

A group of people is hiking on a narrow, mossy forest trail. The trail is covered in large, green ferns and moss-covered rocks. The forest is dense with tall trees and sunlight filtering through the canopy. In the foreground, a woman in a blue top and brown skirt is walking towards the camera. Behind her, several other people are visible, including a woman in a black dress and a child in a striped shirt. The overall scene is lush and green, suggesting a summer or late spring setting.

# YEAR OF INTER NECTARIES

MILDRED'S  
LANE AND  
THE MILDRED  
COMPLEX (ITY)  
2016





## MILDRED'S LANE: AN INTRODUCTION

Mildred's Lane is a 96-acre site deep in the woods of rural northeastern Pennsylvania on the border of New York State. It is an ongoing collaboration with my fellow artist and friend, Mark Dion, our son Grey Rabbit Puett, along with our like-minded family of friends and colleagues from around the world who convene here seasonally. We are coevolving pedagogical strategies around contemporary topics by practicing a generous and rigorous engagement with every aspect of life. It is a working-living-researching experiment centered on domesticity. This entire site has become a living museum -- a learning experience -- a new contemporary art complex(ity).

Importantly, it is about people working together. I call myself an Ambassador of Entanglement to pull apart traditional leadership roles to reinforce collaboration in the emergent events and projects that are ongoing at Mildred's Lane. Those who become involved with the programs embrace every aspect of our collective existence through rethinking new modes of being in the world -- evoking a creative, social, civic, political, and critical entanglement investigating: 1) our relationships with each other, 2) relations to the environment, 3) systems of labor, 4) forms of dwelling, 5) clothing apparatuses, and importantly, 6) creative domesticating -- all of which compose an ethics of comportment; a working-living-researching-making strategy that we call workstyles.

Being is the practice.

J. Morgan Puett

Ambassador of Entanglement



# A CURRICULUM FOR NEW AND EMERGENT PRACTICES

What is different about Mildred's Lane is that it is a home; reassembling the connections between working, living, and researching through specific concepts and projects sensitive to site. This unusual artist project invites you to participate in the shared experience and production of research-driven projects within a truly transdisciplinary and collaborative work environment.

Apparent obstacles in traditional fine arts classrooms have been counterproductive to developing environments where the practitioner, the student, and the institution can collapse roles in an attempt to coevolve a curriculum for new and emergent practices. Thus, the Mildred's Lane Project exists in the everyday with a revolutionary rigorous rethinking (the 3 Rs) of the contemporary art complex. These rare and valuable conditions of exchange, collaboration, and generosity are shared experiences that have transformative and lifelong effects on how we think of ourselves as creative practitioners functioning in the social and civic sphere, taking our practices out of the studio and applying the conceptual tools to every aspect of living; with creative, mindful, sustainable adaptive reuse of everything we have at hand -- being local.

At the core of this new curriculum are two principles:

- 1) that research and project-based learning are best pursued in the context of an actual site with community; and
- 2) education should be principally involved in the development of new modes of living -- what we call workstyles. Work is our life, therefore we weave our lifestyle through it; taking our practices out of the studio and applying the conceptual tools to every aspect of life; with creative, mindful, adaptive reuse of everything we have at hand to sustain our needs.





# THE MILDRED COMPLEX(ITY)

Moving beyond our friends and institutional partnerships, Mildred's Lane has come out of the woods and onto Main Street USA in the Upper Delaware River Valley community. It is closely situated to Mildred's Lane, across the Delaware River in nearby Narrowsburg, NY, only one hundred miles northwest of New York City.

After a long series of think tanks on the future of exchange in contemporary art, Mildred's Lane established this off-site storefront-studio-project space for broader community discourse and social experimentation, inventing what we call The Mildred Complex(ity).

The aims of the town projects are to explore the dynamics of a community involved in the production of exchange and collaboration. It is through these projects that we experiment with new ways to integrate within our communities; interconnecting disciplines that have been over-coded by exclusionary systems in recent histories of capitalism in art. Town projects with fellows, contributing practitioners of Mildred's Lane, and Resident Artists in Complex(ity) manifest in installations, performances, workshops, lectures, debates, town meetings, and, subsequently, more civic involvement. These community collaborations always activate within a particular geography to building renewable sociality charged with local environmental activism.



# SESSIONS 2016

## YEAR OF INTERNECTARIES

Some of the creative practitioners involved  
in the 2016 sessions are:

Paul Bartow / David Brooks / Christine Buckley /  
D. Graham Burnett / Jorge Colombo / Mark Dion /  
Jeff Dolven / Juliet Dunn / Hope Ginsburg / Gary Graham /  
Mariana Gutierrez / Pablo Helguera / Jeffrey Jenkins /  
Cameron Klavsen / Athena Kokoronis / Isobel R. Lister /  
Megan O'Connell / Claire Pentecost / Rebecca Purcell /  
J. Morgan Puett / Jack Ramunni / Sal Randolph /  
Hilmar Schäfer / Gina Siepel / Jaquel Theis /  
Mark Thomann / Robert Williams / Caroline Woolard /  
and others to be announced very soon.

Updates and details of all sessions  
will be posted at [www.mildredslane.com](http://www.mildredslane.com).



## SESSION DATES & BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS

### WILDING, WASTING, WORKSTYLING

June 6 through 12 / \$1000.

With option to attend three seasonal Swarmings;

Autumn 2016, Winter 2017, Spring 2017

With Christine Buckley and Contributing Guest Artists TBA

Wildcrafting is a term that conscientiously defines food  
as naturally medicinal, always with concerns for a sustainable  
future. Fellows will be engaged in a detailed study of the  
landscape at Mildred's Lane while practicing forage routines

with focus on stylistically transforming new food and waste systems; and critically processing botanicals throughout the seasons.

## THE LABOR PORTRAITS OF MILDRED'S LANE

June 13 through 26 / \$2000.

With Paul Bartow, Gary Graham, Jeffrey Jenkins, Cameron Klavsen, J. Morgan Puett, Rebecca Purcell, and David Wood.

Collaborate on a large-scale, transhistorical project, featuring a study of Transcendentalism while conflating roles of labor and workstyles at Mildred's Lane. Fellows will contribute to conceptualizing, crafting, costuming, building, filming as we create the continuing series of Labor Portraits of Mildred's Lane that will be on show in 2017.

## POND

June 27 through July 10 / \$2000.

David Brooks, Hope Ginsburg, J. Morgan Puett, Gina Siepel, Mark Thomann and other Contributing Guest Artists TBA.

This has been a radically innovative project where we have collaborated with artists, engineers, hydrologists and architects to conceptualize a plan for a complete aquatic environment by integrating systems of landscape design, aqua-cultural dwelling and notions of earthworks, sensitively considering humans and non-humans. Delve into Mildred's landscape history as we intertwine previous PondhouseSpringhousePond sessions now so relevant with a freshly dug earthwork. Contributing Guest practitioners and fellows will discourse, workshop, and incubate ideas around landscaping new projects that will unfurl over the session and years to come.

## TOWN SESSIONS

July 11 through 17 / \$1000.

Pablo Helguera, Caroline Woolard and others TBA.

The TOWN sessions include a series of workshops and interventions on Main Street USA with contributing artists; navigating "the complex relationship between the city and

the countryside by investigating the place the rural world occupies in the projections, fantasies, economy, and antagonism of the cosmopolitan set." We will apply the tools of contemporary social practice toward shifting beyond the critiques, illusions and prejudices that have supported city and country as disconnected realms of shared experience. Workshop details TBA.

## ATTENTION LAB: THE ORDER OF THE THIRD BIRD

July 18 through 24 / \$1000.

D. Graham Burnett, Jeff Dolven, Jac Mullen, Leonard Nalencz, Sal Randolph, David Richardson and other Birds TBA.

In this one-week session, indiscreet associates of The Order of the Third Bird will continue their investigations into experimental protocols of Practical Aesthetics and methods of Sustained Attention. The Attention Lab is part guerrilla seminar and part meditative and kinetic practicum. A discipline of the senses is pursued. Beginning with available traditions and protocols of the Order, the group's aim will be to develop and test new experimental practices of attention.

## ALCHEMY IV

July 25 through August 14 / \$3000.

Robert Williams and Other Contributing Guest Artists TBA.

The Alchemist's Shack is a large-scale site work, part of the OM: Theatrum Chemicum Britannicum project, ongoing at Mildred's Lane since 1998. The project grows with every iteration; grafting new fellows in collaboration with Robert Williams (UK) in the exploration of the many tropes and emergent themes arising from Alchemy I-III. We will continue towards the final interior installation of this wonder-room in its liminal setting.





# INSTITUTIONAL INVOLVEMENTS

Mildred's Lane operates as an emergent event, affording us the ability to collaborate with you to create a workshop or event specific to your group's needs and desires. Individuals, classes, and institutions often visit for an overnight stay, weekend, or for a full week during the year as available.

We are seeking adjunct relationships wherein Mildred's Lane and The Mildred Complex(ity) may host your students and faculty for intensive engagements. This is an ideal site for institutions to hold retreats, workshops, conferences, or think tanks -- using the site, and the creative practitioners that move through it, as a pedagogical tool. It is a tranquil meadow, far from distractions, deep in the woods, with a unique cultural atmosphere to catalyze creative discussion and making. We are equipped to lodge 25-35 people at once, with outbuildings for discussions and meetings as well as presentation spaces, with a studio and project space in the nearby town of Narrowsburg, NY. In addition to this rustic site's amenities, we provide artful meals with the freshest seasonal, local, organic produce.

## How can I develop an institutional partnership or philanthropically support a fellowship?

We think of this program as an award for your most exceptional student(s) or faculty. You or your departmental faculty may nominate or select each fellow. In either case, we are happy to help you select who might be right for this unorthodox project. Your selections should be made by May 1st.

A sending institution structures scholarship funds in various ways to support fellowships for one or more persons in the sessions.

An individual philanthropist may donate tuition to support a fellow that is unable to afford the cost. In this case you may name the scholarship and even correspond with the fellow you support.





Please contact us if you are interested in participating as a Sending Institution or as an individual supporting a fellowship. There are limited openings, so a non-refundable deposit is due upon selection, and the remaining balance is due before the arrival of the fellow.

We are already proudly working in partnership with several institutions, which have included:

University of Arkansas  
Department of Art,  
Fayetteville, AK  
Arizona State University  
School of Art, Phoenix, AZ  
University of Hartford,  
The Hartford Art School,  
West Hartford, CT  
The School of the Art  
Institute of Chicago,  
Chicago, IL  
Massachusetts College of Art  
and Design, Boston, MA  
The School of the Museum  
of Fine Arts, Boston, MA  
Maryland Institute College  
of Art, Baltimore, MD  
University of Minnesota  
Department of Art,  
Minneapolis, MN  
Columbia University Graduate  
School of Fine Art,  
New York, NY  
The New School Parsons School  
of Design, New York, NY

School of Visual Arts,  
New York, NY  
SUNY New Paltz, NY  
Columbus College of Art  
and Design, Columbus, OH  
Portland State University  
Department of Art,  
Portland, OR  
Carnegie Mellon College of  
Fine Arts, Pittsburgh, PA  
Brown University Department  
of Social Humanities,  
Providence, RI  
University of Tennessee,  
Knoxville, TN  
Virginia Commonwealth  
University School of the  
Arts, Richmond, VA  
FLORA Ars+Natura, Bogotá,  
Colombia, South America  
Bauhaus University, Weimar,  
Germany  
HEAD, Geneva, Switzerland  
Cumbria University, Cumbria  
Institute of Art,  
Carlisle, UK  
Kingston University Fine  
Arts, London, UK  
Royal College of Art, The  
Curatorial Study Program,  
London, UK







# BEING THERE

## What does the tuition cover?

General tuition includes lodging in an artist's installation-site. We feed you three homemade fresh, creative, artful meals a day from local farmers and guest chefs. There are daily activities including intensive workshops, lectures, and seminars by dynamic contributing guests, thinkers and creative producers that outnumber fellows by three to one. We work together - in collaboration - on large-scale artist site works. Together we conceptualize and produce socials that engage town interactions and local government. We are interconnected, international characters from all disciplines that help guide you into creating new sustainable habits for the future through the philosophical, experience-based teachings of workstyles. Importantly, you will make lifelong friends and attachments, especially to Mildred's Lane. Finally, you receive a special Certificate of Plenipotentiary, for a one-of-a-kind knowledge based experience.

All, undeniably unheard of, for a not-for-profit cost of:

Tuition for a one-week session:     \$1000/fellow.  
Tuition for a two-week session:     \$2000/fellow.  
Tuition for a three-week session:   \$3000/fellow.

## How do I apply as an individual?

Whether or not you are affiliated with an institution, applying is an easy and straightforward process for independents of all ages. We ask that you follow a simple procedure that includes: 1) an essay or letter of intent explaining your reasons for wanting to come to Mildred's Lane, 2) a letter of recommendation from a mentor, 3) your résumé, and 4) a portfolio of twelve images of your current work (digital format only-jpegs or pdfs).

All applications should come as early as January and no later than May 1. Please note that we take a small group of people for each session and those spaces go fast, so we advise you

to be in touch with us as soon as possible. We can help guide you, we try to help you raise funds and we want to get to know you as you enter this process and program.

## What is the application process?

Sending institutions may want to make this an internal process by selecting a fellow they feel is right for this highly unique, socially engaged program.

We review independent applications year-round. Please get your application in as early as January and no later than May 1. Places go quickly. Send to us the following:

- > an essay or letter of interest explaining your reasons for wanting to come to Mildred's Lane
- > a letter of recommendation from a mentor
- > your résumé or list of work
- > a portfolio of twelve images of your current work in the form of jpegs, or pdfs. Each image should be no greater than 3MB:
  - > 12 digital images, or
  - > video or performance documentation, or
  - > writings, or
  - > other
- > \$25.00 application fee by check or pay online

We require a 50% non-refundable deposit of tuition upon acceptance. The full balance should be paid before arrival to Mildred's Lane. Sending digital files is easiest for us.

Applicants should send digital files of jpegs and or pdfs to [mildredslane@gmail.com](mailto:mildredslane@gmail.com).

Please call us with any questions at 845.252.3554.

## How can I simply visit without going through a whole session?

We invite you to share in the experience. Invitations for events including tours of Mildred's Lane Projects, lectures by international visiting artists, and artful dinners are announced on our website calendar. Join our mailing list

on the "Contact" page of our website, or by email, requesting to receive weekly announcements.

You may request an invitation to stay at Mildred's Lane -- invitations and confirmations are based on availability. Email [mildredslane@gmail.com](mailto:mildredslane@gmail.com).

## Town Fridays

Resident Artists in Complex(ity) on show as installations, performances, workshops, lectures, debates, town meetings, and subsequently, more civic involvement. These activities are for and with our community building renewable sociality charged with local environmental activism. Free and open to the public.

## Social Saturdays

Request an invitation, open to the public. An artful dinner, and special evening presentation: \$25 - \$100/person (sliding scale).

## Retreats, Independent, class, institutional, or group visits

An afternoon lecture and site tour: \$25/person.  
A day trip lunch and lecture site tour: \$50/person.  
An artful dinner and evening lecture: \$25/person.  
A rustic overnight stay ranges from \$75 - \$175/person depending on availability of rooms/outbuildings/cottages.  
Camping: \$50/person.

## Propositions

Mildred's Lane is open to private retreats, institutional visits, class projects, invitations, adjunct relationships and propositions.

Note: We require all visitors to sign our "Hold Harmless Agreement" and/or request a copy of the respective institutional liability waiver or other school-sanctioned off-campus activities waiver for our records.



# 2016 MILDRED FELLOWS

J. Morgan Puett  
Ambassador of Entanglement  
Artist/Co-Director/Co-Curator

Mark Dion  
Cabinet Minister Peregrinator  
Artist/Co-Director/Co-Curator

Paul Bartow  
Master of Applied Complexity

Grey Rabbit Puett  
Fire Master

Jack Ramunni  
Fugitive in Archives

Natalie Wilkin  
Fugitive Ambassador of Transhistorical Agency

Jorge Colombo  
Recorder of Retinal Memories

Isobel Rose Lister  
Officer of Complex(ity)

Jaquel Theis  
Land Steward

Cameron Klavsen  
Awarded Resident Artist in Complex(ity) 2015/16

Mariana Gutierrez  
Site Steward

Digestion Choreographers to be announced by session.  
Ministry of Comfort TBA.





# RECENT MILDRED'S LANE EXHIBITIONS AND VENUES

Helen Day Art Center, Stowe, VT, 2016  
Handwerker Gallery, University of Ithaca, NY, 2015  
SAIC Sullivan Galleries, Chicago, IL, 2014  
University of Utah Warnock Residency, Salt Lake City, UT, 2014  
DOX Contemporary Museum of Prague, Czech Republic, 2013  
Museum of Modern Art, MoMA Studio, New York City, 2012  
1st Tblisi Triennial, Contemporary Art Center,  
Republic of Georgia, 2012  
Tufts University Aidekman Art Center, Boston, MA, 2010  
Cabinet Magazine, New York City, 2009  
Slought Foundation, Philadelphia, PA, 2009  
Alexander Gray Associates, New York City, 2008

## Thank you for remarkable contributions from:

Roderick Angle, Paul Bartow, Christine Buckley, Jorge Colombo,  
Carolyn Cristov-Bakargiev, Moyra Davey, Lisa Defrance,  
Dillon de Give, Barbara DeVries, Mark Dion, Joanna Epstein,  
Harrell Fletcher, Hope Ginsburg, Alastair Gordon,  
Pablo Helguera, Brian Holmes, Mary Jane Jacob, Jeffrey Jenkins,  
Natalie Jeremijenko, Leon Johnson, Gavin Kroeber,  
Fabienne Leclerc, Clayton Lewis, Russell Lewis, Sharon  
and Amos Lombard-Miller, Claire Pentecost, Barry Puett,  
Garnett Puett, J. Morgan Puett, Grey Rabbit Puett,  
Judith Powers, Rebecca Purcell, Joel Ronning, Hilmar Shafer,  
Jason Simon, Allison Smith, Mark Thomann, Nato Thompson,  
Rebecca Uchill, Natalie Wilkin, Robert Williams,  
Caroline Woolard, Amy Yoes, just to mention a few.



## CONTACT

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