

ART COLLISION & REPAIR SHOP

Center for Contemporary Arts Santa Fe, New Mexico November 2014 - January 2015

Creator Susan Begy

Curators Susan Begy

Kathryn M Davis

CCA Visual Arts Director Erin Elder

CCA Public Programming Coordinator Angie Rizzo

Consulting Bricoleur Michael Shippling



ART COLLISION & REPAIR SHOP

Regardless of the projects we are working on, the following are feelings familiar to all of us: frustration with our progress, creative block, dissatisfaction with our final product, etc. What if you could turn the whole thing over to someone else? Could you wholly surrender a potentially doomed endeavor to the hands of another for intervention?

These are some of the questions that formed the root of the *Art Collision and Repair Shop*, a process- and collaboration-driven art project and exhibition organized by Santa Fe- and New York- based artist Susan Begy and Santa Fe-based art critic Kathryn M Davis. Following this initial line of inquiry, and inspired by Begy's personal experience growing up around an auto-mechanic shop, an expansive project emerged that opened up lines of inquiry including the dynamics of team collaborations, conceptions of authorship, the role of curatorial direction, and the aesthetics of community-specific large-scale installation.

Taking the format of the mechanic shop as a model, local artists brought in and surrendered "stalled" or frustrating works, and "art mechanic" teams—also comprised of local creatives—were each given a piece along with the task of intervening in, resuscitating, or otherwise resolving the artwork to the point of completion. By using this model, the role of the curators was reimagined. Rather than selecting artists' works for exhibition, the curatorial role here was in combining the elements and guiding the alchemy along.

The project explored not only issues of intervention and surrender, but most significantly the collaborative creative process. With open-ended freedom (and plenty of space to fill at the Center for Contemporary Art in Santa Fe), each team proceeded down unique paths. Some preserved most of the donated piece and built upon it. For example, in Team MC-D Players' (Susan Begy, Cheri Ibes, Christopher J. Johnson) reworking of

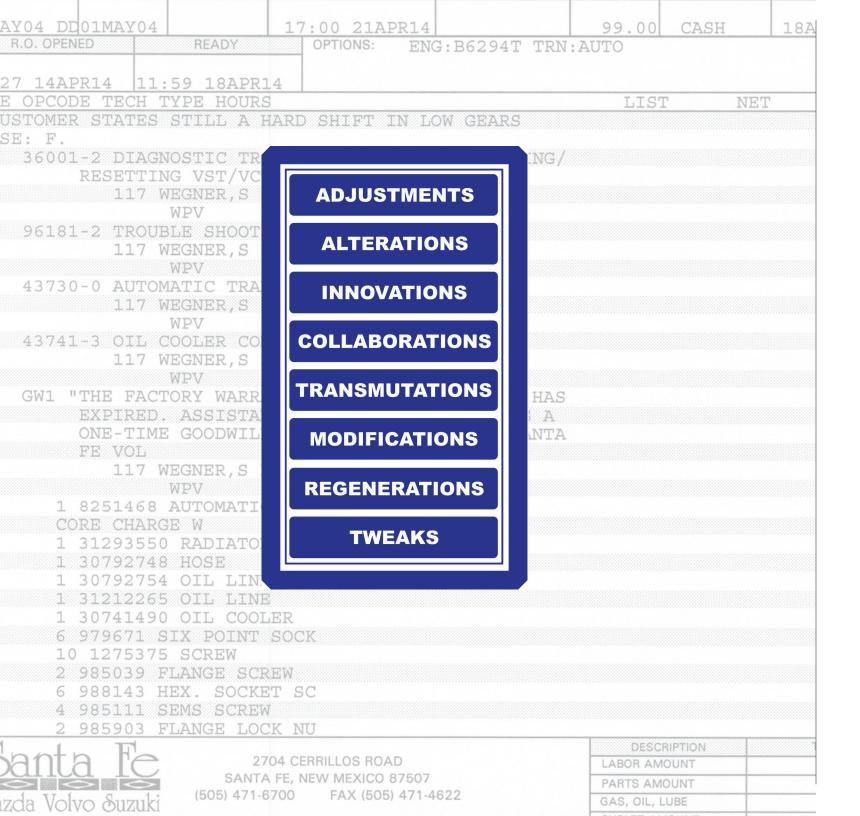
Matthew Chase-Daniel's donated piece, Thingy, the woven object remained intact and served as a jumping off point for the team's additions and pendulum-like installation of exposure | distance. Other teams deconstructed the originating artwork and reconstructed something else entirely, as in Team Conspiracy Theory's (Katherine Lee, Michael Lujan, Erika Wanenmacher) Project Sandhill, in which painter Charles Greeley's contribution all but disappeared amidst the frenetic collection of documents, photos, maps, and detritus collected in search of a fictive conspiracy at work in New Mexico.

Internally, some teams worked more independently and then merged their contributions; others worked closely together throughout the process. The resulting installations reflect widely different aesthetics and conceptual concerns, from Team Liminal's (Sydney Cooper, Hannah Hughes, Dylan McLaughlin) meditative, lyrical *Untitled*, to Team

Reverse Waste-Stream Renovators's (Don Kennell, Willy Richardson, Nina Mastrangelo, Raina Wellman, Michael Schippling) eclectic, irreverent Decommissioned Turbocharged Transformation and Glorious Resoulification of the North American Free-Trade Agreement Altarpiece of Reflection. Despite this, the exhibition space was filled with an overarching feeling of exploratory and playful energy.

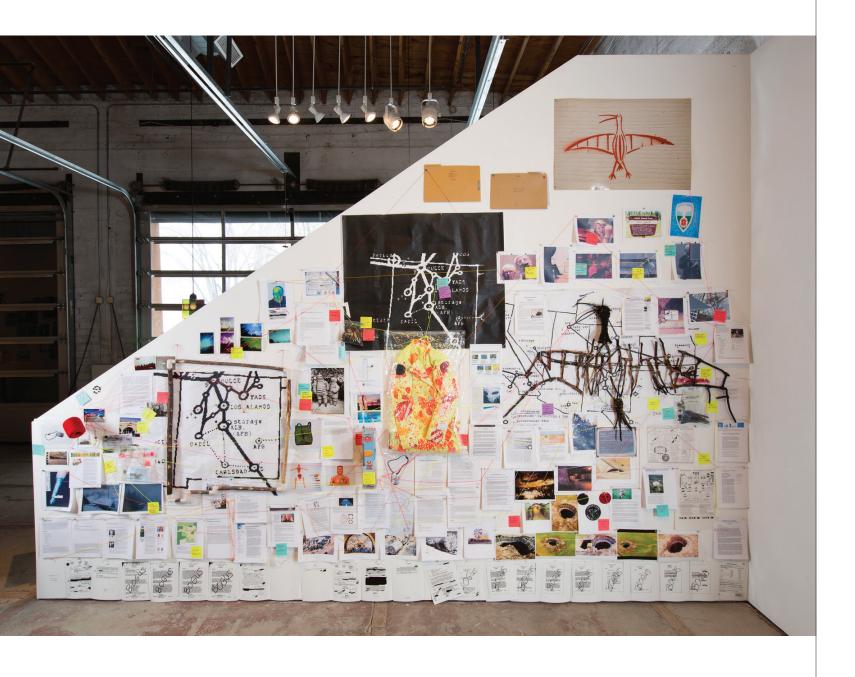
The individual projects and resulting exhibition ultimately blurred the lines of authorship, giving the endeavor an aura of place rooted in the Santa Fe community. The specific locality of the elements—teams, artist-donors, curators, venue, audience—invokes curiosity: how would the same endeavor take shape elsewhere? Is there a specific spirit or aesthetic at work in Santa Fe, New Mexico? Would the spirit and aesthetic of the project look and feel different in Houston, Chicago, Portland, etc.? There is a way to find out: perhaps the Art Collision and Repair Shop will open additional locations!

—Lauren Tresp is an art writer based in Santa Fe, NM



14 Santa Fe artists each surrendered a piece of their artwork that was stuck in some way.

2 artists worked in teams as Art Mechanics to bring those stalled works to a state of completion.



PROJECT SANDHILL

Katherine Lee Michael Lujan Erika Wanenmacher

mixed media 16 x 10 ft.





Originating Artworks Geoffrey Gorman, *Peace Crane*, 2010 Charles Greeley, *Sunrise*, 2009



Originating Artwork
Susanna Carlisle and Bruce
Hamilton, *Untitled*, c. 1985

UNTITLED

Sydney Cooper Hannah Hughes Dylan McLaughlin

video, mylar, painted canvas, stainless steel rod and cable $8 \times 5 \times 10$ ft.





SYCOPHANATIC

Ethan Bach Sandra Halpin Shirley Klinghoffer

video, doll, roomba, acrylic dome, wood $16 \times 16 \times 9$ ft.



Originating Artwork Bunny Tobias, *Tattoo Babe*, 2012



DECOMMISSIONED TURBOCHARGED TRANSFORMATION AND GLORIOUS RESOULIFICATION OF THE NORTH AMERICAN FREE-TRADE AGREEMENT ALTARPIECE OF REFLECTION

Don Kennell Willy Richardson Nina Mastrangelo Raina Wellman Michael Schippling

mixed media installation $12 \times 10 \times 2$ ft.





Originating Artworks
Bob Haozous, *Untitled*, 2005
Susan Begy, *Falling Fruit I* and *II*, 2006

Opposite
Originating Artworks
Judy Tuwaletstiwa, *Timelines 1/Entry*, 2011
Rita Bard, *Everything but the Kitchen Sink*, 2009





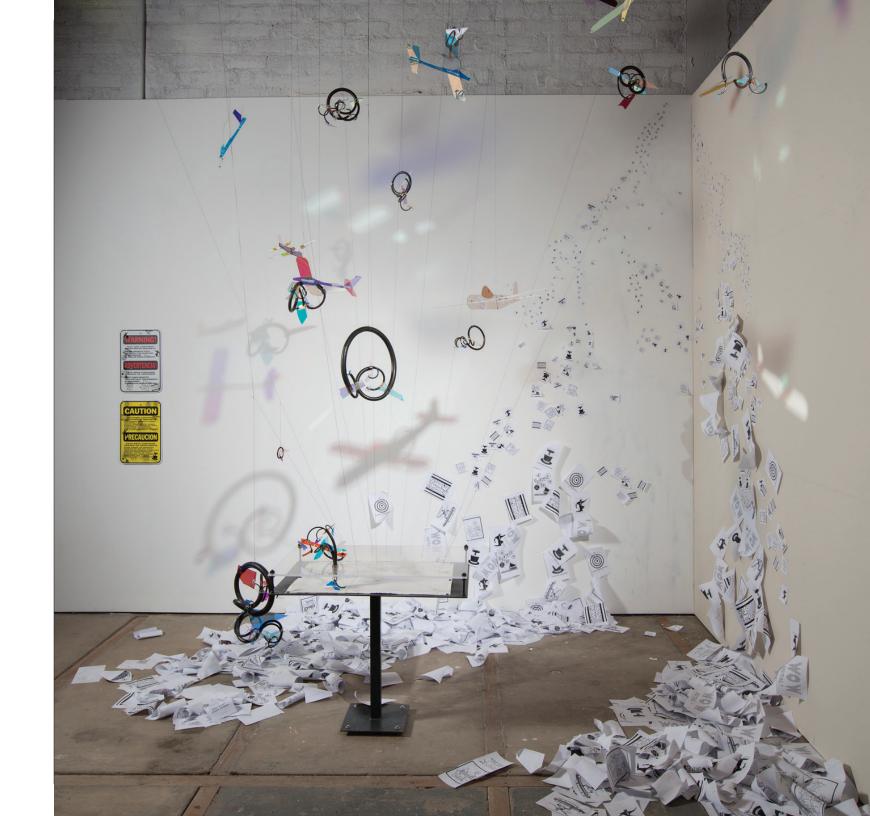


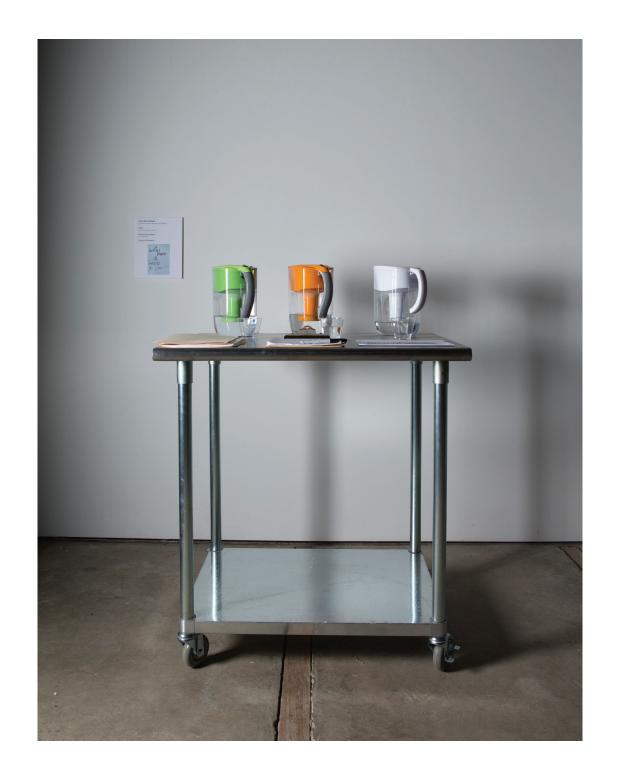
Originating Artwork Eve Andrée Laramée, *Fire Map*, 2005

FIRE MAP: PLOT OF OCCURRENCE

Jamie Hamilton Stacey Neff Jerry Wellman

magnets, glass, plexiglas, paper, steel $16 \times 10 \times 12$ ft.

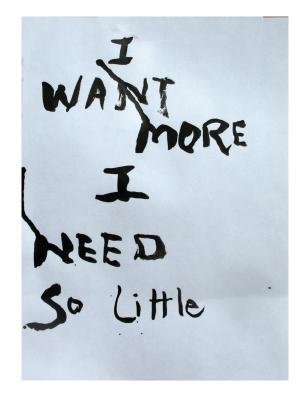




TASTE TEST

Alexis Bove Kathryn M Davis Cyrus McCray

multi-media performance



Originating Artwork Jerry Wellman, *Untitled*, 2014



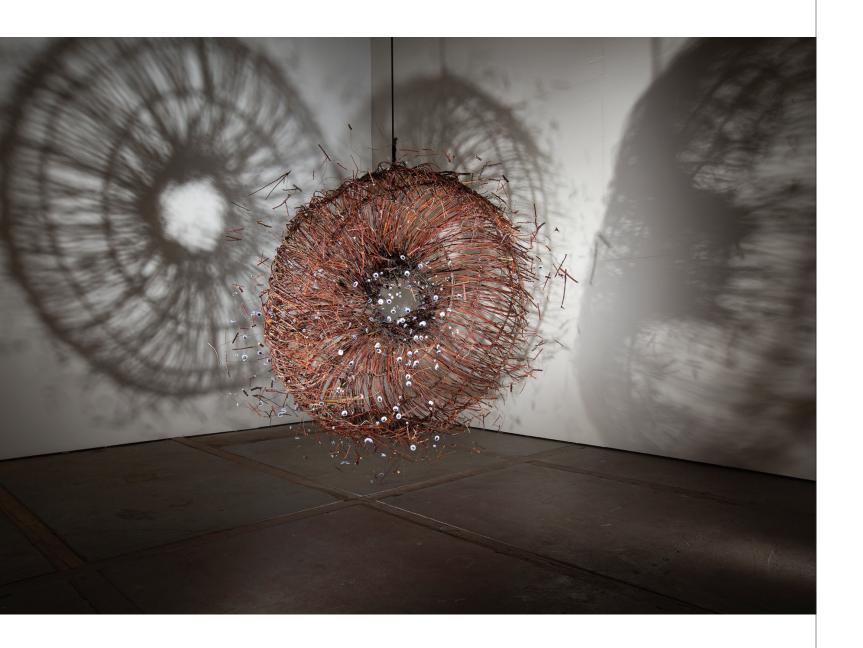
Originating Artwork Joel Hobbie, *Untitled*, 2007

HOT MIX

Paula Castillo Caity Kennedy Matt King

legos, soap, aluminum, rope, wood $12 \times 10 \times 18$ ft.





EXPOSURE

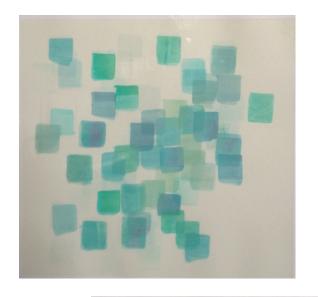
DISTANCE

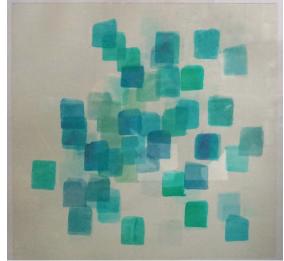
Susan Begy Cheri Ibes Christopher J. Johnson

salt cedar, stain, paint, wire, bungee cord, googly eyes, recorded poetry, fans, seating 12 x 12 x 12 ft.



Originating Artwork Matthew Chase-Daniel, *Thingy*, 2010



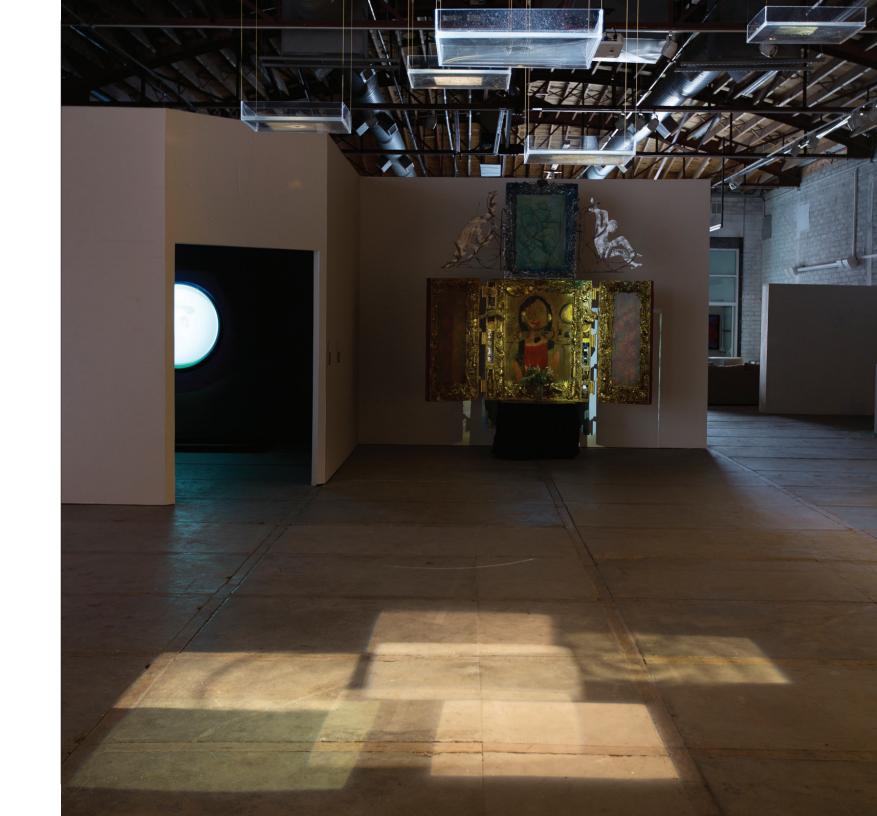


Originating Artwork Jennifer Joseph, *Untitled (two pieces)*, 1999

ICU

Kristin Bortles Cary Cluett

light, IV drip, water, plexiglas, monofilament $10 \times 10 \times 16$ ft.



	ORIGINAL A	RTWORK	TEAM	ARTWORK		
page 6	Geoffrey Gorman Peace Crane, 2010 sticks, wire, found objects 12 x 38 x 34 in.	Charles Greeley Sunrise, 2009 acrylic on canvas 24 x 20 in.	Team Conspiracy Theory Katherine Lee Michael Lujan Erika Wanenmacher	Project Sandhill 2014 mixed-media installation		
10	Susanna Carlisle and Bruce Hamilton Untitled, c. 1985 canvas, acrylic, stainless steel, stainless steel cable 33 x 50 x 22 in.		Team Liminal Sydney Cooper Hannah Hughes Dylan McLaughlint	Untitled 2014 mixed-media installation		
12	Bunny Tobias Tattoo Babe, 2012 found objects, tattoos by artist 48 x 18 x 12 in.		Team Robo Dolly Ethan Bach Sandra Halpin Shirley Klinghoffer	Sycophanatic 2014 mixed-media installation		
14	Rita Bard Everything but the Kitchen Sink, 2009 acrylic and pastel on canvas 48 x 32 in. Susan Begy Falling Fruit I and II, 2006	Bob Haozous Untitled, 2005 2 painted aluminum cutouts 48 x 18 in. Judy Tuwaletstiwa Timelines 1/Entry, 2011 cotton, string, acrylic on	Team Reverse Waste-Stream Renovators Don Kennell Willy Richardson Nina Mastrangelo Raina Wellman Michael Schippling	Decommissioned Turbocharged Transformation and Glorious Resoulification of the North American Free- Trade Agreement Altarpiece of Reflection 2014 mixed-media installation		

canvas

26 x 38 in.

oil on canvas

48 x 16 in. each

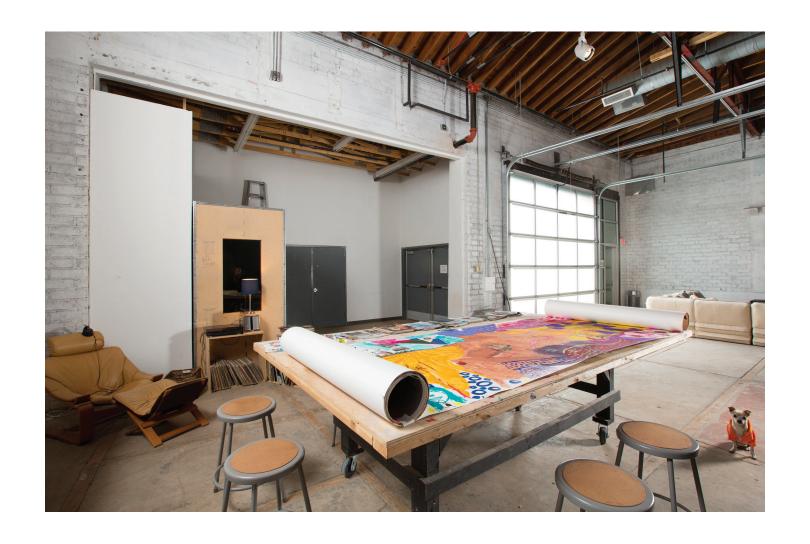
EXQUISITE PANORAMA

Public art event planned by Angie Rizzo

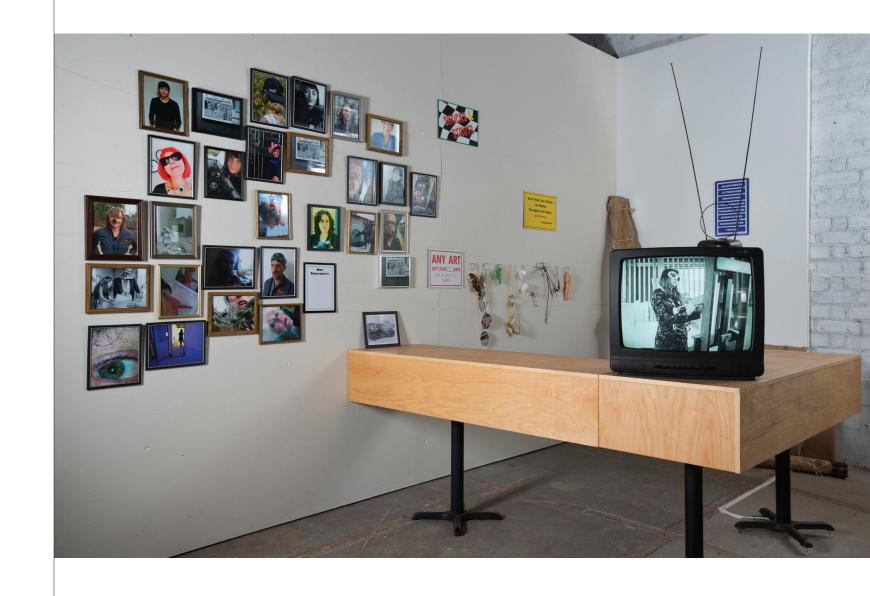
Exquisite Panorama was a two part program. The first part was the Public Engagement component for the Art Collision & Repair Shop exhibition. The public was invited to contribute to this large-scale exquisite corpse by adding on to that which had been done by others.

The second part of the project was transforming the *Exquisite Panorama* into a moving panorama in a theatrical performance. Collaborator and performer Andy Kirkpatrick improvised and 'de-coded' the symbolism in the panorama in front of an audience at the CCA and the Jean Cocteau Theater.

mixed media







I believe that unleashed creative power with a collaborative spirit can fix just about anything. I want to see how far we can take that.

Susan Begy, Creator and Co-Curator

The standout aspect, for me, of how the Art Collision + Repair Shop coalesced was how truly capable our artists were conceptually and with their chosen mediums, and how easily they embraced the rather odd idea of taking on something that had originated with another (theoretically, at least), unknown artist. The Art Mechanics worked in cohesive teams in variations one a spectrum that ranged from fully collaborative to purely individual, allowing them to play to each Mechanic's strengths. I was impressed with these people, even though I'd chosen many of them with Sue. In fact, the sole curating I did was in inviting artists to participate; beyond that, they were in charge and Sue and I trusted them completely. Overall, the results were provocative; some of the installations were downright phenomenal.

Kathryn M Davis, Co-Curator

Collaboration is very hard! I work in an art collective full time, and have on and off for 8 years, but collaborating with new people always brings a new set of challenges, benefits, lessons, and unexpected aesthetic collisions. There is nothing like bouncing ideas back and forth between collaborators that makes whole plans materialize out of thin air! Then, there is nothing like working in reaction to each-other's decisions to create something unexpected and exciting. No matter how much collaboration you've done in your life, the next collaboration will still be surprising.

Caity Kennedy, Art Mechanic













The Art Collision & Repair Shop project was one of the most enjoyable collaborative art experiences I have had. The project was light hearted and fun along with rehabilitating a piece of art to create something completely new. As a true community event, Art Collision & Repair Shop brought together Santa Fe artists and art appreciators as a community.

Ethan Bach, Art Mechanic

When we use art-making as a vehicle for exploration and innovation, we invariably follow paths to dead-ends and find ourselves with unfinished or unsuccessful artworks. If they contain seeds of ideas that might be explored, we often keep then in the back of the studio or on the scrap pile. Such was the case with the sculpture which I gave over to the Repair Shop. I was impressed with the care and respect that Cheri and Susan gave to the original sculpture, and delighted with the well-crafted, dynamic, and whimsical sculpture that they created, using a balanced combination of my original processes and their own unforeseen processes and materials.

Matthew Chase-Daniel, Art Mechanic





ART C&RS SERVICE FORM

The Art Collision & Repair Shop of Santa Fe is owned and operated by Susan Begy.

-Melody Sumner Carnahan ©2015

Please fill out the form below to expedite satisfaction in service. Then read the following TERMS AND CONDITIONS and sign and date on the dotted line.

1) Is Satan real? If you answer "NO" or "NOT SURE" please complete the entire questionnaire. If you answer "YES" please skip ahead to question #20.	11) Does collaborative art-making inspire liberation or impose discontent?
2) What is missing from the work?	12) Can you recognize when something is "stuck" or "stalled"?
3) Is the work dead or alive?	13) Are you willing to relinquish your hold and dive into the unknown?
4) Are you an empty void crying out to be filled?	16) Have you submitted a diagram of the incident with your damage report?
6) Why aren't you living in perfection?	17) Date, time, and instant of collapse into impermanence?
7) Are you able to de-problematize the extremes?	18) Are you ready to allow the work to be brought to a state of completion and merit?
8) Do you have a finger on the pulse of eternity?	19) At the point of distribution there is objectively no difference; yet thankfully there are still mysteries in the world.
9) Do you know why "there is a crack in everything"?	20) Are you willing to be a soldier in the war against intelligence? If you answer "YES" we are unable to process your service request.
10) How can a viewer's perceived meaning differ from the artist's attempt?	
TERMS AND CONDITIONS:	
Any person who knowingly presents a plastic or false moment as a fraudulent loss or benefit in order to receive an "emblem of the hidden," or who primes the placebo with something too resolved may be guilty of a subjective act.	I have read the foregoing, and all of the above answers are true and complete according to the limitations of my necessarily limited knowledge, understanding, and beliefs.

Signature

Date

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