



Press Release

For Immediate Release
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The Center for Cultural Innovation Announces Grants to 24 California Performing and Media Artists

The Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI) today announced twenty-four recipients in the Media and Performing Arts round of funding under its *Investing in Artists* grants program, which is designed to build the personal and creative capacity of California's artists working in all disciplines.

The *Investing in Artists* grants program was established by the Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI) in 2007 to enhance the working lives and strengthen the creative support system for California artists working in all disciplines. Since that time, with the support of The James Irvine Foundation and The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, CCI has awarded \$1.61 million to 190 diverse artists working in various disciplines across the state.

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The 2013 Performing and Media Arts Round of the *Investing in Artists* grants program provides support to individual artists in two categories: 1) for the acquisition of Artistic Equipment & Tools; and 2) for Artistic Innovation.

In the Artistic Equipment & Tools category, the following thirteen (13) artists received *Investing in Artists* grants:

- Maria Breaux (Media Arts, San Francisco)
- Stephen Dick (Music, South Pasadena)
- Lara Downes (Music, Davis)
- Austin Forbord (Media Arts, Oakland)
- Ledoh (Dance, San Francisco)
- Hugh Livingston (Music, Oakland)
- T. Kelly Mason (Media Arts, Los Angeles)
- John-Carlos Perea (Music, San Francisco)
- Suzan Pitt (Media Arts, Oakland)
- Johnny Symons (Media Arts, Oakland)
- David Szlasa (Multidisciplinary, Oakland)
- Wu Tsang (Multidisciplinary, Los Angeles)
- Sarah Wilson (Music, Oakland)

In the Artistic Innovation category, eleven (11) artists received *Investing in Artists* grants:

- Charya Burt (Folk/Traditional, Windsor)
- Chitresh Das (Folk/Traditional, San Francisco)
- Ellen Fullman (Music, Berkeley)
- Guillermo Gomez-Pena (Multidisciplinary, San Francisco)
- Margaret Jenkins (Dance, San Francisco)
- Jo Kreiter (Dance, San Francisco)
- Emily Mast (Multidisciplinary, Los Angeles)
- Nobuko Miyamoto (Music, Los Angeles)
- Pat O'Neill (Media Arts, Pasadena)
- David Rousseve (Dance, Sherman Oaks)
- Susan Simpson (Theater, Los Angeles)

"Being able to support such a talented and diverse group of California artists is incredibly gratifying," said CCI President and CEO Cora Mirikitani. "Their excellent work strengthens the community and demonstrates the need for continued arts funding across the state."

A panel of distinguished experts assisted CCI in reviewing the *Investing in Artists* applications, including: Brian Freeman (Playwright, Director, and Performance Artist); Janie Geiser (Experimental Filmmaker and Visual/Theater Artist); Wayne Hazzard (Executive Director, Dancers' Group); Kelley Kirkpatrick (Associate Artistic Director, Center Theatre Group); Cheng-Sim Lim (Independent Film Curator and Filmmaker); Cora Mirikitani (President and CEO, Center for Cultural Innovation); Yuriko Gamo Romer (Independent Filmmaker); Susan Siltan (Multidisciplinary Artist); and Ernesto Soprani (Founder and Director, THEOFFCENTER).

About CCI: The Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI) was founded in 2001 as a California 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. Its mission is to promote knowledge sharing, networking, and financial independence for individual artists and creative entrepreneurs by providing business training, grants, and incubating innovative projects that create new program knowledge, tools, and practices for artists in the field.

For more information about the Center for Cultural Innovation and the Investing in Artists grants program please go to CCI's website at www.cciarts.org.

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