# LANDSCAPE DEMOCRACY WELLNESS

2021 AT MILDRED'S LANE IN THE AGE OF CORONAVIRUS HORROR



## WELCOME, TO MILDRED'S LANE.

Mildred's Lane is a 94+-acre project site in the Pennsylvania woods on the Upper Delaware River. It is an ongoing collaboration with Mark Dion and J. Morgan Puett with their son Grey Rabbit Puett. A landscape built by and with friends and colleagues applying new ways of thinking -- doing -making. Artists from around the world convene at Mildred's Lane seasonally, coevolving pedagogical strategies around contemporary topics that concern us. Collectively, we are practicing social engagement in every aspect of life centered around domesticity.

For over two decades, Mildred's Lane has functioned as a working-living-researching experiment in living, encompassing a series of rarified experiences. Practitioners apply tools and concepts of contemporary art to landscape, vernacular architecture, installation art, sculpture, history, archaeology, natural sciences, utopian studies, and creative domesticity.

Mildred's Lane is a transdisciplinary site that concentrates on broadening skills that aid us as cultural practitioners working in the social sphere.

## WORKSTYLES

Those who become involved embrace every aspect of collective existence through rethinking new modes of being in the world evoking a creative, social, civic, political, and critical entanglement questioning; 1) our relations to the environment, 2) our relationships with each other, 3) challenging systems of labor, 4) forms of dwelling, 5) inventing new design apparatuses, and importantly, 6) critical and creative domesticating -- all of which compose the Mildred's Lane ethics of comportment -- workstyles. Being IS the practice, making this project one of the most innovative platforms in education and experience.

Work is our life; therefore, we weave our lifestyle through it. Our practices come out of the studio, applying the history of conceptual art to every aspect of life with creative, mindful, sensitivity in everything we do. We work with what we have at hand to sustain our needs -being local and sensitive to the environment. The critical pedagogical principles:

 to strive for research and project-based learning in the context of an actual site with a community; and,
education should fundamentally include the development of new comportment for sustainable living in this challenging century.

The Mildred's Lane Project exists in the everyday home with a revolutionary -- rigorous -- rethinking (the 3 Rs) of the contemporary art complex. These rare and valuable conditions of exchange, collaboration, and generosity are transformative experiences. These shared experiences have lifelong effects on how we think of ourselves as creative practitioners functioning in the social and civic world in the twenty-first century.





Cultural producers are contributing over the years by lecturing, performing, fire making, creating events -daily life at Mildred's Lane. These creative practitioners are in support of curriculums for new and emergent practices for the 21st-century. Artist-residencies-in-complexity at Mildred's Lane include:

Alyson Baker / David Brooks / Nina Burleigh / D. Graham Burnett / Donna Cleary / Jorge Colombo / Scott Constable / Susanna Crum / Deborah Davidovitz / Mark Dion / Sarah Doherty / Jeff Dolven / Juliet Dunn / Justin Ginsberg / Hope Ginsburg / Pablo Helguera / Aaron Hicklin / Jeffrey Jenkins / Alex A. Jones / Cameron Klavsen / Athena Kokoronis / Leigh Claire La Berge / Joe Lerro / Candace Madey / Kristyna Milde / Marek Milde / Leonard Nalencz / Sean Owen / Claire Pentecost / Rebecca Purcell / Barry Puett / J. Morgan Puett / James Prosek / Joshua Quarles / Anna Riley / Rodolfo Salgado Jr. / Rachael Schmoker / Gina Siepel / Laura Silverman / Sara Smith / Dannielle Tegeder / Mark Thomann / James Voorhies / Robert Williams / David Wood / Caroline Woolard / Amy Yoes / and so many others to be announced.

## COMMONS OF MILDRED'S LANE.

Mildred's Lane is a landscape of agrarian outbuildings, camps, artists' installations, a historic homestead, and a whole community of animals, forests, ponds, fields, and streams. The old homestead house is now the Mildred's Lane Transhistorical Society and Museum, an ongoing project, and land trust becoming. We are slowly working on the preservation of a historical site, living with the past, present, and future. Currently, it manifests in the ongoing project, Mildred Archaeology, as we slowly repair and install the 1830's house and outbuildings, with parts of the site dating back to the mid-eighteenth century.

Other project spaces include:

The Mildred Complex(ity) project space is the public face of Mildred's Lane on Main Street U.S.A. Closely situated to Mildred's Lane, the storefront is walking distance across the Delaware River in nearby Narrowsburg, manifesting in installations, performances, workshops, lectures, debates, town meetings, and, subsequently, more civic involvement.

The Town Projects manifest in installations, performances, workshops, lectures, debates, town meetings, and, subsequently, more civic involvement. These community collaborations activate this particular geography charged with local environmental activism.

Department of Interstitchiaries is the studio /office at Main and Bridge Street in Narrowsburg, where fellows gather around workshops, making, and sharing ideas.

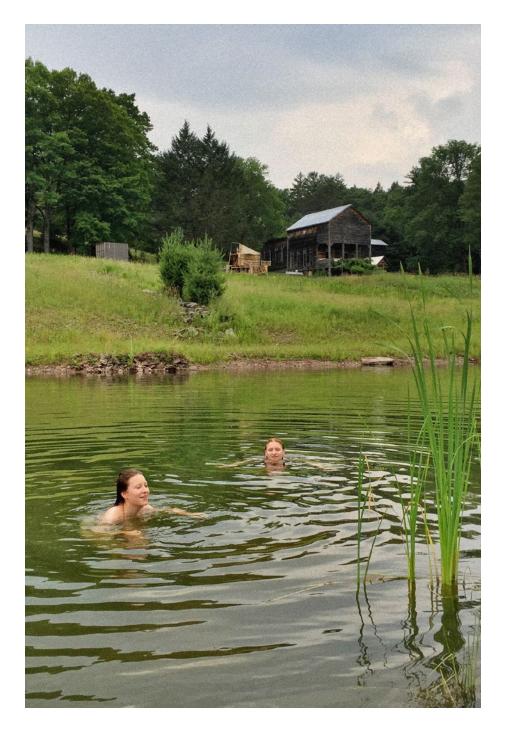
## TOWARD NEW AND EMERGENT CURRICULUMS.

Dear Friends and Colleagues, it is time to change. We may never again know the world as it was, but here is our opportunity to reconfigure everything.

Mildred's Lane is an experiment in alternative pedagogies, for over two decades ongoing. Consider the strategic possibilities for challenging creative minds -- students, faculty, and colleagues -- during the COVID-19 pandemic months and years ahead.

The Mildred Complex(ity) The Mildred's Lane Project is a valuable tool for you. Institutions need more space that is safe. Mildred's Lane has 94 acres of forest, streams, fields, forests, ponds, outbuildings, cabins, camps, studios, and projects. Our protocols naturally command social distancing, yet exchanging communally all at once. This rustic, historic site accommodates small groups at a time. Become a sending institution. Customize an emergent curriculum to your needs. You may send individuals to do independent study, sabbaticals, retreats, or research on a specific artist and site-project. Delve into the archives of the extraordinary contemporary experimental events occurring at Mildred's Lane over the last two decades.

The Mildred's Lane Project is a valuable tool for you. Institutions need more space that is safe. Mildred's Lane has 94-acres of forest, streams, fields, ponds, outbuildings, cabins, camps, studios, and projects Our protocols naturally command social distancing, yet exchanging communally all at once. This rustic, historic site accommodates small groups at a time. Become a sending institution. Customize an emergent curriculum to your needs. You may send individuals to do independent study and research on a specific artist and site-project.



## SESSIONS 2021

### MAY 17 - ONGOING WORKSTYLING THE WILD

Deborah Davidovitz, Donna Cleary, Sarah Doherty, Juliet Dunn, Jeffrey Jenkins, Joe Lerro, Barry Puett, Rachael Schmoker, Laura Silverman. There is a sleeping, shady garden at Mildred's Lane. We let it go after several years of competing with varmints destroying our work. Reclaiming it has taken several years, we are nearly there. Previous Wilding fellows rehabilitated the soil, priming the garden for a new beginning. Others ripped out the invasive species and leveled the site. We are rethinking how to coexist, allowing for a vibrant community of flora, fauna, and creatures sharing and turning toward a wellness program.

We are working in tandem with the Outside Institute, foraging the deep forest. Listen to wisdom from the non-humans, master gardeners, botanists, beekeepers, landscapers, and herbalists. Let's get down and dirty with daily events as we rebuild a garden of medicinal rhizomes, roots, flowers, and herbs; foraging-digging-rearranging-building-planting-swimming. Come workstyle the wild with us.

### JUNE 7 THROUGH JUNE 27 SILVER-IRON-LIGHT

Noah Doely and others to be announced. Set in the landscape with an extravaganza of 19th and 20th-century equipment, we will facilitate a series of plein-air tintype, cyanotype, and anthotype processes using various materials hand-coated plates, paper, fabric, and plant-based pigments. You may bring your own equipment or learn to use ours. These alchemical processes combine science and wonder; collaboration and experimentation will be part of events and activities throughout the session. Participants will set up a photography studio in the field for processing and development. The work will culminate in an exhibition at The Mildred Complex(ity) Project Space in nearby Narrowsburg, NY.



### JULY 5 THROUGH JULY 25 FOREST-BODY-CHAIR

Gina Siepel, Sara Smith, and Kate Wellspring. A tree becomes a chair and enters our lives as an intimate partner. The relational dynamics between the forest, the human body, and the wooden chair provide an entry point for exploring nature and culture's mutuality. In the domestic environment, chairs are utilitarian objects for resting the body and are social facilitators. As we know them, Chairs can also be poorly designed for the human body, causing various physical problems. Explore Mildred's Lane's forests with a field naturalist with somatic and ergonomic movement facilitators. Working with wood directly on-site for greenwood chair construction with a woodworker. Multi-modal investigations of vernacular American furniture design will form the basis for experimentation through the sustainability of forest, body, and domestic spheres. No previous experience with movement or woodworking is required. We will end the session with an exhibition/ installation/event open to the public.

## AUGUST 2 THROUGH AUGUST 9 ORDER OF THE THIRD BIRD: ATTENTION LAB

Anna Riley and Justin Ginsberg + Distinguished Associates, D. Graham Burnett, Leonard Nalencz, and Sal Randolph. Indiscreet friends of the Third Bird Order continue their investigations into experimental protocols of Practical Aesthesis and various tactics for Sustained Attention. The Attention Lab is part guerrilla seminar and part meditative/ kinetic practicum. A discipline of the senses is pursued; the conditions of attention are investigated. Beginning with available traditions and protocols of the so-called "Birds," our aim will be to develop and test new durational practices of attention.

## SEPTEMBER 7 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 27 BIBLIOPHANTICS

Featuring special author appearances to be announced. An intensive Reading Retreat. Enchanting stays in the Mildred's Lane Library, with volumes to consume, quietly -- aloud -socially -- privately. There are plein-air installations situated in the forest, designed for creative repose and relaxation, awakening all senses for complete comprehension -- reading and thinking amongst the trees. We will take field trips to local bookstores, collecting volumes for the Library. Periods of reading grow into Plein-air evening socials, parlor games, and authors' performances in the height of the arousing autumn of Mildred's Lane.

### OCTOBER

An excellent time for class programming, retreats, group visits. Contact us to organize your program and experience. The Mildred's Lane Commons offers essential tools for the future. Mildred's Lane is an experiment in alternative pedagogies -- for over two decades, institutions have needed more safe space. Consider the strategic possibilities for challenging creative minds -- students, faculty, and colleagues -- during the COVID-19 pandemic months and years ahead.

## ONGOING

Joe Lerro is a Resident-Artist-in-Complex(ity) and Land Steward at Mildred's Lane. Joe will be leading several workshops throughout the spring and summer including soil preparation, composting, planting, and other fine arts of gardening.

Rachael Schmoker is a Resident-Artist-in-Complex(ity) and Wellness Steward at Mildred's Lane. She is the founder of the practice Bed-ga (yoga motion suitable for the bedroom.) Schmoker defines this as 'slow flow movement, deepening understanding of our bodies by listening to alignment.' Gently moving into restorative postures using pillows and bolsters, flowing softly from mat to bed with soothing ease. Relax in the comfort of your home or from landscape bed installations. Join in this innovative movement practice focused entirely on the tender relationship with your body.

#### Independent Applications Welcome.

Lists of visiting and contributing artists grow throughout the year, so check the website for updates this spring.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

## VACCINES OR NEGATIVE COVID TEST REQUIRED TO ATTEND.

All schedules subject to minute-by-minute pandemic guidelines. If by chance, a session cancels due to these dangers, we will reschedule your residency accordingly.



## HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

Seasonal Sessions reopen August 2020. These are intense engagements with guests, including contributing artists, sending institutional faculty lecturing, and exchanging daily throughout the season.

Some days are softer, while other days are intense with project work. Weekends are designed around hosting guests and are full of activities. Providing the following protocols, any person may visit during the year. However, fellows go through an application process to participate in the intensive summer sessions. There is a calendar of events posted on the website and to those on our mailing list.

#### Become a Sending Institution.

Institutions support students and faculty to work in residence at Mildred's Lane.

#### Coordinate Mutualism.

Independent study and research, professional career enhancement, internship programs, fellowships, residencies, mentorships, and other grant or budget assortments.

#### Adjunct Faculty Partnerships.

Contractual relationships between the institution and Mildred's Lane. Faculty and students collaborate on projects and have unlimited access to the site throughout the year or semester. Length of stay fees negotiable. Room and Board fee from institution or student depending on budgetary requirements.

#### Mentorships.

Mentor with J. Morgan Puett and other artists in residence coming and going at Mildred's Lane, co-founder, and ambassador of entanglement.

#### Independent Study.

All ages come from all over the world. Follow our application process to a session, project, or work with your institution for credit bearing internships.

#### Mildred Fellows.

Artists returning seasonally, working on projects, and guiding others in the art of Workstyles, the system-aesthetics of living-working-researching-doing-making at Mildred's Lane.

#### Resident-Artists-in-Complexity (RAIC) Fellows.

Artists living and working at Mildred's Lane year-round. These Fellows are selected or referred by mentoring project artists or institutions with support requesting longer engagements for their students.

#### Destination Guest.

Individuals, classes, departments, faculty, professionals, independents, or other attending for tours, short stays, or self-organized retreats year-round. Need not apply, costs are negotiable according to seasonal availability. Request an invitation, send an introductory letter of interest.

## How do I apply as an Independent Fellow to attend Summer Sessions or for extended stays?

Welcome. Submit an essay or letter of interest explaining a heartfelt desire to be involved with Mildred's Lane; send a letter of recommendation from a colleague or mentor; and send a resume or other form of introduction, like a website.

Please note that we take a small group of people each week during the summer months, and those spaces go fast, so we advise being in touch with us as soon as possible. Request the desired dates to participate; one week, ten days, two, three weeks, or more. We provide discounts for more extended stays. Contact us soon.

### Is it the Right Fit?

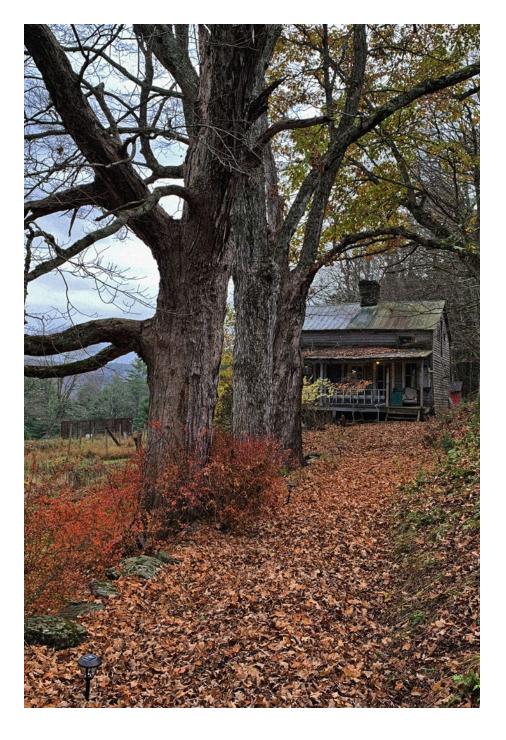
Mildred's Lane is not right for everybody; it is a highly unusual social engagement and experience. The entire landscape becomes the studio. It is a rustic site where we apply our studio skills to every aspect of life.

We cooperate in a critical engagement with relations to the environment and each other through a collective system of labor, called WORKSTYLES. We all maintain and steward the site projects. It requires collective involvement, learning to work, and live together -- better.

Mildred's Lane seeks rigorous, transdisciplinary individuals able to function within a small group of other select, highly skilled creatives. We provide vital skills in functioning within a given community through the art of WORKSTYLES.

Ask questions such as: Is the individual ready for a rustic experience deep in the woods? Is the individual willing to share the daily workstyles to benefit the group? Is the individual willing to work with others collectively? Is the individual self-motivated? Curious? Ready for change -to be a part of the change? We are excited to work together!





## How do Institutional Partnerships work?

Send a fellow to any part of the season, one, two, three weeks, or by the day. We think of this program as an award for the most exceptional student(s) and faculty. Institutional Departments and faculty may nominate or select each fellow. In either case, we are happy to help select who might be right for this unorthodox project. Please make selections by May 1st. Select a fellow by an internal application or use our application process. These are options for involvement:

> A Sending Institution structures scholarship funds in various ways to support fellowships for one or more persons in the sessions.

> A Sending Institution may contract Mildred's Lane as an adjunct arrangement, including the use of the entire site and facilities, a program of instruction, lectures, workshops, events, or other, devised by the participants.

> A Sending Institution may come as destination guests for short stays participating in the current program or collaborating with Mildred's Lane.

## How do students apply?

A student should get in touch with the institutional department chairs and professors to potentially become a sending institution. Otherwise, as an independent, just follow this procedure below.

We review independent applications year-round. Please apply as early as January. Applicants should send pdf files to mildredslane@gmail.com.

- 1) an essay or letter of interest explaining the reasons for wanting to come to Mildred's Lane,
- 2) a letter of recommendation from colleague or mentor,
- 3) a résumé,

4) a portfolio or website (visual, writings, or other;) ten images of current work (pdf format.)

### How much does this cost?

Room and Board fees fluctuate according to terms of engagement, maximum \$150/day or \$1000/week.

Specify hours of contact engagement. Negotiate longer stays and New Adjunct Faculty arrangements. Contact mildredslane@gmail.com.

The costs are never-for-profit. Mildred's Lane functions as a generosity project working collectively and generously toward forming a landscape trust. All proceeds go to the artist's projects, maintenance, and repairs. We accept donations year-round. We are seeking adventurous individuals and institutional partnerships to collaborate with us, to get involved in programming, maintenance, and production of artist projects. Please support this new cultural site becoming.

# What facilities does Mildred's Lane offer?

- Contact with international artists convening at Mildred's Lane.
- A Barn Lyceum.
- Rustic outbuildings, cabins, camps-living projects and art installations.
- A library-curiosity cabinet-full of wonder with non-fiction and art books by artists of all disciplines, featuring our colleagues communing and working here annually.
- Collections and archives of fine art, objects, textiles -- things.
- Exclusive twenty-year archive of contemporary artists' lectures, performances, and events documented digitally in still and motion form for research.
- A textile studio with industrious machinery.
- A small printing studio with a press.
- An intimate drafting studio.
- A small, rustic woodshop. (Comes with conditions for use.)
- 94 acres of land for design and sculptural studies.
- A bluestone quarry.
- Meadows, forests, streams, and ponds.
- A studio and project space in town open for conditional community engagement.



### Other things to know.

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

We cannot accommodate any pets. Please let them stay at home -- not in your car.

Leave No Trace. Mildred's Lane is a no-service-site. All fellows and visitors are stewards of the site and artfully maintain it.

## Mildred Fellows

Mildred Fellows are people deeply involved overtime at Mildred's Lane. Graduating fellows show interest in further involvement at the site become colleagues collaborating and guiding others through future programs and daily workstyles.

Ambassador of Entanglement: J. Morgan Puett Cabinet Minister Peregrinator: Mark Dion Fire Master: Grey Rabbit Puett Land Steward: Joe Lerro Wellness Steward: Rachael Schmoker Fugitive Ambassador of Transhistorical Agency: Natalie Wilkin Recorder of Retinal Memories: Jorge Colombo

## We are already proudly working in partnership with several institutions, and past years have included:

Columbus State University Department of Art, GA / Arizona State University School of Art, Phoenix, AZ / Columbia University Graduate School of Fine Art, New York, NY / University of Hartford, The Hartford Art School, West Hartford, CT / The School of the Art Institute of 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 / The New School Parsons School of Design, New York, NY / School of Visual Arts, New York, NY / SUNY New Paltz Department of Fine Art, New Paltz, NY / Portland State University, Department of Art, Portland, OR / University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN / Virginia Commonwealth, University School of the Arts, Richmond, VA / University of Florida Department of Art & Art History, Gainesville, FL / University of Virginia Department of Art, Charlottesville, VA / Washington University, Sam Fox School of Art, St. Louis, MS / FLORA Ars+ Natura, Bogotá, Colombia, South America / Cumbria University, Institute of Art, Carlisle, UK / University of Northern Iowa /

#### Mildred's Lane

105 Albert's Way to Mildred's Lane Beach Lake, PA, 18405

The Mildred Complex(ity) 37B Main Street, P.O. Box 454 Narrowsburg, NY 12764

#### Website:

www.mildredslane.com Email: info@mildredslane.com mildredslane@gmail.com Instagram: @mildredslane



