

# CENTER for EXPERIMENTAL LECTURES

## RISD MUSEUM



## RISD SCULPTURE

*For immediate release*

April 20, 2020

The Center for Experimental Lectures, in collaboration with the Rhode Island School of Design Department of Sculpture, The RISD Museum, and RISD's Center for Arts & Language presents three new lecture-performances by Carissa Rodriguez, Naama Tsabar, and Pablo Helguera.

These three pieces are site-specific to the internet, using a variety of online presentation platforms and presented remotely on three separate dates throughout the month May. This series is the RISD Sculpture Department's Visiting Artist Program, and has been developed throughout the spring with RISD students in the course "Talking Is Dancing: Lecture-Performance As Form," written and taught by CEL founder Gordon Hall who is a 2019-2020 RISD Provost Fellow in the Department of Sculpture.

Dates:

Pablo Helguera: Thursday May 7, 5 pm

Naama Tsabar: Tuesday May 12, 5 pm

Carissa Rodriguez: Tuesday May 19, 5 pm

All times EST

Pablo Helguera's lecture-performance "Free of All Ties," will be delivered in a peripatetic format from his own neighborhood and in his home in Brooklyn. Pablo Helguera brings together the story of the objects in an immigrant family's apartment, posing questions around the things that bind us as a community in this global moment of isolation and anxiety. This piece emerges from Helguera's RISD Museum exhibition, "Inventarios / Inventories", part of the exhibition *Raid the Icebox Now*.

Naama Tsabar's "Borders" takes up the subject of borders in their many iterations: political, gendered, national, concrete, sensory, mental, sonic, and linguistic. Written and performed collaboratively with RISD students Muireann Nic an Bheatha, Ariana Padovano, Theodore Von Baeyer, and Asher White, "Borders" layers content and meaning into a sonic mass composed live into a musical score by the musician FIELDED.

On Tuesday, May 19th at 5 pm we will conclude our spring series with Carissa Rodriguez and George Liu:

I am alive. You are alive. We are alive. This is living.

By Carissa Rodriguez and George Liu.

An exercise in education and mutation.

"My professor proposed a collaboration which I eagerly said yes to. Before we knew it, I became a piggy bank, oinking on command."

Thank you Charlie Shields, Nadine El Nesr, and T Deutsch.

## Artist bios:

Pablo Helguera (b. 1971, Mexico City) is a visual artist living in New York City. His work involves performance, drawing, installation, theater and other literary strategies. He is often considered a pioneering figure in the field of socially engaged art. His work has been featured at many international biennials including Manifesta, Havana and Liverpool Biennial, and Performa. He has received the Guggenheim and Creative Capital Fellowships as well as the first International Award of Participatory Art in Bologna, Italy. Recent projects include a two-person exhibition with artist Suzanne Lacy at the UC Santa Barbara Museum and the 8th Floor in NYC and a mid-career survey of his work at the Jumex Museum in Mexico City. He is the author of many books including *Education for Socially Engaged Art* (2011) and *The Parable Conference* (2014).

Naama Tsabar (b. 1982, Israel) lives and works in New York City. She received her MFA from Columbia University in 2010. Solo exhibitions and performances of Tsabar have been presented at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum (New York), Museum of Art and Design (New York), The High Line Art (New York), Nasher Museum (Durham, NC), Kunsthhaus Baselland (Switzerland), Palais De Tokyo (Paris), Prospect New Orleans, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, The Herzliya Museum for Contemporary Art in Israel, MARTE-C (El Salvador), CCA Tel Aviv (Israel), Faena Buenos Aires, Frieze Projects New York, Kasmin Gallery (New York), Paramo Gallery (Guadalajara), Dvir Gallery (Israel), Spinello Projects (Miami) Shulamit Nazarian (Los Angeles). Tsabar's work has been featured in publications including ArtForum, Art In America, ArtReview, ARTnews, The New York Times, New York Magazine, Frieze, Bomb Magazine, Art Asia Pacific, Wire, and Whitewall, among others.

Carissa Rodriguez (b. 1970, US) lives and works in New York City. Solo exhibitions include the Art Institute of Chicago (2020); the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (2019); MIT List Visual Arts Center, Cambridge (2018); SculptureCenter, New York (2018); CCA Wattis Institute, San Francisco (2016); Front Desk Apparatus, New York (2013); Karma International, Zürich (2012); House of Gaga, Mexico City (2010); New Jersey, Basel (2009). Rodriguez participated in the Whitney Biennial of 2014 and 2019. She received a BA in Literature from Eugene Lang College at the New School, New York in 1994, and attended the Whitney Independent Study Program in 2001. She was a core member of Reena Spaulings Fine Art, New York from 2004 to 2015. She is currently Visiting Lecturer in the Department of Art, Film and Visual Studies at Harvard University.

The Center for Experimental Lectures was started in 2011 by Gordon Hall, and since then has commissioned 40 new lecture performances at a variety of venues including Recess, MoMA PS1, The Shandaken Project, Interstate Projects, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Artists Space, and at the Whitney Museum of American Art presenting Seminars with Artists in conjunction with the 2014 Whitney Biennial. Starting in 2016, Joseph Lubitz joined Gordon Hall as an organizing collaborator at the CEL. An archive including transcripts and video documentation of past events can be found at [experimentallecures.org](http://experimentallecures.org).