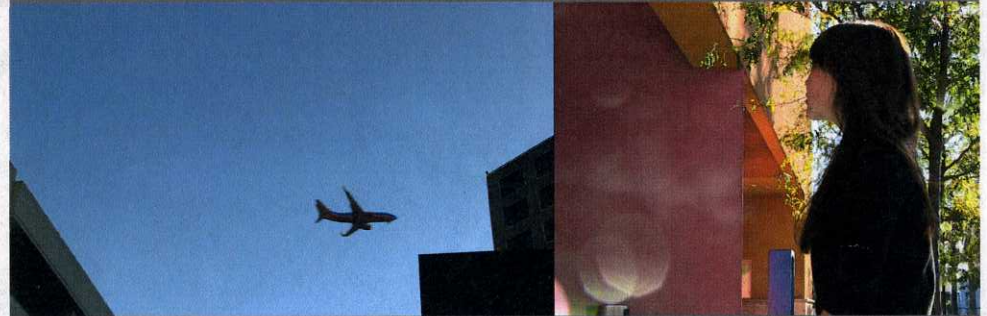
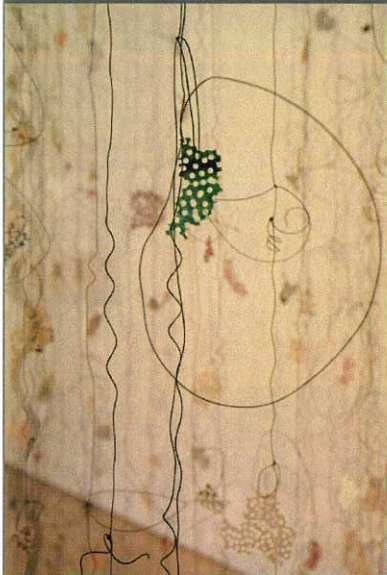




IN AND OUT OF PLACE



Project Space Gallery
Montalvo Arts Center
October 26-January 13



Communicated Experience, 2012
Fishing line, pastel, paper, ink
Exhibition assistants: Maureen Rowson,
Benj Jurisen and Veronica Felix

Special thanks to: Erika Clowes, Ph. D.; Erin Doyle Ebeling, President Alice Phelan Sullivan Corporation; Veronica Felix; Patricia L. Keats, Director of Library & Archives, The Alice Phelan Sullivan Library; Laura Jason, Trustee, Montalvo Arts Center; Brenda Jeffers; Benj Jurisen; Sheila Kiernsn; Maureen Rowson; Susan Snyder, Public Services Coordinator, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley



Somewhere in Between: Silicon Valley, 2012

TRT 18 minute, two channel video installation with audio
Audio Post Production: Jim McKee, Voice-Over Editor: Donna Conwell,
Project Assistant: Christina Sheils

Participants: Ana Carvajal, Olga Media, Ben Miyagi, Shannon Haley, Rajwinder Shedeve, Lena Dakessian, Hemashree Sayed, Mona Vijaykar, Susan O'Malley, Prabha Tatapudy, Peter Yoon, Saskia Feain, Lucian H. Romo, Chris Sicat, and Madison Nguyen

Special thanks to: Naomi Araxi, Arax Ballet Studio; Bob Byrd, Harris-Lass House Museum; Maria Leonor Gayotto; Salle Hayden; Mary Hanel, Santa Clara Library; Wei Hwu; Hui Sen, Enlighten Chinese School; Christina Sheils; Cameron Smith; and Dan and Charmaine Warmenhoven

In and Out of Place

Oakland-based installation artist **Ruth Boerefijn** and Los Angeles-based photographer and video artist **Bia Gayotto** premiere new works, produced while in residence at Montalvo's Lucas Artists Residency, that together depict a multilayered portrait of Silicon Valley.

Boerefijn's **Communicated Experience** is an ephemeral site-specific installation in which the artist explores the personalities and individual stories of three pioneering women who helped shape the history of the Santa Clara Valley—Alice Phelan Sullivan, a philanthropist who cofounded the "Little Children's Aid Society," and served as its first president in 1909; Alice Lola Hare, a photographer whose work skillfully documents the landscapes, peoples, urban infrastructure and everyday life of the region in the early 1900s; and Clara Shortridge Foltz, the first female deputy district attorney who authored the Women's Vote Amendment for California in 1911. Boerefijn uses a variety of materials, including fishing line, hole-punched paper fragments and archival remnants, to examine her relationship to these transformative women and translate their personalities, personal histories and relationship to place into a material language.

Gayotto's **Somewhere in Between: Silicon Valley** is a video installation that investigates the contemporary intercultural experiences of Silicon Valley's first and second-generation immigrants. Based on an open call, local residents were invited to participate in an interview and video shoot at a location of their choice. A two-screen projection juxtaposes cityscapes, architecture and domestic settings with portraits of participants performing everyday actions, while an audio soundtrack mixes ambient sound and voiceover. If Gayotto's video and her working process allude to the traditions of documentary and ethnographic film, the artist unsettles this association by utilizing non-narrative poetic strategies, including unexpected framing and visual composition and disjoining voice and image. Through these strategies, Gayotto translates her participants' complex experience of navigating through and inhabiting two or more places and cultures.

Boerefijn and Gayotto adopt working methodologies that involve an engagement with the stories of others. While Boerefijn encounters her stories through archival research, Gayotto adopts ethnographic strategies of interviews and fieldwork to gain insight into the lives of her participants. The artists' subjects are individuals who have experienced feelings of dissonance, of being out of place, but they are also people who have, and are, actively shaping and defining the locations in which they reside. Through their distinct work, Boerefijn and Gayotto explore the complex relationship between people, places and stories, examining and translating into visual forms feelings of belonging, displacement, and human interconnectivity.

This exhibition concludes the Art Center's 2012 theme **Montalvo: Past, Present and Place**. Inspired by the historic Villa's centennial year, a series of exhibitions, conversations and performances have examined Montalvo's multifaceted histories, diverse communities and its relationship to the broader context of Silicon Valley. **In and Out of Place** is organized by the Lucas Artists Residency Program.

Ruth Boerefijn was born in Tucson, Arizona, the youngest daughter of a Calvinist minister. She currently resides in Oakland. Place is the primary creative reference point through which Boerefijn senses, synthesizes, and then creates her artwork. Her site-specific installations have been exhibited domestically and internationally at such places as the de Young Museum (San Francisco, CA); Djerassi's SMIP Ranch (Woodside, CA); Fresno Art Museum (Fresno, CA); Gallery Klaustur (Skriduklaustur, Iceland); Hafnarborg Institute of Culture and Fine Art (Hafnarborg, Iceland); MacDowell Colony (Peterborough, NH); and Olga Dollar Galley (San Francisco, CA).

Bia Gayotto is a Brazilian-American artist and educator currently living in Los Angeles, California. Her interest lies in producing works that investigate the relationship between movement, cultural identity and global interconnectivity, raising questions of translation and representation through multiple interpretations of a single theme. Her work, which includes photography, video installations and books, has been featured in numerous exhibitions nationally and internationally, including Orange County Museum of Art (Newport Beach, CA); LA Freewaves (Los Angeles, CA); Fellows of Contemporary Art (Los Angeles, CA); Gendai Gallery (Toronto, Canada); Asian Pacific American Institute (New York, NY); The Breeder Project (Athens, Greece); and Museum of Image and Sound (São Paulo, Brazil).

Related Events

Friday, October 26

Final Friday: Conversation with the artists

6pm Free Event

Historic Villa

Opening reception

7pm Free Event

Project Space Gallery

Saturday, December 8

Stories of Place

1-3pm Free Public Workshop for over 12s

Project Space Gallery

Hear former president of the Montalvo Board, **Jane Goldbach**, recount stories about the history of Montalvo, and learn how to prepare and collect meaningful oral histories about your family and community with historian

Margo McBane.

Signups strongly encouraged; RSVP at lbaines@montalvoarts.org. Wear comfy shoes as some walking involved.