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FRAMEWORK PANEL #19 *The Art of Organizing – Artist Developed Models of Creative Engagement*

Monday, April 28
6:30 – 8pm
American University's Katzen Auditorium
Attendance is FREE!



Transformer continues our ongoing *FRAMEWORK Panel Series* with **FRAMEWORK Panel #19: *The Art of Organizing – Artist Developed Models of Creative Engagement***. This panel will profile a diverse range of artists' organizing models for creative engagement from across the country, and how these models influence the founders/organizers artistic practice (and/or vice versa - how artistic practices have informed organizing models). Panelists include: **Kenneth Bailey**, The Design Studio for Social Intervention (Boston, MA); **Kristina Bilonick**, Pleasant Plains Workshop (Washington, DC); **Laura Hyatt**, LAND, (Los Angeles, CA); **Colin Kloecker**, Works Progress (Minneapolis, MN); and **George Scheer**, Elsewhere (Greensboro, NC). The panel will be moderated by **Tim Doud**, Associate Professor of Art and Visiting Artist Program Coordinator, Studio Art Program in the Department of Art, American University (Washington, DC) and **Victoria Reis**, Co-Founder, Executive & Artistic Director, Transformer (Washington, DC).

Launched in December 2002, **Transformer's FRAMEWORK Panel Series** engages DC, national, and internationally based artists, arts professionals, cultural leaders, and DC audiences in conversation to create an oral 'field guide' to encourage and support individual emerging artists in our community, and to educate audiences through the sharing of best practices within the contemporary visual arts. *FRAMEWORK* Panels are presented 2-3 times per year in collaboration with a broad range of educational & cultural institution partners. **Transformer's 2013/14 FRAMEWORK Panel Series** is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts' *Access to Artistic Excellence* grant, "to encourage and support artistic excellence, preserve our cultural heritage, and provide access to the arts for all Americans."

FRAMEWORK Panel #19: *The Art of Organizing – Artist Developed Models of Creative Engagement* marks the launch of a new partnership between Transformer and AU's Studio Art Program in the Department of Art. Transformer's 11th Annual Silent Auction will take place at American University's Katzen Arts Center November 22, 2014. In 2015, Transformer in collaboration with American University's Studio Art Program in the Department of Art, will present the first of four *Platforms* exhibitions – a two-year, four exhibition series to be presented at American University's Katzen Art Center that will further highlight models being discussed in this panel. The discussion will be recorded.

ABOUT THE PANELISTS:

Kenneth Bailey is the Sector Organizing and Strategy Lead at The Design Studio for Social Intervention. (<http://ds4si.org/approach/>) The Design Studio for Social Intervention (DS4SI) is dedicated to changing how social justice is imagined, developed and deployed here in the United States. We are creating a design studio for

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the progressive arm of the nonprofit sector in order to support the sector's ability to create new forms of effective social intervention and the exploration of new ways to be interventionists.

Kristina Bilonick is an artist, arts administrator and entrepreneur. In 2010 she founded Pleasant Plains Workshop, (<http://pleasantplainsworkshop.com>) an arts incubator with a gallery & shop that showcases works by PPW resident artists as well as other DC-based artists. PPW also hosts a number of events such as poetry readings, skillshare sessions, critiques, and small group classes. Pleasant Plains Workshop offers studio space for 8 resident artists. PPW also engages with the community by being an active member of the Georgia Avenue Business Alliance and The Georgia Avenue Community Development Task Force. In 2011, PPW and the GACDTF co-founded the Georgia Avenue Window Walk- a public art project that pays local artists to install temporary art installations within storefront windows of both vacant and existing storefronts along Georgia Avenue.

Laura Hyatt has been the Development Director at LAND (Los Angeles Nomadic Division, www.nomadicdivision.org) since 2011. Hyatt manages all fundraising initiatives and outreach, as well as administration and management, social media initiatives, marketing strategies, and assists with artist and board liaising and special event coordination. LAND (Los Angeles Nomadic Division) is a non-profit art organization founded in 2009 as a public art initiative committed to curating site- and situation-specific contemporary art projects, in Los Angeles and beyond. LAND believes that everyone deserves the opportunity to experience innovative contemporary art in their day-to-day experience in order to develop new ideas and ways of thinking about their world. In turn, artists deserve the opportunity to realize projects, otherwise unsupported, in the public realm to present their unique ideas.

Colin Kloecker is an artist, designer and filmmaker whose work explores the intersection of civic engagement and artistic intervention. Works Progress (<http://worksprogress.org>) is a public art and design studio based in Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota, founded in 2009. Led by artists Colin Kloecker and Shanai Matteson, Works Progress creates collaborative projects rooted in place and purpose. Through participatory public art, design, media and artist organizing Kloecker and Matteson catalyze relationships across creative and cultural boundaries, enabling new possibilities for artistic expression, civic engagement and participation in public life. Works Progress collaborates with an expansive network of artists, designers, issue experts, and community organizers to open space for everyday experiences to meet the ineffable.

George Scheer is the co-founder and director of Elsewhere. George is a writer, scholar, and artist who fosters creative communities at the intersection of aesthetics and social change. Sylvia's grandson, George leads organizational development and restoration of the historic property. George holds an MA in Critical Theory and Visual Culture from Duke University and a BA from the University of Pennsylvania in Political Communications. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Communication and Performance Studies at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill on the Cultural Economy of Art and Urban Development. Elsewhere is a living museum and artist residency set within a former thrift store housing one woman's 58-year collection of surplus and thrift. Elsewhere fosters more collaborative cultures by imagining new futures for old things. Elsewhere's museum, residency, education initiatives, and public works enliven and inspire Greensboro and the globe. <http://goelsewhere.org>

ABOUT THE MODERATORS:

Tim Doud is the Associate Professor of Art and Visiting Artist Program Coordinator for the Studio Art Program in the Department of Art at American University. He graduated from Columbia College with a BS in Painting and Drawing and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago with an MFA in Painting and Drawing. He attended Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Skowhegan, Maine. Priska C Juschka Fine Art in New York, NY

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and Galerie Brusberg, Berlin, Germany represent him. He has had solo shows at MC Magma in Milan, Italy, The Chicago Cultural Center in Chicago, IL and Art Basel in Basel Switzerland. He has received grants from The National Endowment for the Arts (Arts Midwest), the Marie Walsh Sharpe Art Foundations and The Pollock Krasner Art Foundation. His work has been featured in group shows at PS1 (MOMA) in New York City, The Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, Artists Space in New York City and the Frye Art Gallery in Seattle, Washington and Art Basel, Basel, Switzerland.

Victoria Reis is the co-Founder and Executive & Artistic Director of Transformer, a Washington, DC based non-profit, artist-centered visual arts organization. Established in summer 2002, Transformer connects and promotes emerging artists locally, nationally and internationally through exhibitions, mentorship programs, and educational programs. Through Transformer, Reis has worked with hundreds of emerging visual artists, supporting them in the development and presentation of their work and their artistic careers. Reis began her career in contemporary visual arts at the National Association of Artists' Organizations/NAAO (1992-97), developing programs and field-wide initiatives in support of artist-centered and artist-run organizations and the artists they serve. Reis is a founding member of The Network, a newly developing national alliance of artist-centered and artist-run organizations.

Image Credit: Zoe Prinds-Flash, *A Public Thing*, 2011, Works Progress (Minneapolis, MN)

t r a n s f o r m e r is a Washington, DC based 501 (c) 3 artist-centered non-profit visual arts organization, providing a consistent, supportive, and professional platform for emerging artists to explore and present experimental artistic concepts, build audiences for their work, and advance their careers. A catalyst and advocate for contemporary artists and emergent expression in the visual arts, Transformer connects and promotes emerging visual artists within regional, national and international contexts through exhibition and programs partnerships with artists, curators, commercial galleries, museums and other cultural institutions.

Transformer's 2013/2014 Exhibition Series and programs are supported by: The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The CrossCurrents Foundation, The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities/ NEA, The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, The Robert Lehman Foundation, The National Endowment for the Arts' Access to Artistic Excellence Award, and The Visionary Friends of Transformer – individual donors, members of our Annual Auction Host Committee, and Corporate Sponsors.

American University's Studio Art Master of Fine Arts Degree Program prepares students for lives as independent creative artists. The primary goal of the two-year program is to facilitate the transition from student to contributing, exhibiting artist, and instructor. AU provides students with the tools to understand the historical and contemporary criteria for the making of art works; foster rigorous and unique investigation; promote an environment of enthusiasm, dedication, and intensive effort; and prepare students for careers in the arts.