this free

musical event. 1pm at the Tillamook Library.

### HAPPENING

Films About Architecture. Lower Columbia Preservation Society presents an eve of short films and discussion about some of the best architecture in the world. Door opens 6:30pm for light fare and drink. FREE Event- donations accepted to LCPS. At KALA in Astoria.

## Thursday 8

### ART

Au Naturel. Nudes in the 21st Century Art Exhibit Reception. 6 – 7:30pm at the Royal Nebeker Gallery at CCC.

### THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Proof. Drama. Pay What you will night – tickets for \$5 or more. 7:30pm at the Coaster Theater In Cannon Beach.

## Friday 9

### MUSIC

Howard Buckbee. 7 – 9pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.

John Orr & Chelsea LaFey. Vocals and guitar sing old standards. 7-9pm. \$5 Other Brother's in Cannon Beach

### THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Astoria Conservatory Student Recital. 6pm. FREE. Larsen Center in Astoria.

Shooting Star. A bittersweet romantic comedy. \$25, 7:30pm at The Ten Fifteen Theater in Astoria.

Proof. Drama. \$25 - \$30, 7:30pm at the Coaster Theater In Cannon Beach.

### HAPPENING

Winter Waters at Pacific Way Café. Chef Trever Gilbert's tasting menu will highlight local seafood & sea vegetables. \$125, 6pm at the Pacific Way Café in Gearhart. Reservations at [winterwaterspnw.com/events/pacific-way-cafe](http://winterwaterspnw.com/events/pacific-way-cafe)

## Saturday 10 Chinese New Year • Dragon

### MUSIC

Steve Wilkinson. 7 – 9pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.

Ancient Pools. No cover, 7pm at the Sou'wester Lodge in Seaview.

Kent M. Smith. 7-9, \$5 Other Brother's in Cannon Beach

Chelsea LaFey & The Salt Shakers. Swing Jazz. Free dance lessons. \$15 cover, 6-9pm, BBQ dinners (\$15) at the Seaside Elks Lodge.

### THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Astoria Conservatory Student Recital. 6pm. FREE. Larsen Center in Astoria.

Shooting Star. A bittersweet romantic comedy. \$25, 7:30pm at The Ten Fifteen Theater in Astoria.

Proof. Drama. \$25 - \$30, 7:30pm at the Coaster Theater In Cannon Beach.

### HAPPENING

Tea By The Sea. A Valentine tea event at Benjamin Young Inn in Astoria, 1-4pm. Soup Course, pastries, live music and house tour. \$55 tickets [valentineteaastoria.eventbrite.com](http://valentineteaastoria.eventbrite.com).

Film Screening. A 1940s comedy classic. 1pm at the Seaside Library.

Chess for Success Regional Tournament. Tournament for all K-12 school aged kids in Clatsop, Lincoln, and Tillamook counties. 9am – 4pm at Garibaldi Community Hall.

## Sunday 11

### MUSIC

Ian Georeg. No cover, 6pm in the Lovell Building at Fort George in Astoria.

### LECTURE & LITERARY

Wit and Wisdom Lecture Series. How Can I be Sure I am Not Always Dreaming? 7pm at the Lovell Showroom at Fort George in Astoria.

Oregon Legacy Literary Series. With Author Emme Lund. 3pm at the Driftwood Public Library in Lincoln City.

### THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Shooting Star. A bittersweet romantic comedy. \$25, 3:30pm at The Ten Fifteen Theater in Astoria.

### HAPPENING

Sound Bowl Sunday. Sound baths are a passive form of healing. All that is required of you is to lie back, close your eyes, and listen to the soothing sounds of crystal sound bowls singing around you. \$10, 6:30 – 7:30pm at Kiawanda Community Center in Pacific City.

## Tuesday 13

### HAPPENING

Winter Movie Night at Main. Much Ado About Nothing. Free 6 - 8pm at Tillamook County.

## Thursday 15

### LECTURE & LITERARY

Poetry Reading with Cliff Taylor. 4pm at the Cannon Beach History Center & Museum.

### THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Shooting Star. A bittersweet romantic comedy. \$25, 7:30pm at The Ten Fifteen Theater in Astoria.

### HAPPENING

Winter Waters + Nekst. Enjoy a spectacular meal focused on hyper-local and seasonal flavors, utilizing ingredients foraged and harvested on the coast. This event is a la carte, but reservations are required. Seatings from 5-8pm at Nekst in Astoria. [winterwaterspnw.com/events/nesk](http://winterwaterspnw.com/events/nesk)

## Friday 16

### MUSIC

Oyster Crackers. North Coast 4-Piece women ensemble sing folk and originals, guitar, mandolin, violin, cello and sweet harmonies. Tickets \$20. [kalaastoria.com](http://kalaastoria.com). Doors open 6:30pm, show at 7pm. KALA in Astoria.

Jim & Abigail MacDonald. 7-9pm. \$5. Other Brother's in Cannon Beach

### THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Shooting Star. A bittersweet romantic comedy. \$25, 7:30pm at The Ten Fifteen Theater in Astoria.

Proof. Drama. \$25 - \$30, 7:30PM at the Coaster Theater In Cannon Beach.

### HAPPENING

Winter Waters + Nekst. Enjoy a spectacular meal focused on hyper-local and seasonal flavors, utilizing ingredients foraged and harvested on the coast.

This event is a la carte, but reservations are required. Seatings from 5-8pm at Nekst in Astoria. [winterwaterspnw.com/events/nesk](http://winterwaterspnw.com/events/nesk)

Fridays in Lent. Contemplative music with optional self-guided Stations of the Cross. With Shelley Loring, flute. Noon – 1pm at Grace Episcopal Church in Astoria.

# WEEKLY EVENTS

## MONDAY

**Burgers & Jam Night** at the Cannon Beach American Legion, every Monday from 6-8 pm, open to the public. Richard Thomasian, Dave Quinton, Bill Gaylord, Randy Weese. Jammers welcome.

**Music Monday with Gary.** 1-3pm at Seaside Coffee House.

## TUESDAY

**Bingo Night.** 6 – 8pm at Pelican Brewing Company – Cannon Beach.

## WEDNESDAY

**Live Bluegrass Music.** With Small Towne. No cover, 6-8pm at Burly and the Bean in Seaside.

**Triva at the Merry Time.** Trivia with host Sara Lu. 21+ . Sign-ups at 6:30 and play at 7pm. Bingo-Trivia at 9pm. General Trivia \$2 per person to play: win cash and fun prizes. At the Merry Time Bar in Astoria.

## THURSDAY

### Small Farms Marketplace.

Shop for eggs, veggies, bread, meat, prepared food, tea, coffee, and more. Customers can shop online Sunday-Tuesday each week and pick up their order Thursday 3-6pm at the North Coast Food Web in Astoria. Accepts SNAP EBT, cash, check, or debit/credit payments. Also accept Farm Direct checks seasonally (FDNP). Shop online at [northcoastfoodweb.localfood-marketplace.com](http://northcoastfoodweb.localfood-marketplace.com)

**Guitar Noir with Joey Altruda.** Jazz standards. 5 – 7pm at WineKraft in Astoria.

**Karaoke with Lorraine.** No cover, 7 – 10pm at the Labor Temple in Astoria.

**The Hackles and the Horse-necks.** Folk +. 5 – 7pm at Obelisk Beer Co in Astoria.

**Karaoke at Xanadu** 7-10pm Astoria

**Crafternoon.** Come in person or Online to Craft and make friends. All crafts and skill levels welcome. 1 - 3pm at Purly Shell Fiber Arts in Ilwaco.

**Trivia Night.** 6 – 8pm at Pelican Brewing Company – Cannon Beach.

## FRIDAY

**Skate Night.** Roller skating family fun. 5 – 9pm at the Astoria Armory.

**Virtual Open Mic.** Live online from the Peninsula Arts Center in Long Beach. 6:45 – 8:30pm. [get link](#)

**Spirit Dance 2.0.** Free-form dance. Music by DJ Pranawave. Suggested donation, \$10. Free for kids. 6 - 8pm. At Pine Grove Community Club in Manzanita.

**Garibaldi Jam.** Old-time favorites and Country-Western standards. Admission by donation. 6 – 8pm at the Garibaldi Community Hall.

## SATURDAY

### Liberty Theater Guided

**Tours.** \$10, Noon and 1pm at the Liberty Theater in Astoria.

**Craft Brewery Tours.** Starting at Hondo's Brewery in Astoria. Then transport and have fun walk abouts in Astoria, Seaside and Cannon Beach. Free.

**Karaoke at Xanadu** 7-10pm Astoria

**Skate Night.** Roller skating family fun. 5 – 9pm at the Astoria Armory.

## SUNDAY

### Sunday Nostalgia with Barbara

**Anne.** Folksinger Barbara Anne plays folk rock, covers and originals, and often is joined by her musical friends. 1-4pm at Winekraft in Astoria

**Karaoke with Connor.** No cover, 7 – 10pm at the Labor Temple in Astoria.

**Kitchen Music.** An informal song circle. If you are a musician (beginner or experienced), a singer or songwriter, or if you just enjoy listening to good music and maybe even singing along, please join in. 3 – 5pm at Long Beach Grange.

**The String Conspiracy** performs at The Bistro in Cannon Beach every Sunday, 5:30-8pm, reservations required. Chelsea LaFey, Richard Thomasian, Dave Quinton are the best kept secret in town, playing an eclectic mix of all genres of music.



## Saturday 17

### MUSIC

The Stephanie Schneiderman Trio. \$25, 4pm at the Peninsula Arts Center in Long Beach.

Olella No cover, 7pm at the Sou'wester Lodge in Seaview.

The Rogue Trio. 7-9pm. \$5. Other Brother's in Cannon Beach

### THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Shooting Star. A bittersweet romantic comedy. \$25, 7:30pm at The Ten Fifteen Theater in Astoria.

Proof. Drama. \$25 - \$30, 7:30pm at the Coaster Theater In Cannon Beach.

### HAPPENING

Nordic Market. Scandinavian crafts, clothing, Finnish vintage glassware, sweaters, jewelry, baked goods, preserved foods, paintings by local artists and pottery. A pannukakku breakfast will be served from 10am to 1pm, this includes pannukakku, sausage, fruit and coffee. Price is \$12. Market is held from 10am - 3pm at Soumi Hall in Astoria.

Diva Drag Brunch. 11am at the Merry Time Bar in Astoria.

An Afternoon with Liisa Penner. Documentary film. Free, 6:30pm at the Astoria Public Library.

Festival of Dark Arts. Sold out. At Fort George in Astoria.

## Sunday 18

### MUSIC

Hill Folk Noir. No cover, 6pm in the Lovell Building at Fort George in Astoria.

Brownsmead Flats. The Flats play a fundraising show at the Naselle Community

Center at 3pm. Folk/Acoustic/ and sing-along. Donations accepted. Refreshments

after the concert. 14 Parpala Road, Naselle, WA. More info nasellefinnfest.com.

Megan Alder. Swing, Americana. 7 - 9pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.

3 Leg Torso. \$25, 3pm at Birkenfeld Theater in Clatskanie.

### LECTURE & LITERARY

Oregon Legacy Literary Series. With Author Sarah L Sanderson. 3pm at the Driftwood Public Library in Lincoln City.

### THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Proof. Drama. \$25 - \$30, 3pm at the Coaster Theater In Cannon Beach.

### HAPPENING

Artful Breakfast. All you can eat eggs, pancakes, and more. \$5, 8am - noon at the Bay City Arts Center.

## Tuesday 20

### HAPPENING

Winter Movies at Main. Crazy Rich Asians. Free, 6pm at the Tillamook Library.

## Wednesday 21

### MUSIC

The Squeaky Wheels. \$20, 4pm at the Peninsula Arts Center in Long Beach.

### HAPPENING

Film Screening. A 2023 Drama. Free, 5pm at the Seaside Library.

## Thursday 22

### MUSIC

Le Vent du Nord. Celtic. \$35, 7pm at the Lincoln City Cultural Center.

### LECTURE & LITERARY

The Peking Express with Candace Pinger Smith. a presentation based on the 2023 James Zimmerman book, "The Peking Express: The Bandits Who Stole a Train, Stunned the West, and Broke the Republic of China." 5:30pm in the Community Room at the Seaside Library.

### HAPPENING

Winter Waters X The Stephanie Inn: Beyond the Tides. A special pre-fixe dinner by Executive Chef Aaron Bedard featuring seaweed and local seafood. \$99 - \$149, 6 - 8:30pm at the Stephanie Inn in Cannon Beach. winterwaterspnw.com/events/beyond-the-tide

## Friday 23

### MUSIC

Gabe Hess. R&B, Country. 7 - 9pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.

Richard T. and Dave Quinton. Blues/Folk/Rock 7-9pm. \$5. Other Brother's in Cannon Beach

### THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Fisherpoets Gathering. A celebration of the commercial fishing industry in poetry, prose and song. \$20 event button required for entry. At multiple locations in Astoria. fisherpoets.org

### HAPPENING

Fridays in Lent. Contemplative music with optional self-guided Stations of the Cross. With Jennifer Goodenberger, piano. Noon - 1pm at Grace Episcopal Church in Astoria.

## Saturday 24

### MUSIC

The Yard Dogs. Rock and originals, 3 piece on guitar, harmonica, and drums. 10pm -midnight. The Workers Tavern in Astoria.

Ronnie Carrier. Folk Rock. 7 - 9pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.

Jeremy James Meyer. No cover, 7pm at the Sou'wester Lodge in Seaview.

Rose Gerber. 7-9pm. \$5. Other Brother's in Cannon Beach

### ART

Tillamook Downtown District Art Walk. 1 - 3pm in Downtown Tillamook.

### LECTURE & LITERARY

NW Authors Series. With author Tove Danovich. Free, 2pm at the Cannon Beach Library.

### THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Fisherpoets Gathering. A celebration of the commercial fishing industry in poetry, prose and song. \$20 event button required for entry. At multiple locations in Astoria. fisherpoets.org

### HAPPENING

Sip-Wrecked: A Curated Cocktail Journey. Tailor-made cocktails and an array of small bites, plus presentations about area shipwrecks by local historians and interpreters. \$75, 5pm at the Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum in Ilwaco. Get tickets at fundraiser.bid.cphm.

Three Capes Marathon Relay. Run the 26.2-mile Three Capes Marathon Relay course in Tillamook County as a solo marathon, a two-person team, or a five-person team. The course begins in Capes Meares and finishes at the beach in Pacific City. \$85 - \$289, 8am - 5pm. FMI and registration, visit three-capesrelay.oregoncoastalfowers.com

## Sunday 25

### MUSIC

Idanha. No cover, 6pm in the Lovell Building at Fort George in Astoria.

### LECTURE & LITERARY

Oregon Legacy Literary Series. With Jerry Sutherland. 3pm at the Driftwood Public Library in Lincoln City.

## Wednesday 28

### HAPPENING

Winter Waters. A Celebration of Seaweed Sensations at the Bistro. \$, at The Bistro in Cannon Beach. Call (503) 436-2661for reservations.

## Thursday 29

### LECTURE & LITERARY

Forest Poets. NCCWP present readings from North Coast Poets inspired by and celebrating our temperate rainforest ecosystem. 6-pm. Doors open at 5pm for food and drink and mingling. Fort George Lovell Room in Astoria.

History and Hops Lecture Series. Presented by the Seaside Museum & Historical Society.

### HAPPENING

Winter Waters X CheZ Ramen Night. Featuring a vegan/gluten free option or an omnivore selection, with house-made noodles and seaweed. \$50, 5 - 8pm at CheZ in Seaside. Go to winterwaterspnw.com/events/chez-ramen-night for tickets.

Winter Waters. A Celebration of Seaweed Sensations at The Bistro in Cannon Beach.

Call (503) 436-2661for reservations.

## Friday 1

### LECTURE & LITERARY

Manzanita Writers Series Presents. Poet, Major Jackson, will read from his latest collection, Razzle Dazzle. \$30, 7:30 - 9pm at St Catherine's Episcopal Church in Nehalem.

### HAPPENING

Fridays in Lent. Contemplative music with optional self-guided Stations of the Cross. With Ray Utterback, organ. Noon - 1pm at Grace Episcopal Church in Astoria.

## Saturday 2

### MUSIC

Chelsea LaFey & The Salt Shakers. Swing. Free swing dance lesson @ 2pm & BBQ available for sale. \$15 cover, cash only. 3pm at Netel Grange near Astoria.

Live Music. No cover, 7pm at the Sou'wester Lodge in Seaview.

### ART

First Saturday Art Walk. 5 - 7pm in downtown Seaside.

### LECTURE & LITERARY

Solo Speak. Grownup Stories for Grownups with Shay Knorr. \$20, recommended for ages 16 +. 7:30pm at the Ten Fifteen Theater in Astoria.

Cloud & Leaf Bookstore 20th Anniversary. Champagne Shindig from 2pm to 6pm. Held under a large commercial tent in the parking lot, with visiting author's signing table, live music and cake. At Cloud & Leaf Bookstore in Manzanita.

## Sunday 3

### MUSIC

Live Music. No cover, 6pm in the Lovell Building at Fort George in Astoria.

JT Trawick. Bluegrass, Folk. 7 - 9pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.

### LECTURE & LITERARY

Solo Speak. Grownup Stories for Grownups with Shay Knorr. \$20, recommended for ages 16 +. 3:30pm at the Ten Fifteen Theater in Astoria.



## Meat Bingo Funder

SADDLE UP to the bar and get your vintage Bingo card, well warn from many a finger opening and closing . . . B53-G32-O69 and the like. The Workers continues its unique to the neighborhood Sunday meat groove-low-risk gambling pastime. Next Meat Bingo event, \$s go to the wonderful Wildlife Center of The North Coast.

Raffle items will be up for bid.

**Sunday, Feb 11, 6:30pm.**  
**At The Workers in Uniontown, Astoria.**



## THE FLATS

Brownsmead Flats stir up a bunch of harmonies and urge-you-to-sing-along favorites. Self-proclaimed "Crabgrass," you'll hear some great originals that have become "traditionals" in these parts, reflecting the experience of the Lower Columbia Pacific Region. Lots of string instruments played by all members, and front man Ned Heavenrich sweetly brings you home with his mellow voice and soulful harmonica.

**Catch 'em at the Naselle Community Center on Sunday, Feb 18 at 3pm. Refreshments follow the concert. Just a donation, to go the center. 14 Parpala Road, Naselle, WA.**



## Ollella

Classically trained on the cello, Seattle indie-folk musician Ollella merges her technical string background with authoritative vocals and live-looping. Described as "really outstanding" by NPR Music's Bob Boilen, she was a finalist for NPR's tiny Desk Concerts. Ollella finds herself drawn to music because it unlocks a particularly organic flavor of humanity - one that fits the type of world she believes in.

**Saturday, February 17, 7pm, No Cover, at Sou' Wester Lodge in Seaview**



# THEATRE/PERFORMANCE

## SHOOTING STAR The Ten Fifteen Theater through Feb 17

**SHOOTING STAR** by playwright Steven Dietz explores the woulda-coulda-shouldas that come with examining one's past relationships. This tender-hearted story of past love is perfect for fans of both traditional and nontraditional romance... just in time for Valentine's Day! This production marks the first of the community theater's new season and will play for three week-ends in their Downtown Astoria space.

### About the Show:

Snowed in overnight at a middle-America airport, college lovers Elena Carson and Reed McAllister have an unexpected and life-altering reunion. Elena has stayed true to her hippie-ish, counter-culture path, while Reed has gone predictably corporate and conservative. As the night gives way to laughter, banter, remembrance and alcohol, Elena and Reed revisit a past that holds more surprises than they imagined—and a present that neither of them could have predicted. Filled with laughter and ache, *Shooting Star*



Gigi Chadwick and John Darcy, reunion in an airport

is a bittersweet romantic comedy about the middle days of our lives, and how we got there.

Cast: Elena Carson - Gigi Chadwick, Reed McAllister - John Darcy. Directed by Danyelle Tinker

**Performances: February 2-3, 9-10 15-16, and 17 at 7:30pm. Feb 4 and 11 at 3:30pm. Tickets are \$25, and are available online at [www.thetenfifteen-theater.com](http://www.thetenfifteen-theater.com). The Ten Fifteen Theater is located at 1015 Commercial in Astoria.**

## PROOF at The Coaster through Feb 18



Toddy Adams and Cyndi Fisher are estranged sisters in PROOF

**IN PROOF** by David Auburn, on the eve of her twenty-fifth birthday, Catherine, a troubled young woman, has spent years caring for her brilliant but unstable father, a famous mathematician. Now, following his death, she must deal with her own volatile emotions; the arrival of

her estranged sister, Claire; and the attentions of Hal, a former student of her father's who hopes to find valuable work in the 103 notebooks that her father left behind. Over the long weekend that follows, a burgeoning romance and the discovery of a mysterious notebook draw Catherine into the most difficult problem of all: How much of her father's madness—or genius—will she inherit?

Directed by Mick Alderman.  
PROOF CAST: ROBERT - David Sweeney, CATHERINE - Toddy Adams, HAL - Jacob Merwin, CLAIRE - Cyndi Fisher.

**January 26 - February 18. Fri/Sat Performances begin at 7:30pm. Sunday shows start at 3pm. TICKETS: \$30 and \$25. Tickets available online, at the theatre box office or by calling 503-436-1242.**

## The Oyster Crackers at KALA Feb 16



### FOLK • CELTIC • AMERICANA • SWEET HARMONIES

KALA presents North Coast quartet, The Oyster Crackers, on Friday, Feb 16 at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$20. Available online at [kalaastoria.com](http://kalaastoria.com), and at the door. Doors open at 7pm.

The Oyster Crackers joyful harmonies and thoughtful folk songs will fill you with gladness and hope for a better world. Rita Smith, Christl Mack and Bette Lu Krause have been making music together since 2018 and Phyllis Taylor and her mello cello joined the group in 2021, when they recorded their first album, a collection of original songs called *Home Grown Pearls*. They have also recorded a collection called *Home Planet*.

The three singers accompany the music on guitar, fiddle and mandolin and offer a wide variety of original songs, covers and instrumental pieces. The band plays house concerts and small listening venues around the area, mostly near their homes on the Long Beach Peninsula.

This performance is a reschedule from January's icy cancellations.

**Friday, February 16 at 7pm, Doors open at 6:30pm. Tickets \$20. Online at [kalaastoria.com](http://kalaastoria.com), and at the door. 1017 Marine Dr. in Astoria. 503.338.4878**

## Spud & The Snake Skinners

GET INTO THE GROOVE, the Irish groove, when Spud Siegel and his Snake Skinners hit the stage at KALA. Mando wizard Spud teams up with premiere folk dance fiddler George Penk, hammer dulcimer extraordinaire Mick Doherty, and Sandy Bradley, known throughout the region as the host of NPR's live Seattle-based variety show *Sandy Bradley's Potluck*, and toured the world with many of the great traditional musicians of the last 50 years.

Spud Siegel's mandolin and carefree voice is also member of The Floating Glass Balls, Mary Flower and the BBQ Boys, the great Latin-influenced band Los Comotos, and longtime member of the Bond Street Blues Band, and numerous collaborations.

Ready yourself for some unstoppable, kick-ass string music!  
**Friday, March 8, 7:30pm. Doors open at 7pm. Tickets \$20, online at [kalaastoria.com](http://kalaastoria.com). 1017 Marine Dr. in Astoria. 503.338.4878**





## Fish Tales at AVA Gallery

EACH YEAR in late February Xtratufs become a common sight in Astoria as venues welcome fisher poets from coast to coast paying homage to the mighty salmon and the commercial fishing industry during the annual FisherPoets Gathering. Artists also pay homage to our friends with fins at Astoria Visual Arts including Fisherpoets artists who also lend their craft to the visual artists and regional artists working in all media including photography, print-

making, sculpture, carving, ceramics, painting, among others. "Fish Tales", the title of the community exhibit, opens during Artwalk on February 10 from noon to 8:00pm and will be on view through March 3.

**Astoria Visual Arts is located at 1000 Duane Street in Astoria is open Fridays through Sundays from 11:00am to 3:00pm, including additional hours during the FisherPoets Gathering. [www.astoriavisualarts.org](http://www.astoriavisualarts.org).**



Fish, Michelle Valigura, Basalt



Sarah Lippold, Fish print

## AVA ARTIST IN RESIDENCE Jeremy Furnish

AVA welcomes a new artist-in-residence, Jeremy Furnish, of Gearhart, who plans to use his residency to create illuminated found object work inspired by the love of storytelling through thoughtful visual arrangements & assemblage. Furnish will use primarily found objects to create a body of work that suggests a balance between nature and the modern world.



Furnish may be a known name for some, his public commissioned work can be seen on the Riverwalk in front of the Maritime Museum and in the form of large trees in the Seaside Convention Center. He was also a former recipient of the Coastal Oregon Artist Residency in 2019. This new residency experience is a chance for Furnish to create with the goal of producing a cohesive body of work more fitting for a regional gallery to help Furnish. The public can meet Furnish and see his progress over the 6-month residency, in his studio during upcoming Astoria Artwalks, January through June.



# FISH ART

## Duncan Berry

a beautiful and bizarre menagerie of deep sea creatures

RIVERSEA GALLERY presents Deep Dive, a solo show by Duncan Berry, whose eloquent gyotaku prints capture the rhythm of the sea. The exhibition opens on Saturday, February 10, during Astoria's Artwalk from 12:00 to 8:00. An evening reception with the artist in attendance is set for 5:00 to 8:00, with libations and refreshments, plus musicians John Orr and Clarence Robinson. The work will remain on view through March 5, 2024.

Berry is an Oregon Coast printmaker, photographer, poet, and environmental advocate who regularly performs at Astoria's annual Fisher Poets Gathering. **A special event and second reception for the artist will be held in the gallery on Saturday, February 24, from 2:30 to 4:30 during the Fisher Poets Gathering.** Surrounded by his art exhibition, Berry and a cohort of fellow fisher poets will perform their poems, sea shanties, and songs—poignant and hair-raising tales of the sea and the fisher folk who venture out upon its rough waters.

Inspired by life at the wild edge of the continent, Berry creates composite print impressions taken directly from the inked surface of ocean creatures and plants, a process known as gyotaku printmaking. His one-of-a-kind compositions, printed on mulberry paper and mounted on birch panels, are stirring depictions of sea life. In this collection, he takes us on an immersive journey into the mysterious underwater realm just off

our coastline. In addition to the familiar fish and marine life found near the surface, he includes expressive images of a beautiful and bizarre menagerie of ocean creatures that live beyond the reach of light, 5000 feet under the swell of the waves. The fantastical forms of these majestic denizens of the deep stoked the imagination of ancient seafarers to inspire myths, legends, and songs that live on today.

The UNESCO Biosphere Reserve at Cascade Head on the central Oregon coast is where Berry makes his home, viewing himself as one humble component of the interconnected web of life and natural elements in the surrounding environment.

Berry was raised on Clatsop Plains south of Astoria and worked on his brother's salmon troller out of the Columbia River as a teenager, becoming captain of the boat within a few years. Later, Berry spent several decades on Vashon Island, Washington, as an entrepreneur in numerous art and design businesses. Upon his return to Oregon in 2006, he formed a non-profit to protect a large swath of land near Cascade Head.

**RiverSea Gallery is open daily at 1160 Commercial Street in the heart of historic Astoria. For more information, call the gallery at 503-325-1270, or visit the website at [riverseagallery.com](http://riverseagallery.com).**



Pacific Octopus, 38x60



Winged Kelp and Baby Octopus, 78x21

## Corey Arnold Far From Home at IMOGEN

IN CONJUNCTION with the annual FisherPoets Gathering and in honor of the importance of the maritime industry to our region, IMOGEN presents the powerful photographic work of commercial fisherman and artist Corey Arnold. Arnold brings an incredible collection of large-scale photographic prints, narrating his work experiences in Alaska, both on the Bering Sea and Bristol Bay. His up close and intimate look at the working environment is an inspiration with a solid nod of respect to those who depend on the sea for livelihood. Far From Home opens during Astoria's Second Saturday Artwalk 12 - 8 pm, February 10 and will remain on view through March 4th.

Known for his high drama photographic imagery, Arnold has enjoyed a dual career, merging his love of the sea with his art. Respected internationally, he has fished, photographed, and exhibited his work around the world. His love of the sea and fishing began as a child, about the same time he first picked up a camera. What began as weekend family adventures quickly

became a permanent part of life. Arnold began fishing commercially in 1995 as a deckhand aboard various vessels and skiffs in Alaska. His career as a fine art photographer and fisherman has taken him far, both documenting and fishing the world's oceans. Despite his international success as a photographer, Arnold returns every summer to Bristol Bay, Alaska where he captains a skiff, fishing for salmon.

Arnold's work is without doubt a celebration of the lifestyle of the fisherman. Through his lens he captures the raw and rugged reality of hard work, with brutal and honest images that depict both danger and beauty, sometimes in the same moment. Arnold is not one, however, to overly romanticize, he is critically aware of the struggle of a rapidly changing global fishing industry. His photographic work runs deeper than capturing a way of life, he tackles environmental issues, food production and man's complex relationship to the natural world, all on a global level. Within this series, Far From Home, he considers the sacrifice that comes with the career, leading

to days, weeks even months away from home and loved ones.

Arnold, who graduated from the University of Art Academy in San Francisco has enjoyed a diverse and exciting career. His series Fish-Work was launched after receiving a commission from the PEW Charitable Foundation, taking him to Europe and photographing from aboard fishing vessels in eight European countries. He has also been awarded an American Scandinavian Foundation grant which led to the documentation of the work of fishermen in Northern Norway. His work has been exhibited worldwide, and published nationally. Arnold has published two books of photography "Fish-Work: The Bering Sea", and "Fishing with My Dad." and his work can be found in the permanent collection of the Portland Art Museum as well as many other private, corporate, and public collections.

**Imogen Gallery is located at 240 11th Street Hours: Thurs through Mon 11to 5pm and Sunday 11- 4, closed Tues- Wed 503.468.0620 [www.imogengallery.com](http://www.imogengallery.com) .**



Ben and King, 40x30, Chromira Print



## The Sea Monster Show at Made in Astoria

SEA MONSTER LORE has captured imaginations for hundreds of years and the group exhibit at Made in Astoria brings these stories to life. "Colossal Claude", the great Columbia Bar sea serpent, a metal sculpture by Dustin Nord, is one of many pieces featured in the exhibit, titled "The Sea Monster Show", opening February 10 during Astoria's Artwalk.

Colossal Claude was one of two named monsters sighted off the Oregon coast. First reported in 1934 by the crew of Columbia River Lightship near the Columbia River Bar, Claude was described as a 40-foot long animal with a horse-shaped head, an eight foot long neck, a big round body, and long tail.



Iris Douglas

their normal themes," shares Annie Eskelin, one of Made in Astoria's owners, "We're inviting the public to show their artwork for the first time since opening our space last summer. We're excited to see what folks come up with. It even prompted me to start working in the shop again, which was a needed nudge."

Others have been nudged as well. Most of the submissions are paintings along with a few sculptures and mixed media pieces.

See "The Sea Monster Show" at Made in Astoria February 10 through March 6 and meet some of the participating artists during Artwalk, February 10 from 3:00 to 6:00pm. Made in Astoria is located at 1269 Commercial Street, and is open Wednesday through Sunday from 12:00 to 5:00pm and 12:00 to 8:00pm during Artwalk. Visit [made-in-astoria.com](http://made-in-astoria.com) for more information.



Dustin Nord, Colossal Claude:

The crew reportedly watched Claude for hours with binoculars. Claude was seen again in 1937 by a fishing trawler and a few months later, a couple sighted a creature they described as looking like an "aquatic giraffe" near Devil's Churn near present day Yachats. Similar sightings occurred up until the 1960s, when folklore researchers believe Claude died along with the healthy salmon runs on the Columbia River.

The Sea Monster Show at Made in Astoria collectively celebrates two signature events happening during the exhibit, the FisherPoets Gathering and the Festival of the Dark Arts, which each bring art-lovers to Astoria in droves. "This is a chance for artists to play a little bit and brainstorm outside

## Trails End Member Exhibit

TRAILS END ART ASSOCIATION (TEAA) Gallery celebrates the beginning of 2024 with an ALL MEMBER EXHIBIT for the month of February featuring works by TEAA artist members.

The opening reception will be the First Saturday, February 3rd during the Gearhart ArtWalk, from 2:00 to 5:00pm. The exhibit will be available for viewing during regular Gallery hours, Friday, Saturday, Sundays, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm from February 2nd through February 25th 2024. Located at 656 A Street in Gearhart. [trailsend.org](http://trailsend.org) 503.717.9458



Throw the Ball, acrylic, Tj Lev

### Coastal Oregon Artist Residency • Call for Artists

RECOLOGY WESTERN OREGON and Astoria Visual Arts (AVA) announce the seventh round of the Coastal Oregon Artist Residency call for artists. Two selected artists will receive access to discarded materials from the Astoria Transfer Station, a stipend of \$1,000 per month for 4 months, studio space at Recology's Warrenton-based facility and, at the close of the residency, a public exhibition in Astoria. The deadline to apply is April 30, 2024.

#### Eligibility

Eligible candidates are career-level artists that work in any medium and reside in Clatsop, Columbia or Tillamook County in Oregon or Pacific or Wahkiakum County in Washington. Artists must reside within a general driving distance of one hour

from the Astoria Transfer Station. The four-month residency commences on June 1, 2023 and ends on September 30, 2023 with a public exhibition during Astoria's Artwalk in October. Previous COAR participants are not eligible to apply.

#### How to Apply

Artists must submit examples of their artwork and write an essay answering questions about their art practice. Applications must be received via email. The full prospectus which includes additional details on how to apply is located at [www.astoriavisualarts.org](http://www.astoriavisualarts.org). For questions about the residency, please contact Recology at [rwoeducationandoutreach@recology.com](mailto:rwoeducationandoutreach@recology.com).

## Au Naturel: The Nude in the 21st Century Exhibit Returns

CLATSOP COMMUNITY COLLEGE announces the return of Au Naturel: The Nude in the 21st Century. The exhibit will open for viewing on February 1 and run through March 14 at the Royal Nebeker Art Gallery located at 1799 Lexington Avenue, Astoria, OR. A special reception in honor of Henk Pander and celebrating the participating artists will be held on February 8 at the Royal Nebeker Gallery from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Gallery hours are from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. The gallery is open on Sundays and holidays by appointment only.

Founded in 2007, this showcase of artwork featuring the nude human form has been a significant platform for figurative artists working in drawing, painting, and printmaking media. This year's exhibit is dedicated to the memory of the late Henk Pander, who served as the most recent juror for the competition just before the lockdown.

This year's special edition pays tribute to Henk Pander, a revered artist who has been described as "an Oregon art giant." Originally from Haarlem, The Netherlands, Pander is represented in prestigious museums and collections across the globe, including the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam. Pander was a strong supporter of the Au Naturel and in addition to jurying the 2020 show, he won the first-place award in the 2017 Au Naturel, and was also an award-winning participant in the ninth annual Au Naturel in 2015. His legacy is marked by numerous accolades, including the Regional Arts and Cultural Council Visual Arts Fellowship, the State of Oregon Governor's Award for the Arts, awards in national competitions in the Netherlands, the Silver Medal in the Prix de Rome, and the Talens Prize, among others.

Rather than a juried competition, this year's show is an invitational and co-curated by Au Naturel Founding Director Kristin Shauck and Ghislaine Fremaux, Associate Professor of Art at Texas Tech University (TTU) in Lubbock, TX. Fremaux currently serves as Interim Director of the TTU School of Art. She holds her MFA from the Pennsylvania State University, conferred in 2012. Her work examines consent, aging, and inter- and intra-corporeal experiences through drawing, and has been exhibited nationally and internationally. Fremaux has undertaken interdisciplinary projects within sociology and medicine, and works in frequent collaboration with her partner, Lando Valdez.

In addition to Henk Pander, participating artists include Portland artists Arnold Pander, Elizabeth Malaska, Daniel Duford, Laura Ross Paul, Patrick Deshay, William Webster, and Buck Braden; local talents Robert Paulmenn, Roger Dorband, Paul Polson, Jordan Manchester, Penny Treat, Anna Lee Larimore, Drea Frost, and Carrie Williams (who has recently relocated to New Mexico); Seattle area artists Tom Jensen and Beth Kehoe; Texas artists Ghislaine Fremaux, Lando Valdez, Devin Ratheal, James W. Johnson, Josie Del Castillo, Shannon Cannings, and Chris Marin (now based in Louisiana).

The CCC Royal Nebeker Gallery is located at 1799 Lexington Avenue, the gallery welcomes visitors from 9am to 5pm on weekdays, and Saturdays from 11am - 4pm, Sundays and holidays by appt only. FMI: contact Kristin Shauck at 503-338-2472 or [kshauck@clatsopcc.edu](mailto:kshauck@clatsopcc.edu).



Ghislaine & Lando Fremaux-Valdez, Ablation 2020, Pastel on paper, 79x51

## LightBox The Photographic Nude 2024

JOIN LIGHTBOX for the opening Artists' Reception of "The Photographic Nude 2024", from 4-7pm on Saturday February 10th. Dedicated in memory of and to the creative spirit of Ruth Bernhard, this juried exhibit explores the artistic and creative view of the body and its form, celebrating the nude in photography by embracing a variety of styles. Michael Puff, a Guild at LightBox member juried The Photographic Nude 2024 in its 12th year.

Also on exhibit is work of The Guild at LightBox. Jody Miller, Julie Moore, Loren Nelson, Marc McVey, Jim Fitzgerald, Sam Blair, Michael Puff and Rachel Wolf make up the photographic artists that fill the LightBox upper galleries.

Please join LightBox for their 175th ArtWalk! 1045 Marine Dr. in Astoria [lightbox-photographic.com](http://lightbox-photographic.com) 503.468.0238.



Espen Aaroe, Still Standing



## Duane's Story



IN NOVEMBER, after 20 long months at the shelter, Duane was finally adopted. His surroundings went from shelter chaos to the calmness and gentleness of a home. He found a wonderful home with a great human and was finally able to lay on the couch, roll on a carpeted floor, watch cartoons on tv, even eat a slice of pizza once in a while. **Duane finally hit the jackpot!!!**

Unfortunately, Duane's human has unexpectedly been assigned a long-term

work project, requiring him to work long, unpredictable hours away from home. As such, the difficult decision to surrender Duane was made, with hopes of finding him a home that can offer more stability and time.

We are now looking for a foster or another forever home for Duane.

The foster/adopter will find Duane's needs are minimal. A quick walk around the yard for potty breaks, and a bed in front of the tv (he loves cartoons). He will thank his foster/adopter with pitty playfulness, kisses & hijinks.



### More about Duane:

- Approx. 6 year-old male Staffordshire Terrier mix
- Currently recovering from ACL surgery, and has a touch of arthritis, but responds well with medication

- Loves car rides and enjoys playing & chewing on his toys
- Very sociable, loves people
- DOES NOT LIKE cats or other small creatures
- May do well with dogs over 45 lbs with right introduction

Please contact SPCHS if you are interested in meeting Duane

**beachpets.com or 360-642-1180).**



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**503-861-7387**  
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## February Specials!

## word wisdom

FEBRUARY is known for two very special holidays, Groundhog Day and Valentine's Day... Both big in my world. Valentines Day is especially big in the retail world. Stores stock up on chocolate hearts, balloons, cards ... you name it, it can be found in red with a heart on it, "Here, honey, I got you this cute red mini-vac for the car— oh, and the red heart shows I really love you."

If you are in a relationship, you might anticipate some special showing of "love" or "really really like you." A symbolic token; candy, flowers, a romantic dinner. This special day is a commercial retailer's dream, from overpriced cutesy tee shirts to restaurants hosting overpriced special dinners.

Do I sound cynical? You betcha. I love romantic love. I've enjoyed my share of romantic love. I also know the early days of a budding relationship are precious, almost overrun with a flood of hormones and wishful dreaming. Love is

Blind. With time, common sense does return. The romantic hormonal high does not last forever. When days pass and opportunities for shows of love



pop up, real love clicks in as daily doses of "I'm thinking of you. I care for you. I miss you right now." It's human nature to seek connection and safety within a relationship... connection as in being understood and safety

in knowing that your connection is valued, treated like treasure.

People are pretty much wired in similar ways. We want love, connection, but on solid ground. There are ways into a deeper relationship and it usually happens organically. Share each other's interests—or at least respect and honor them. Be physically affectionate. Hold hands when walking together, be it along a moonlit river or in the supermarket. Maintain courteous behaviors. Treat the one you love as well or better than you would a stranger. Be helpful. Lighten each other's load. Pay attention. Talk about emotional states; excitement, depression, anxiety. Talk and share. Love is not a one-day special event.

Make everyday special—pick a daisy, buy a Hershey bar, make blueberry pancakes. Make it real.

**Tobi Nason is a Warrenton counselor, available for appointments (503) 440-0587.**

By Tobi Nason



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## FLASH CUTS

MOVIES & MUSINGS

THEATRICAL / STREAMING RELEASES FEB '24

BY LES KANEKUNI

### ARGYLLE (FEB. 2)

After 10 years of helming the Kingsmen spy series, director Matthew Vaughan shifts his gaze to the female perspective. At first glance, Argylle appears no different than any other spy spoof. Unflappable, nattily-dressed spy Agent Argylle (Henry Cavill) on assignment in Greece has discovered an organization of rogue agents named the Division. Argylle meets his antagonist Lagrange (Dua Lipa) on the dance floor, with dance moves quickly replaced by a fight and a chase with Argylle pursuing Lagrange on a motorcycle. All is quickly revealed to be a fiction created by spy novelist Elly Conway (Bryce Dallas Howard) who lives a quiet life with her cat in Colorado. Everything changes on a train trip to visit her parents. Onboard the Amtrak train, Elly meets bearded stranger Aidan (Sam Rockwell), who after telling Elly he's a fan of her work, reveals he's a real spy. Immediately, Aidan fights off nearly every passenger on the train before informing Elly that her books are so accurate that actual rogue agents have been sent to kill her.

**ORION AND THE DARK (FEB. 2 NETFLIX)** Children's animation with out of left field writing choice Charlie Kaufman (*Adaptation*) tells the story of Orion (Jacob Tremblay), a shy fifth-grader with an inordinate number of fears, from the generic – fear of girls, fear of bullies, fear of letting down his team – to the specific – fear of clowns hiding in gutters (thanks to Stephen King). But the one overriding fear Orion has is his fear of the dark. Or Dark (Paul Walter Hauser),



as his fear becomes personified one night when the big, black monster visits. But Dark, although loud and brash, is a friendly presence who tries to help Orion get over his fear. To this end,

Dark introduces Orion to the Night Entities, to explain to him what happens when the lights go out. There's Dreams (Angela Bassett), Sleep (Natasia Demetriou), obnoxious Insomnia (Nat Faxon), scary Unexplained Noises (Golda Rosheuvel), and reassuring Quiet (Aparna Nancherla). Then there's Dark's nemesis, good-looking Light (Ike Barinhaltz), who's as self-assured as Dark is insecure. Dark, it turns out, is worried he's not liked because so many people are afraid of him.

**MADAME WEB (FEB. 14)** In this Marvel character origin story, Dakota Johnson plays Cassandra Webb, a New York paramedic who may have clairvoyant powers that allow her to see into the future and the related spider world. After a near-death accident on the job, Webb begins to experience visions that she believes are scenes from the future. Webb teams up with three women she's crossed paths with – Julia Cornwall (Sydney Sweeney), Mattie Franklin (Celeste O'Connor) and Anya Corazon (Isabela Merced). The women share something in common – all four have important futures that they aren't aware of. They are pursued by Ezekiel Sims (Tahar Rahim), who wears a black Spider-Man suit and appears to also have the ability to see the future. Sims had previously accompanied Webb's mother on a spider research trip into the Amazon, where she mysteriously died, and is now after the three women who can potentially become Spider-Woman in the future.

**DRIVE-AWAY DOLLS (FEB. 23)** Ethan Coen of the Coen brothers directs solo for the first time. Completely different in tone from brother Joel's *The Tragedy of Macbeth*, *Drove-Away Dolls* is a humorous lesbian road crime movie with a loud soundtrack and louder characters that harkens back to '80s Coen brothers movies. Film is actually a collaboration with Coen's wife and editor Tricia Cooke. Their 30-year marriage is self-described as "unconventional" since Cooke has identified as a lesbian since she was a teenager. "Neither of us was going to make a mopey lesbian movie, not being capable of that," Coen told Empire. "There are movies about the pain of being gay. That can be a good movie or a bad movie, like any other, but that is



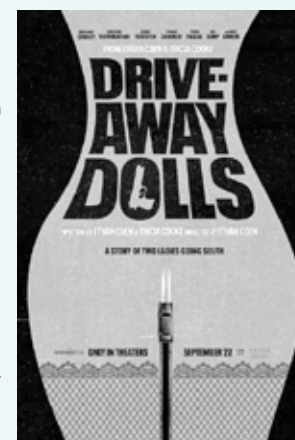
not something we were going to do." Film stars Margaret Qualley, who plays Jamie, an uninhibited free spirit bemoaning yet another breakup with a girlfriend, and her demure friend Marian (Geraldine Viswanathan), who desperately needs to loosen up. In search of a fresh start, the tow embark on an improbable road trip to Tallahassee, but things go quickly awry when the cross paths with a group of inept criminals along the way.

### FEUD: CAPOTE VS. THE SWANS

**(FEB. 1 HULU)** Seven years after the release of season 1, Ryan Murphy returns with another social war, this one between famous author Truman Capote and the group of New York socialites known as the Swans. After writing *Breakfast at Tiffany's* and *In Cold Blood*, Capote was a literary spent force and spent most of his time entertaining and socializing with upper crust society. "That's how I pay my rent now," he says. "It's not through writing. It's through being a persona." Capote keeps company with Babe Paley (Naomi Watts), wife of CBS executive William Paley, Slim Keith (Diane Lane) ex-wife of Hollywood director Howard Hawks, Lee Radziwell (Calista Flockheart), sister of Jacqueline Kennedy, and Joanne Carson (Molly Ringwald) ex-wife of Johnny

Carson. The group hold court together over champagne, soufflés and gossip. Capote's nickname for the women is based on the enormous effort required to maintain their perfect facades, like a duck paddling its feet underwater. He's closest to Paley who finds in Capote someone who can give her emotional intimacy that she can't get from her philandering husband. "The only person who could really hurt me is you," she says. Shortly afterward, Capote stabs the women in the back when he publishes *La*

*Côte Basque, 1965*, a short story in *Esquire* magazine skewering their thinly-disguised characters. The women band together and vow to destroy Capote by banning him from high society, something they believe will kill him.





# FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

© Copyright 2024 Rob Breznsy

h	r	♂	♂	☉	♂	♂	♂
11°	6'	27°	7'	15°	54'	0°	48'

## FEBRUARY 2024

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): “Happiness” is an amorphous term with a different meaning for everyone. What makes me feel happy may be unlike what works for you. Besides that, any kind of perfect happiness is impossible to achieve. However we define it, we are always a mix of being happy and unhappy. Nevertheless, I invite you to ruminate about the subject in the coming days. I believe you are primed to arrive at a realistic new understanding of your personal version of happiness—and raise your happiness levels by at least 15 percent. Maybe more! Now here are helpful clues from philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche: “Precisely the least thing, the gentlest, lightest thing, the rustling of a lizard, a breath, a whisk, a twinkling of the eye—what’s little makes up the quality of the best happiness. Soft!”

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): I invite you to take an inventory of your taboos, inhibitions, and restrictions. Meditate on why you originally adopted them. Evaluate how well they have served you and whether they are still meaningful. If you find any of them have become unnecessary or even injurious, jettison them. And be excited and happy about being free of them. If you decide that some taboos, inhibitions, and restrictions are still wise for you to maintain, thank them for their service and honor the self-protection they provide.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Gemini novelist Gregory Maguire says there are a “thousand ways people shrink from life, as if chance and change are by their nature toxic and disfiguring.” Your assignment in the coming weeks is to contradict this theory. I’m hoping you will interpret all chance and change as potentially expansive, redemptive, and interesting. You will never shrink from life, but will boldly meet challenges and embrace twists of fate as interesting opportunities. I have abundant faith in your ability to carry out this vigorous project!

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): You could be a masterful eliminator of toxins and wastes in the coming weeks. Do it both for yourself and for those you care about. Start by purging nonessentials that obstruct the flow of the good life. These might include defunct fantasies, mistaken understandings, apathetic attitudes, and unloving approaches. Among the other dross or dreck you could root out is any clutter that’s making familiar environments feel oppressive. By the way, fellow Cancerian, this should be .fun. If it’s not, you’re doing it wrong.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): My goals right now are to inspire you in the following three ways: 1. to be full of love for your daily life; 2. to adore yourself exactly as you are; 3. to shed any numbness or boredom you feel and replace them with alert aliveness. To help you in this exalted effort, I offer the inspiration of three quotes. 1. “The invariable mark of wisdom is to see the miraculous in the common.” –Ralph Waldo Emerson. 2. “The universe is full of magical things patiently waiting for our wits to grow sharper.” –Eden Phillpotts. 3. “I have the mysterious feeling of seeing for the first time something I have always known.” –Bernardo Bertolucci.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): In the coming weeks, I hope you avoid sucking up to egotistical manipulators. Please also refrain from being an unappreciated beast of burden and a half-willing pawn in boring games. If you are interested in paying off karmic debts, make sure they are yours, not anyone else’s. If you plan to work hard to lay the foundation for a future liberation, get a guarantee that YOU will be one of the liberated people. PS: I’m fine with you doing unselfish things as long as they will also have selfish benefits.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): One of the great maladies affecting modern people is the atrophy of the soul. It’s related to another affliction: the apathy of the soul. A key contributor to these misfortunes is the entertainment industry. Its shallow and artificial stimulants are engineered to overfeed our egos, leaving our poor

souls malnourished. Please note that I have no problem with our egos. They are an important part of our make-up and are essential for healthy functioning. But it’s a shame they hog all the glory and sustenance. Now here’s my climactic message for you, Libra: It’s high time to celebrate a holiday I call Nurture the Soul. Make it last at least three weeks. Homework: Identify three actions you will take to excite, cherish, and enhance your soul.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): In myth and legend, pregnancies don’t always begin with two humans having sexual communion. The well-known story of the Virgin Mary tells us she was impregnated when the Holy Spirit, disguised as a dove, whispered in her ear. The Roman goddess Juno conceived her son Mars solely with the help of an enchanted lily flower. The Greek hero Attis germinated inside his virgin mother Nana after she placed a pomegranate in her lap. This might sound outlandish, but I foresee you having a metaphorically comparable experience. Do you believe in the possibility of being fertilized by miraculous magic or a divine spirit? Might you be dramatically awakened or inspired by a very subtle influence? I think it will happen even if you don’t believe.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Sagittarian computer scientist Grace Hopper (1906–1992) wrote, “The most damaging phrase in the language is: ‘It’s always been done that way.’” I will expand on that wisdom. The most obvious meaning is that we risk ignoring our individualized needs and suppressing our creative inspirations if we mindlessly conform to the habits of society. But it’s equally important not to mindlessly repeat our own longstanding ways of doing things. Maybe they were brilliant and appropriate in the past, but there’s no guarantee they will always be so. In conclusion, Sagittarius, I recommend you rebel against your own personal “it’s always been done that way” as well as everyone else’s.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Being in love is as desirable for you Capricorns as it is for everyone else. You may be less open and dramatic than the rest of us in expressing your yearnings, but they are still a driving force. Here’s an important point: Even if you are not constantly chattering to others about your urges to give and receive intimate care, it’s crucial that you acknowledge them to yourself. To keep your soul healthy, you must be in close touch with this core fuel. You must love your need for love. Now is an excellent time to deepen your appreciation for these truths.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): It’s the fifth annual Brag Therapy Holiday—for you Aquarians only. During this celebration, we expect you—indeed we want you—to boast with panache. Tell us all in exquisite detail why you are such a marvelous creation. Explain how you have overcome seemingly insurmountable odds to transform yourself into a masterpiece of intuitive intelligence. Regale us with stories of your winsome qualities, your heroic triumphs, and your hilarious and poignant adventures on the edge of reality. Make sure we understand how educational and healing it can be to bask in your influence. Show us why we should regard you as a role model.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): I invite you to resolve old business, draw unrewarding projects to a close, and finish your lessons at the School of Tough Love. You don’t have to carry out my next proposal, but if you do, I will be glad: Politely and quietly scream, “Get out of my life” at anyone who doesn’t give you the respect and kindness you deserve. I also recommend that you do a Wrap-It-Up Ritual. Start by making an altar that pleases you with its beauty. Take scraps of paper and write on each one a description of an influence or experience you want to purge from your life. As you rip each scrap into bits, say this: “I’m grateful for what I have learned from you, but now I am leaving you behind.”

## TELE AADSEN

### I Whisper Anyway

The new-penny scent of king salmon is heavy in the air as I slide beneath gill plates, slicing feathery tissue so unlike my own lungs. We die the same, in crimson bursts from busted pipes. Blood pools around her body as I trace a finger down the amethyst lateral line. My glove leaves a trail of flat aluminum, her color already fading like a dream.

“Thank you.” I whisper this knowing it doesn’t matter. Speaking sweet to salmon in the water, thanking them in the boat: these are rituals ridiculous to many of my colleagues, and to me, too, sometimes. This fish is dead by my hand, with many more to follow. I whisper anyway. Even as we make our living taking these lives, I want to always remember a salmon’s value is not its price per pound. Salmon are more than a commodity: they are silver-robed ambassadors of home and hope, risk and return. They are ancestors shared across cultures, linking sea and land; the matchmaking elders who bring so many of us together. They are gods creating and sustaining us, one fish at a time.

Selection from *I Sing The Salmon Home*, Poems from Washington State, edited by Rena Priest, published by Empty Bowl Press

Tele Aadsen is a writer, commercial fisherman, and fishmonger. She lives ocean-summers as a thankful guest on the waters of Lingit Aani, Southeast Alaska, aboard the F/V Nerka with partner Joel Brady-Power, and land-winters in the Coast Salish territory of Bow, Washington. She self-markets their catch through Nerka Sea-Frozen Salmon, performs annually at the FisherPoets Gathering. A collection of her essays, “What Water Holds” was published by Empty Bowl Press in 2023.

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## Liberatory Love

ISN'T IT WEIRD that Valentine's Day, a holiday dedicated to romantic love, chocolate, and skimpy satin underthings, is named after a martyr? Yet when you consider the matter, it's not surprising because suffering is so prominent in the popular image of love. Just recall a song from *Into The Woods*, where several fairy-tail princes compete over whose wounds of love sting the most: "Agony, far more painful than yours!" This idea of love as martyrdom might be intuitive during adolescence, when we feel like we're about to expire because our love interest hasn't even glanced our way, but it's not a healthy model for any relationship. It perpetuates unkind and even abusive behaviors and encourages loved ones to endure wrongdoing instead of to demand change or end the relationship.

This is not to say that love never hurts. Whenever my son is sad, his pain feels like my own. One of my most heartbreaking experiences was watching my father, who was a brilliant and dryly humorous man, gradually unravel with parkinsonian dementia. But there's a difference between the pain we feel as a result of empathy with our loved ones and pain that's inflicted and then buried, forgiven without repentance and reconciliation, or ignored because "that's just the way they are." In love relationships, we deeply know and are deeply known. This produces the possibility of being injured in ways

that no acquaintance can inflict. And some family members, friends, or lovers act as if as long as those who love them understand them and the sources of their misbehavior, there's no need for that person to change the behavior.



I have a family member who worked hard to be cordial all day at work and relished the opportunity to get home and "let it all hang out," not by reading or vegetating in front of the TV but by expressing herself freely...that is, yelling at everyone else. After all, we were family and were supposed to forgive her, right? She'd absorbed that awful tagline from a sappy movie in the 1970s: "Love means never having to say you're sorry." Well, that's a setup for gaslighting and abuse if there ever was one!

This Valentine's Day, I invite you to explore whether you're receiving the love you deserve, and that includes from yourself. The eminent poet and activist Audre Lorde famously declared, "Caring for myself is not self-indulgence. It is self-preservation, and that is an act of political warfare." In loving oneself, we demand respectful treatment from others. In loving oneself, we recognize our own sufficiency; we don't need to rely on others to complete us (and these relationships of dependency all too easily become harmful to us). Self-love honors our inherent dignity, especially for people who are marginalized and disrespected in this society. When you love yourself truly and fiercely—not just in the sense of taking a bubble bath, although that is cool too—you'll attract other people who have the capacity to be true friends. I don't mean this in a New Agey way, like "think about abundance and you'll become wealthy." It's both plainer and more wonderful than that: when you love yourself, you don't take others' manure, and you won't settle for Cupid-style love that seems glorious on the movie screen but does, after all, involve being pierced by arrows. And what self-respecting person wants to be a target?

So enjoy those kisses (whether from another human or your faithful animal companions, who love you unconditionally) and the butt-kicking right to be met in love as an equal.

## Special Olympics Polar Plunge February 17 Join the Team



ON FEBRUARY 17, participants with Special Olympics Clatsop County will take the Polar Plunge at Coffenberry Lake at Fort Stevens in Warrenton at 1pm. YOU can sign up to plunge, and you can help support this event. Your financial donation will provide local athletes with access to sports, activities, and community. Folks of all ages take the plunge, from 7 to 70. You may also be supporting a loved one to brave the winter waters.

The vision of special Olympics is to help bring persons with intellectual disabilities into the larger society under conditions whereby they are respected and included. The mission of Special Olympics, Oregon is to provide year-round, sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic type sports for children and adults with disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other special Olympic athletes, and the community.

The programs are free to all eligible athletes and are possible thanks to the generous support from individuals and businesses, who believe in special Olympic athletes. The financial support raised by this polar plunge will go primarily to fund out-of-town transportation to competitions and events.

**Again, all proceeds stay in Clatsop county. Donate, or register to plunge at [www.soor.org/clatsop](http://www.soor.org/clatsop)**

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## FOOD GROOVE

I'M COLD. I was cold before the January snow and ice. I'm still cold in the rain and wind. If I lived in Colorado or Minnesota or upstate New York, I would win the "Biggest Whiner" trophy when it comes to complaining about the weather. Hands down. Actually, if that were to come to pass, I would hope that instead of a trophy, the prize was a one-way ticket to somewhere else. I plan to never live in any of those places, those cold, cold places.

I am an Oregonian, born and bred. I grew up east of the Coast Range and West of the Cascades. I love it here for all the obvious reasons. We've got the mountains, the rivers, the Pacific Ocean and, theoretically, the weather. Here on the upper left edge we are solidly in the temperate zone. I'm not ignorant of the overwhelmingly positive reasons to live here. I'm just cold. I would prefer scouting out another pair of socks to spending time discussing the finer points of paradise.

I am grateful every day for my warm house, my hot shower, my fully functional kitchen.

I'm grateful to be able to pre-heat the oven or turn on the burners and put the whole business to cooking up meals for my husband and warmth, precious warmth. for me. I will never complain about

cooking in February. That's an August job.

Recently, I revisited one of my favorite soul warming meals. The 40 Cloves Chicken recipe by Ina Garten is my go to but there are many versions out there from umpteen other chefs, so take your pick. All of them descendants of an age old Provencal dish. Legend has it that James Beard was the one who substituted the often specified four heads of garlic with the specific number forty. I don't think it has made much difference to the results and as Julia Child once said, "40 Cloves of Garlic May Not Be Enough."

If ancient garlic lore is to be believed, more is better. Long a symbol of courage and strength, garlic has been credited in Korean folklore with repelling tigers and keeping bloodsucking vampires, devils, werewolves and the 'evil eye' at bay according to European lore. Heck, garlic was used by Odysseus to keep the sorceress Circe from turning him and his men into pigs! So...

The average consumption of garlic is around 2 pounds a year for each of us. Obviously, that's enough to keep the whole blood-sucking vampires/devils/werewolves thing under control. Keep up the good work!



### CHEW ON THIS!

by Merianne Myers



### EVIL BE GONE 40 CLOVES CHICKEN

Based on Ina Garten's recipe and tweaked relentlessly by me

3 whole heads garlic or at least 40 cloves, I never count  
1 whole 3 - 4 lb chicken cut into pieces or an equal weight of bone-in, skin on pieces of your choice. I use thighs.

1 Tablespoon unsalted butter  
2 Tablespoons olive oil  
3 Tablespoons Cognac or other brandy  
1 1/2 cups dry white wine  
1 Tablespoon fresh thyme leaves  
2 Tablespoons all-purpose flour  
2 Tablespoons heavy cream  
Salt & Pepper

Separate the cloves of garlic and drop them into a pot of boiling water for 60 seconds. Drain the garlic and peel. Set aside.

Dry the chicken. Season both sides with salt and pepper. Heat the butter and oil in a large pot or Dutch oven over medium-high heat. In batches, sauté the chicken in the fat, skin side down first, until nicely browned, about 3 to 5 minutes on each side. Turn with tongs or a spatula; you don't want to pierce the skin with a fork. If the fat is burning, turn the heat down to medium. When a batch is done, transfer it to a plate and continue to sauté the remaining chicken. Remove the last of the chicken to the plate and add all of the garlic to the pot. Lower the heat and sauté for 5 to 10 minutes, turning often, until evenly browned. Add 2 Tablespoons of the Cognac and the wine, return to a boil, and scrape the brown bits from the bottom of the pan. Return the chicken to the pot with the juices and sprinkle with the thyme leaves. Cover and simmer over the lowest heat for about 30 minutes, until all the chicken is done.

Remove the chicken to a platter and cover to keep warm. Whisk together 1/2 cup of the sauce and the flour and then whisk it back into the sauce in the pot. Raise the heat, add the remaining Tablespoon of Cognac and the cream, and boil for 3 minutes. Add salt and pepper to taste. Pour the sauce and garlic over the chicken and serve hot.

I always pair this with mashed potatoes and a warm baguette because the gravy is stupendously yummy.

If you want to double down on your safety and well-being, serve it with a nice, garlicky Caesar salad.

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## The Architect Hound

### US Bank/Warrenton Public Library

THIS MONTH, the Architect Hound wandered west of town to take a look at a former bank building in Warrenton, which today is the Warrenton Public Library at 160 South Main Avenue. At first glance the building looks like hundreds of other single-story office buildings built in the 1950s and 1960s that are found across the country in suburban shopping centers. These are the typical low-slung, minimalist commercial buildings often identifiable by plate glass windows, exposed beams and decorative limestone veneer. The Architect Hound is definitely a 'baby boomer' and has only slowly come

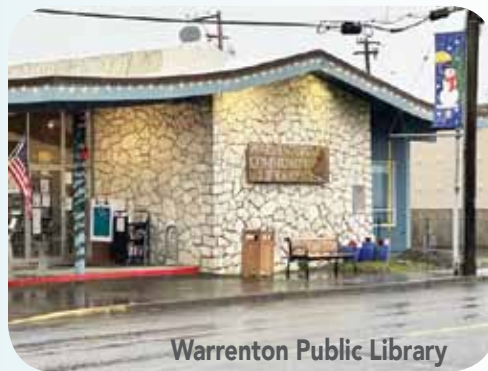


Interior - features glulam beams

to recognize the charm and beauty of some MCM (Mid-Century-Modern) architecture; roughly defined by popular styles from the end of WWII to the mid-1970s.

The current Warrenton Public Library was completed in 1965 as the Warrenton branch of the US Bank system. US National Bank of Oregon was established in Portland in the 1890s and had branch banks all over Oregon. US Bank corporation is now headquartered in Minnesota and has hundreds of branch banks, mostly in the Midwest and West.

The architecture of the former Warrenton branch bank has several of the previously mentioned MCM attributes as well as a low-pitched front-gabled roof, overhanging eaves and glu-lam beams. The exterior remains mostly intact in spite of the building being repurposed earlier for a restaurant and its current use as the Warrenton Public



Warrenton Public Library

By Eric Wheeler

Library. There are a few details that reflect the building's original use as a bank. What looks like a small, boxy addition on the east end of the building was a drive-up window and one can still spot the after-hours deposit slot that is now covered by a metal plate. Inside the library, the original laminated beams are exposed and the bank vault (with vault door) has been converted into a reading nook for teens. An interesting regional touch is the covered walkway along the north wall of the building. This building is architecturally significant and a contributor to the historic character of Warrenton.

The architect of the original bank building is Eino Isaacson (1908-1974) who grew up in the Astor Court neighborhood and graduated



The cozy bank vault reading room.

from Astoria High School in 1926. He graduated from the U of O school of architecture in 1931 and worked under noted Astoria architect John Wicks through the 1930s. He opened his own practice in Astoria in 1940. Isaacson's designs from the late 1940s include the Rambeau Motors Building (1946) now Lower Columbia Bowl, and the Nash Auto Company (1946) now the Astoria Senior Center. Both of these buildings show a Streamlined / Art Moderne appearance that anticipated the 'less is more' minimalism of the 1950s. Isaacson's US Bank building in Warrenton shows his facility with MCM motifs, including the rustic light-colored stone exterior on the Main Street facade. This defining element is likely Palos Verde Stone quarried in California and seen on many mid-century commercial buildings on the West Coast.

So....Dear Reader, would you like to see more MCM buildings spotlighted by the Architect Hound?

Contact the Archetect Hound: [ericwheeler2@gmail.com](mailto:ericwheeler2@gmail.com)

## Spread The Love Astoria

ASTORIA UPPERTOWN BUSINESS Association celebrates the month of February with its creative campaign SPREAD THE LOVE ASTORIA. Lots of fun ways to connect the love dots!

Look for the 50 BRIGHT NEON PINK HEARTS in business windows, leave a hand-written valentine for your favorite business or service in their decorated valentine counter mailbox, write a HAIKU and read it on the Love Line@503.228.1913 for a chance to win a fun surprise, take a photo with the giant wooden heart on Pier 39 while visiting shops and eateries, and send your love an instagram with #SpreadTheLoveAstoria.

**FEBRUARY 10 FROM 1-6PM, LOVE ON PIER 39** is back for year #3! 30 Artisans and makers. Plus food vendors: Olebob Seafood, Lily Rose Café, Astoria Coffee Girl, and drinks by Kingtide Mobile Beverage Co., Buddha Cat Wine, The Vineside, and Rogue Ales.

**Music by Barbara Anne from 2-4pm, and DJ Schmeazy from 4-6pm.**

And last but not least, add your personalized token of affection on Astoria Pier 39 LOVE LOCK Dock. Lock kits available at Mess Hall Market, Coffee Girl, Vineside Wine Bar and the Astoria-Warrenton Chamber Visitor Center.

Spread The Love Columbia Pacific People !!!!!



Pier 39 LOVE LOCK Dock

## Nordic Winter Market at Suomi Hall

A NEW THING!!! Suomi Hall in Uniontown, Astoria will host a Nordic Market this February, featuring Nordic vintage collectibles, Scandinavian designed creations, arts and crafts, outstanding paintings by local artists, jewelry, pottery and baked goods. In addition, a White Elephant table of treasures.

**Saturday, Feb 17, The market kicks off with a traditional Finnish Pannukaku Breakfast; pannukaku, fruit, sausage and coffee served from 10am to 1pm. \$12. 244 W. Marine Drive in Astoria**

## Tea By The Sea

TEA BY THE SEA, a Valentine's afternoon tea event takes place at the Benjamin Young Inn. Soup course, pastries, live music and house tour. The BYI recently changed hands and was purchased by Trudy Van Dusen, so it's a chance to see inside.

**Saturday, Feb 10, 1-4pm. Tickets are \$55 online at [valentineteaastoria.eventbrite.com](http://valentineteaastoria.eventbrite.com). The BJY is located at 3652 Duane St. n Astoria.**



## APPLY NOW to vend at the Astoria Sunday Market

THE ASTORIA SUNDAY MARKET (ASM) a grower/producer/maker market is currently looking for Farmers, Ranchers, Fisherpeople, Food Producers, Artists, Artisans and other Vendors for the 2024 Season. All growers and producers will be considered including but not limited to: vegetables and fruit, meat, seafood, cheese and other dairy, baked goods, preserved foods, prepared foods, on-site foods, and herbal/medicinal preparations. Artists and artisans of all types are also considered

Interested in applying? ASM is a locally focused growers/makers only farmers market. All prepared food and on-site food vendors are encouraged to include local ingredients, that can be traced back to the producer, in

their products. All vendors must be the original producer/maker of all items sold and must produce those items in Oregon or Washington. The closer to Astoria the better. If you fit these criteria, you will find guidelines and application on the website:

**[www.astoriasundaymarket.com/sell-with-us](http://www.astoriasundaymarket.com/sell-with-us)**

Applications will be taken online through Manage My Market only. Submit your application soon – **The deadline for applications is Sunday, March 10, 5pm.** Applications received by March 10 will be reviewed by a jury committee promptly. Applicants will be notified of their denial or approval in late March. Applications will close after March 10th and will only re-open if more vendors are needed.





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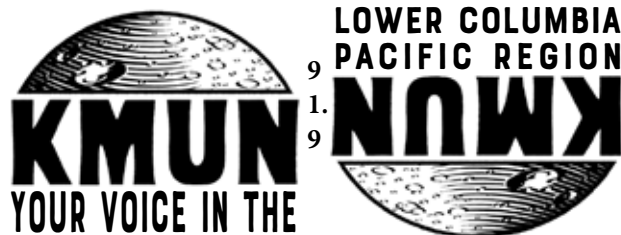


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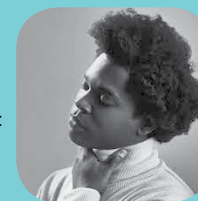
- Chance Hayden's Baritone Gold
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