

ARTS #creative state state

The official magazine of Arts NC State
SPRING 2017

Think and Do

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Sustainability**

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**NC STATE
UNIVERSITY**

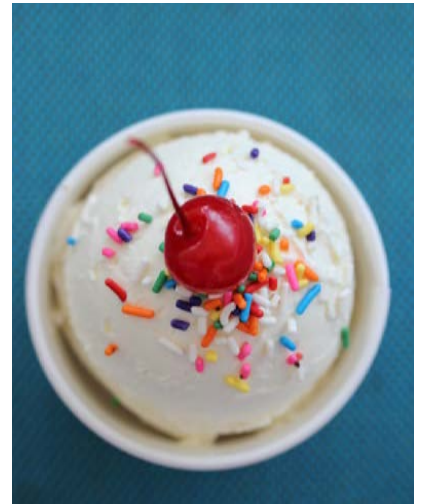


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PHOTO BY MARC JACKSON

Dear Friends –

With apologies to (reluctant Nobel Prize recipient) Bob Dylan, the times they are a-changin’.

In addition to the incredible arts programming we’re proud to present to you this spring, things are happening around Arts NC State that will change the course of the arts at NC State.

Many of you have come to appreciate (if not love) the Crafts Center, and for good reason. The Crafts Center is known for embracing community and providing programming, both in courses and exhibitions, that meets the needs of a diverse population. We are sorry to have our cherished colleague, director George Thomas, announce his retirement, effective the end of February 2017. We have been conducting a search for the new director since last fall, and while I can assure you that the Crafts Center will remain committed to its diverse programming, this is also an opportunity for a new director to shape what a 21st century Crafts Center looks and acts like.

For quite some time we’ve been expressing our joy over the construction of the new Gregg Museum of Art & Design. If all has gone well, by the time you’re reading this, the construction will be complete and we will have begun the process of moving into the spaces and mounting the first exhibits, which will open in fall 2017.

Finally, many of you have visited Price Music Center, and will agree that the building is in need of some tender loving care. This spring and summer Price will undergo a minor renovation. Minor as it may be, we are hopeful that the changes to the building will make for a more pleasing experience, both in terms of visual effect and acoustic environment.

We remain grateful to you for your support of Arts NC State, and I look forward to seeing and meeting many of you at our events this semester.

Rich Holly
Executive Director
Arts NC State

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ON THE COVER

A senior majoring in aerospace engineering, Caleb Gallentine (seen here working on a birdhouse that seems destined for the high-rent avian neighborhood) has been a student instructor for a very popular skateboard-making class at NC State’s Crafts Center. In the background, Jason Swienkowski, a junior majoring in Art + Design, adds finishing touches to the exquisite boat he has built.

PHOTO BY GEORGE THOMAS

Arts NC State: Who We Are

CRAFTS CENTER

Open to campus and the community, the Crafts Center is a place to meet fellow makers, discover your hidden talents and create art in a supportive environment.

crafts.arts.ncsu.edu

DANCE PROGRAM

This nationally recognized program educates, empowers and inspires NC State student dancers and choreographers to find and express their creative voice.

dance.arts.ncsu.edu

GREGG MUSEUM OF ART & DESIGN

A free collecting and exhibition museum with almost 40,000 objects, the Gregg makes art accessible to the NC State community and public. It's the museum of NC State University, where objects spark ideas. Look for the grand opening of our new space in fall 2017.

gregg.arts.ncsu.edu

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The Music Department provides educational and performance opportunities for student and community participants through a variety of musical experiences and academic courses. The department also serves as a cultural resource for the university and the greater community through performances and presentations offered by our students, our student/community groups, and by our faculty.

music.arts.ncsu.edu

NC STATE LIVE

NC State LIVE has established a regional and national reputation for presenting a professional performing arts season of the highest artistic excellence, connecting artists and audiences in a meaningful exploration of the diverse cultures and issues that define our communities and world.

live.arts.ncsu.edu

UNIVERSITY THEATRE

Open to all NC State students, regardless of major, University Theatre's mission is to provide quality theatrical, artistic and practical experiences for the students and larger campus as well as Triangle communities.

theatre.arts.ncsu.edu

#creativestate

The official magazine of Arts NC State

SPRING 2017 | VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

Arts NC State is the collective voice of the visual and performing arts programs of North Carolina State University.

**Crafts Center
Dance Program
Gregg Museum of Art & Design
Music Department
NC State LIVE
University Theatre**



Arts NC State is part of the Division of Academic and Student Affairs.

Dr. Mike Mullen
Vice Chancellor and Dean

Rich Holly
Executive Director

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ACAPPOLOGY

PHOTO BY ROBERT DAVEZAC

EVENTS

CALENDAR

2017 **SPRING**

- NC STATE LIVE
- GREGG MUSEUM
- UNIVERSITY THEATRE
- DANCE PROGRAM
- THE CRAFTS CENTER
- MUSIC DEPARTMENT
- ARTS NC STATE

FEBRUARY

● **Art at the Atomic Scale**

The Crafts Center
Through March 3

● **The Secret Garden**

Stewart Theatre
February 15-19

● **Dr. James LeBeau: Art at the Atomic Scale** (presentation)

The Crafts Center
February 15

● **Arts NOW Composers' Concert with the Aizuri Quartet**

Titmus Theatre
February 16

● **The HillBenders – The Who's TOMMY, A Bluegrass Opry**

Titmus Theatre
February 18

● **Jazz Ensemble I**

Stewart Theatre
February 20

● **Camille A. Brown & Dancers – Black Girl: Linguistic Play**

Stewart Theatre
February 25

● **Wind Ensemble**

Stewart Theatre
February 28

MARCH

● **Arts NOW Saxophonist Phil Barham**

Kennedy-McClwee Studio Theatre
March 1

● **Teacher from the Black Lagoon** (Kidstuff)

Stewart Theatre
March 4

● **The Nile Project**

Stewart Theatre
March 15

● **Of Ghost and Strangers**

Kennedy-McClwee Studio Theatre
March 16-18

● **Music of the British Isles**

Stewart Theatre
March 18

● **NileFEST: The Nile Project Closing Celebration** (free!)

Stafford Commons
March 21

● **Panoramic Dance Project Concert**

Stewart Theatre
March 23-24

● **Faculty Jazz Recital: Dr. Wes Parker**

Kennedy-McClwee Studio Theatre
March 27

● **Aquila Theatre – The Trojan War: Our Warrior Chorus**

Stewart Theatre
March 30

● **The Merry Real (House)Wives of Windsor**

Titmus Theatre
March 30-April 2, April 5-9



THE HILLBENDERS

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ARTISTS

Mon-Sat:
10-9

Sun:
11-6

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● NC State Choirs Concert

Stewart Theatre

March 31

APRIL

● Mu Beta Psi A Cappella Fest

Stewart Theatre

April 1

● Raleigh Civic Chamber Orchestra

Stewart Theatre

April 2

● Student Art Sale

Talley 3rd Floor

April 5

● NCSU Dance Company Concert

Stewart Theatre

April 6-7

● Ladies in Red

Stewart Theatre

April 8

● Wolfgang

State Ballroom

April 9



RALEIGH CIVIC SYMPHONY

PHOTO BY ROBERT DAVEZAC

- **Chan E. Park, Pansori**
Kennedy-McClwee Studio Theatre
April 11
 - **Black Grace**
Stewart Theatre
April 11
 - **ETHEL's Documerica**
Stewart Theatre
April 22
 - **Raleigh Civic Symphony**
Stewart Theatre
April 23
 - **Jazz Ensemble II**
Stewart Theatre
April 24
 - **Wind Ensemble:
A Night on Broadway**
Stewart Theatre
April 25
 - **Jazz Ensemble I: Celebrating
100 Years of Recorded Jazz**
Stewart Theatre
April 27
 - **State Chorale**
**PLEASE STAY: A Concert in
Support of Suicide Prevention**
Stewart Theatre
April 28
 - **Grains of Time**
Stewart Theatre
April 29
 - **Acappology**
Stewart Theatre
April 30
- JUNE**
- **TheatreFest 2017**
Thompson Hall
June 1-25



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PANORAMIC DANCE PROJECT

PHOTO BY JILLIAN CLARK

#creativestate

VIGNETTES

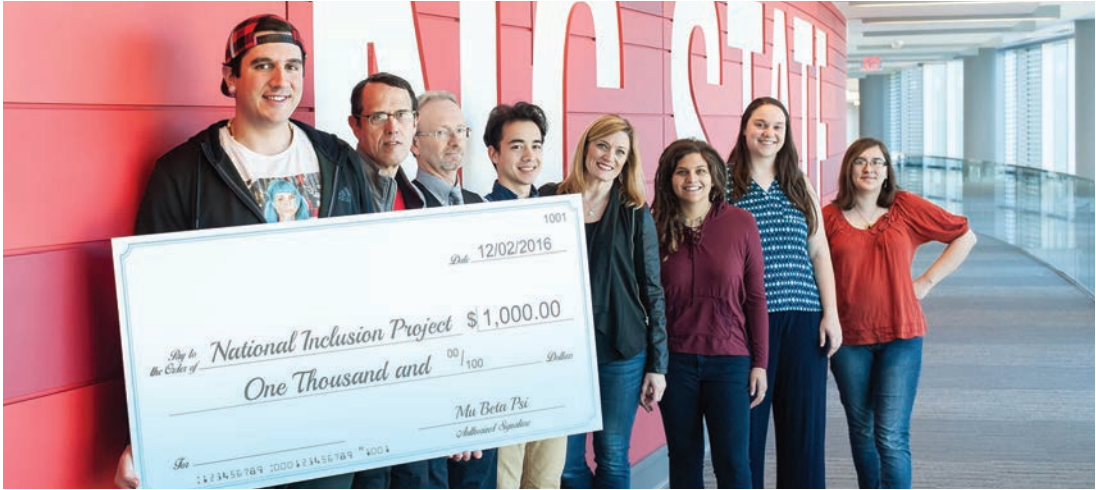


PHOTO BY ROBERT DAVEZAC

ARTS ENTREPRENEURS SUCCEED, RAISE FUNDS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

NC State University's Arts Entrepreneurship students completed an almost yearlong project by donating \$1,000 to a local nonprofit.

Beginning in the spring 2016 semester, students in the program's capstone course decided to design, manufacture and sell a tote, with the proceeds being donated to the National Inclusion Project, a local nonprofit "...promoting the inclusion of children with disabilities in activities with their non-disabled peers."

Students began by securing Janie Kegley, a textile artist and then senior at the University of Kentucky, to develop fabric designs. They then created the tote bag and integrated Kegley's design ideas.

By partnering with students from the College of Textiles, the totes were manufactured on campus, thus eliminating outside manufacturing costs.

Armed with a "can't miss" sales plan, and mostly on schedule, the class took to selling the totes both on and off-campus. The Music Department's honorary fraternity, Mu Beta Psi, also partnered with the project by providing a mechanism to hold sales receipts.

While all this was occurring, students were required to create an innovative business and marketing plan for Kegley, as she intends to launch a line of hand-painted scarves shortly after she completes her

master's in arts administration in spring 2018.

After three weeks executing a hectic sales plan, students were only a few totes away from meeting their sales goal before the semester ended. Unfortunately, those last few were not sold in time. Sales, however, continued throughout 2016 and in November, the last tote bag was sold. Available students and Mu Beta Psi members were then able to present the donation to Christy Thompson, the National Inclusion Project's director of community outreach, on December 2.

Course instructor and director of the university's Arts Entrepreneurship Program, Dr. Gary Beckman, noted that new entrepreneurs fail more often than succeed. "Though we didn't make our sales goal in time, the entire capstone experience was a wonderful lesson in what it takes to be an arts entrepreneur. By allowing students complete control of the design, manufacturing and sales of the art product, they were able to get a sense of the work, partnerships and planning it takes to transform art into significant value. It's no small feat. I'm exceptionally proud of the students who made this project a success. They represent the best of the Arts Entrepreneurship Program both on and off campus."

2016 BOWERS MEDAL OF ARTS AWARDED TO THREE RECIPIENTS

The Friends of Arts NC State Board of Advisors has presented the 2016 Bowers Medal of Arts to G. Smedes York and Drs. Norman and Gilda Greenberg.

The Greenbergs were honored at a ceremony at The Forest at Duke on April 26. Music students from NC State's Brickyard Brass performed for the occasion.

York received the Bowers Medal at a ceremony in Titmus Theatre on November 9. Following the ceremony, University Theatre held a preview performance of Oscar Wilde's *An Ideal Husband*.

Drs. Norman and Gilda Greenberg are among NC State's most generous arts supporters. After decades of teaching, researching and traveling around the world, the couple retired to The Forest at Duke and became involved with the Gregg Museum of Art & Design.

Through their estate plans, the Greenbergs have committed to the Gregg their important collection of Native American art and artifacts, along with funding to maintain and properly exhibit the objects. The couple also made a major contribution to the Gregg Museum Campaign, naming the Drs. Norman and Gilda Greenberg Native American Arts Collection Study Room in the historic chancellor's residence. Most recently, the Greenbergs pledged an additional major gift to create the Dr. Norman Greenberg Brass Quintet Endowment, a reflection of Norman's first career as a Juilliard-trained French horn player.

Smedes York is a pillar of the Raleigh and NC State communities. He graduated from NC State in 1963 with a degree in civil engineering. While a student, he played basketball for four years under the coaching of Everett Case. Smedes served on the Raleigh City Council from 1977 to 1979, and was elected mayor for the two terms from 1979 to 1983.

York has been a passionate advocate for NC State throughout his life and served on the university's Board of Trustees from 1994-2001. He has been honored with various university awards, including the 1977 Outstanding Young Alumni Award, the 1989 Distinguished Engineering Alumnus Award, the 1989



PHOTO BY ROBERT DAVEZAC

Dr. Norman Greenberg, Dr. Gilda Greenberg, Arts NC State executive director Rich Holly, and Friends of Arts NC State 2014-16 board chair Bing Sizemore.



PHOTO BY BECKY KIRKLAND

Rich Holly, Smedes York, Friends of Arts NC State board past chair Bing Sizemore, and Friends of Arts NC State 2016-18 board chair Gary Greene.

College Alumnus of the Year Award, and the Watauga Medal in 2006.

Smedes York has been essential to the growth of Arts NC State. He co-chaired the Thompson Hall Building Campaign Committee and was vital to the successful renovation. He and his wife, Rosemary, are Founding Friends of the Gregg Museum Building Campaign and advocates for the arts at NC State throughout the Raleigh community.

The Bowers Medal of Arts was established in 2000 to recognize and celebrate the vital role that Henry Bowers played in the development of and support for the visual and performing arts at NC State University. As associate vice chancellor for student affairs, Bowers committed himself to the goal of making the arts an inseparable part of the educational experience for all NC State students. He worked ceaselessly to create opportunities for students to have access to a full range of the arts, whether as engaged and enlightened audiences or creative and innovative participants.

MOVING A MUSEUM

It takes more than a friend with a pickup, bribed with pizza and beer

It may seem ironic that the very first precious object to be transported and installed in the new Gregg Museum of Art & Design is one that most visitors will probably never see. On November 28, a team of burly workers lugged a huge table made of thick slabs of quarter-sawn oak into the not-yet-painted lobby of the Gregg's new galleries wing, then hefted it to a precarious balance on a scissor lift to be raised to the second floor. Too large to fit into the elevator, the table could only be moved into the building at this precise stage in the project. A few days earlier, with electrical outlets still being activated and carpet being laid in the new staff offices, there had been no place to put it. A few days later, a glass handrail would be installed across the only opening large enough for it to pass through.

This particular table is slated to become the centerpiece of the Gregg's new staff meeting room, which happens to be exactly large enough to accommodate it. In turn, the table suits its new setting, since the meeting room is upstairs in the newly renovated historic portion of the museum that previously (beginning in 1928) had served as the chancellor's residence for nearly 85 years.

The table, made about 1910, has been attributed to the L. & J.G. Stickley company of Fayetteville, New York, founded by Leopold and John George Stickley. They were the younger brothers of famed master craftsman Gustav Stickley and shared his core values of simple, straightforward design, functionality, and honesty in construction. The Stickley brothers are now ranked among the first to design and build modern furniture. Though inspired by medieval furnishings, the Gregg's table would look equally at home in an all-glass-and-steel skyscraper as it will in this 1920s home (for decades, in fact, it graced the Mid-Century Modern lobby of the original Talley Student Center).

It would be hard to imagine a more appropriate focal point for meetings at the Gregg, since one of the key missions of the museum is to remind students, visitors and researchers that great design is timeless, and that inspiration can come from anywhere. Before long, College of Design students will be able to see how a greenish glass bowl made by Roman glassblowers two thousand years ago can easily hold its own next to an anodized aluminum container developed for



PHOTO BY MATT GAY

the aerospace industry. College of Textile students will be able to use textiles from the Gregg collection as inspiration for new fashion lines (in fact, commercial companies are already doing this; see tinyurl.com/zf6usx6).

Before that can happen, though, the collection – which now numbers nearly 40,000 objects – must be moved. With construction on the new building gradually reaching an end, the Gregg staff will soon be facing not only the transportation of everything back to the campus, but making sure that everything goes into the right drawers, the right shelves, the right hanging racks – and all in the right order and safely.

It's akin to moving a huge library, except that unlike books (which can be lined up on shelves in orderly rows), practically every object in a museum has its own needs and requirements. It is a mind-bogglingly complex task – the staff sometimes tries to convey to visitors just how complicated it is by pointing out that if you have only 10 objects to place on a narrow shelf, there are 3,628,800 ways to rearrange them! In this case, every object must be tracked, packed, handled properly, and then get unpacked and placed in an exact place in the right order, to make it possible to find them again. Adding to the complexity, everything will be finding its new home for the very first time, and it must happen relatively quickly. Previously, when things were arranged on their shelves in the old Gregg, they were placed there one-by-one over a space of decades.

The tiny handful of people who are tackling this gargantuan organizational chore (one registrar, one



PHOTO BY ROGER MANLEY



assistant registrar, and one part-time collections assistant) are doing all they can to keep the move planning process under control. They're often working till late in the evening, not only rephotographing, remeasuring, cleaning, tagging and correcting all the old the file records (with files dating back to the 1930s – long before anyone imagined the university would ever even have a museum – these aren't always in perfect order), but also managing the online collections files, updating data, and using all this information to plan the move.

SHARON MOORE AWARDED THE RALEIGH MEDAL OF ARTS

The City of Raleigh Arts Commission selected six individuals to receive the 2016 Raleigh Medal of Arts, the city's highest arts honor. The medal is awarded for extraordinary lifetime achievement in the practice or support of local arts. Sharon Moore, longtime director of NC State LIVE, was one of the six honored.

Now in her 31st season with the performing arts series at NC State, Sharon is lauded as a visionary Raleigh arts leader who exhibits unselfish devotion to duty, both in her role as director of NC State LIVE, and in service to the greater arts community.

Sharon believes deeply in the power of the arts to impact people's lives, and works tirelessly to connect artists and audiences. She has built a performing arts series that is recognized nationally for innovative, challenging, artistically excellent, and culturally diverse programming.

As described by Vicki Vitiello, Director of Operations & Arts Learning for the North Carolina Arts Council, "Not only is Sharon highly respected for her role as the director of one of the most innovative and forward-thinking arts organizations in our state, her commitment to serving North Carolina's entire statewide arts community has established her as one of our most beloved leaders and heroes."

Once the Gregg reopens, objects in the regular Permanent Collection will be available for the public to see and enjoy, with a little advance warning. By going online and identifying items they'd like to examine more closely, visitors will be able to arrange personal encounters with staff on hand to help them. If a particular object is deemed sturdy enough, they may even be allowed to handle it, though under supervision and with proper precautions (like protective gloves). Objects placed in another category – the growing Education Collection – can be handled more freely, often with bare hands.

Access to the collections is only one of many offerings the new Gregg will soon be able to provide, with exhibitions, concerts, screenings, workshops, classes, special events, and facility rental spaces to follow. But first, the building must be finished and the surrounding landscape prepared to welcome visitors. It won't be long now!



PHOTO BY FIGGALLERY.COM

Sharon Moore

The Raleigh Medal of Arts ceremony was held on October 6 in the Fletcher Opera Theater at the Duke Energy Center for the Performing Arts.

Moore's fellow awardees include William Henry Curry, former resident conductor of the North Carolina Symphony; fashion designer Eric Ennis; Sarah Powers, executive director of Visual Art Exchange; ballet dancer and mentor Dr. Mel Tomlinson; and Virginia Zehr, a founding board member of Community Music School and former staff member of the United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County.



PHOTO BY KATHLEEN SCHENK

CONTRA-TIEMPO RETURNS TO TEACH

In spring 2016, NC State LIVE presented a residency and performance with CONTRA-TIEMPO, a bold, multilingual Los Angeles-based dance company, founded by Cuban-American choreographer Ana Maria Alvarez.

This February, two dancers from CONTRA-TIEMPO return to NC State for a residency with students in the Panoramic Dance Project. They will teach an excerpt of *Agua Furiosa*, Alvarez's work inspired by Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, and Oya, the Afro-Cuban deity of wind and storms. You can see this piece performed on the Panoramic spring concert on March 23 and 24.

COMPOSERS' CONCERT WITH THE AIZURI QUARTET

Through its engaging and thought-provoking programs, the Aizuri Quartet has garnered critical acclaim for bringing "technical bravado and emotional power" to bold new commissions (*San Diego Union-Tribune*), and for performances of the great masterpieces of the past in which "every note is lovingly crafted and savored." (*The Washington Post*)

Currently based in New York City, the quartet was the 2015-2016 Ernst Stiefel String Quartet-in-Residence at the Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts. From 2014-2016, Aizuri was the String Quartet-in-Residence at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. Formed in 2012, the Aizuri Quartet draws its name from "aizuri-e," a style of predominantly blue Japanese woodblock printing that is noted for its vibrancy and incredible detail.

Combining their deep study of classical music with a naturally warm and exuberant approach to audiences and students, the Aizuri Quartet is passionate about creating diverse points of entry into the string quartet repertoire. For their Arts NOW concert at NC State, the quartet will perform new works by two NC State faculty members: composer, conductor and bassist Dr. Peter Askim, director of orchestral studies in the Music Department and conductor of the Raleigh Civic Symphony and Chamber Orchestra; and Dr. Rodney Waschka II, composer and professor of arts studies, and director of the Arts NOW Series.



PHOTO BY ERICA LYN

NC State's Arts NOW Series programs feature contemporary work in the arts: new works, new techniques, new interpretations and contexts, and new connections to older work. Events are presented by the Arts Studies program of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, in conjunction with the NC State Music Department. This special event to celebrate the work of NC State University composers has been made possible through support from Arts NC State.

Thursday, February 16 at 7pm
Titmus Theatre

TALKING BLACK IN AMERICA

Did you know that there are over 15 distinct dialects and 300 other thriving languages in the United States? The Language and Life Project was established in 1993 by Dr. Walt Wolfram, William C. Friday Distinguished University Professor at NC State University, in order to document the dialects of North Carolina and beyond.

Talking Black in America is a one-hour documentary television program on issues of language and speech as they manifest in the everyday lives and institutional experiences of African American English speakers in the United States. The majority of content will be derived from comments of everyday speakers, reflecting real world experiences, curated in alignment with contemporary scholarship in the field. The film presents an informed and entertaining portrait of language issues specific to African American heritage and culture for the general public. Supporting commentary is provided by linguists, historians and other experts. This film is a National Science Foundation documentary produced by the Language



and Life Project at NC State. This showing is co-presented by the NCSU Libraries and Africana Studies.

Thursday, March 23 at 7pm
Hunt Library



Olga Kleiankina



Liliya Ugay

REVOLUTION 1917: MUSIC OF SOVIET RUSSIA

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Russian Revolution, the Raleigh Civic Chamber Orchestra will perform works composed in the post-revolution Soviet Union. NC State faculty pianist Dr. Olga Kleiankina (a native of Moldova, a member of the former Communist Bloc) joins the orchestra as guest soloist in Dmitri Shostakovich's *Piano Concerto No. 2*. The orchestra will also present the world premiere of a

newly commissioned work by Liliya Ugay, a rising-star composer and pianist from Uzbekistan.

Dr. Daniel Bolger of the NC State Department of History will provide historical and cultural context for the music. Dr. Peter Askim conducts the program.

Sunday, April 2 at 4pm
Stewart Theatre



PHOTO BY JOHN JOYNER PHOTOGRAPHY

SPRING FASHION EVENTS FROM THE COLLEGE OF TEXTILES

Join NC State's College of Textiles on May 7 and 8 for the 2017 FTD: Emerging Designer Showcase. A total of 29 students from the school's competitive Fashion and Textile Design (FTD) program will debut their collections in a two-day event in the State Ballroom of Talley Student Union.

A static exhibit featuring the creative works of 13 textile designers opens Sunday, May 7 and will be on display through Monday, May 8. Unique collections by 16 fashion designers will take center stage in an exciting runway show on the evening of May 7.

The College of Textiles' FTD program melds traditional design sensitivities with cutting-edge technologies to empower students to create innovative textiles, fashions and other textile products.

Visit textiles.ncsu.edu for more information on the showcase and the college.

A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT

The depiction of rivers in music has a long history, and encompasses a wide range of genres. The ability of music to impact an audience on an emotional, visceral level can be a powerful tool to raise awareness of issues related to rivers, water and political issues around sustainable water use.

In conjunction with NC State LIVE's presentation of The Nile Project residency in March, and with the support of the NC State Sustainability Fund, the Raleigh Civic Symphony presents a concert of music inspired by rivers, conducted by Dr. Peter Askim.

The centerpiece of the performance will be the world premiere of a newly commissioned work by jazz legend and two-time Grammy-nominee Rufus Reid. An important voice in the newly developing field of orchestral jazz composition, Reid is an internationally renowned bassist, composer and educator. He is known for compositions characterized by multimedia inspiration, collaborations and the innovative fusion of jazz and orchestral elements.

The program will include another work inspired



PHOTO BY JIMMY KATZ

Rufus Reid

by a river, Bedrich Smetana's beloved symphonic poem, *The Moldau*.

Sunday, April 23 at 4pm
Stewart Theatre



PHOTO BY BECKY KIRKLAND

2015-2016 STUDENT ARTS AWARDS

Arts NC State recently conferred the annual Performing and Creative Arts Awards, and nine NC State students were honored for their accomplishments during the 2015-2016 academic year. The awards were presented by Arts NC State executive director Rich Holly, Friends of Arts NC State board chair Gary Greene, and Amy Sawyers-Williams, arts outreach coordinator for Arts NC State.

The Performing Artist Award recipients are **Rebecca Anderson** and **Holley Holmes** in dance; **Areon Mobasher**, **Spencer Monaco** and **Drew Marshburn** in music; and **Natalie Sherwood** in theatre.

The Creative Artist Award recipients are **Leslie Barber** in dance for her choreography of *Everything in My Head*; **Carter Harris** in music for his original score for jazz ensemble titled *Waltzometry*; and **Teal Lepley** in theatre for her original play, *Of Ghosts and Strangers*.

The Arts NC State Performing and Creative Arts Awards celebrate NC State students – all non-arts majors – who create and perform in dance, music and theatre. The awards are administered and funded by Arts NC State and were originally made possible from a generous grant from the NC State Foundation, Inc. The Creative Artist Award is now partially funded by the Suzanne Kennedy-Stoskopf Endowment for Creativity in the Performing Arts. For more information about the Student Arts Awards and this year's recipients, see go.ncsu.edu/artistawards.

L-R: Rich Holly, Amy Sawyers, Natalie Sherwood, Teal Lepley, Leslie Barber, Carter Harris, Holley Holmes, Drew Marshburn, Areon Mobasher, Spencer Monaco, Gary Greene. Not pictured: Rebecca Anderson.



NC STATE THINK AND DO THE EXTRAORDINARY

GINI BROWN IS A SOPHOMORE MAJORING IN BIOCHEMISTRY AND GENETICS. SHE BEGAN DANCING AT THE AGE OF THREE AND IS PRIMARILY TRAINED IN BALLET, JAZZ AND TAP. THIS IS HER SECOND YEAR WITH THE NCSU DANCE COMPANY, ONE OF TWO PERFORMING COMPANIES OF THE NC STATE DANCE PROGRAM.

IN THIS PHOTO FROM THE SPRING 2016 DANCE CONCERT, BROWN IS PERFORMING *PRELUDE TO SETTLING* (2011), CHOREOGRAPHY BY **CAROL KYLES FINLEY** WITH LACY LOWDER.

FINLEY GRADUATED FROM NC STATE IN 1993 WITH A BACHELOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN, GRAPHIC DESIGN, AND THEN EARNED AN MFA IN DANCE, CHOREOGRAPHY FROM THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY. SHE IS A PROFESSOR OF DANCE AT MEREDITH COLLEGE IN RALEIGH.



THE CAMPAIGN FOR NC STATE

On October 28, 2016, NC State launched the public phase of the most ambitious fundraising effort in the history of the university, with a goal of \$1.6 billion in private support from our remarkable alumni and friends. NC State envisions a big, bold future; the Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign will make that future possible.

All of NC State's colleges and units are working together to meet or exceed the campaign's \$1.6 billion goal by December 31, 2021. The Division of Academic and Student Affairs (DASA), of which Arts NC State is a part, has a goal of raising \$20 million by the conclusion of the campaign.

Within the \$20 million goal, Arts NC State has identified priorities that align with the five primary focus areas of the Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign.

▼ EXTRAORDINARY OPPORTUNITY

Scholarships provide Extraordinary Opportunities for NC State students to pursue activities outside their majors that will enrich their academic, personal and professional lives.

Dr. Chris Gould, Emeritus Alumni Distinguished Undergraduate Professor of Physics, has supported many of Arts NC State's programs including the Music Department, the Dance Program and the Gregg Museum of Art & Design. In 2010, Gould created the Reynolds Music Performance

Scholarship Endowment in honor of a fellow NC State physics professor, accomplished violinist, and Arts NC State



PHOTO BY BRAND FORTNER

I know I can't give \$20 million, but I have seen how scholarship support has helped kids survive here. People may think, well, \$1,000 a year, \$1,500 a

year isn't that much. But it can make a big difference for some students.

– Dr. Chris Gould

supporter, Dr. Stephen Reynolds. Both Gould and Reynolds believe in encouraging a well-rounded university experience. The Reynolds Scholarship benefits NC State students who play a stringed instrument and are pursuing a minor in music and a major within the College of Sciences.

▼ EXTRAORDINARY PURPOSE

Arts NC State's most Extraordinary Purpose is to serve all NC State students regardless of their college or major. Arts NC State is therefore at the forefront of fostering

interdisciplinary collaborations on campus. This issue of #creativestate includes a piece on NC State LIVE's upcoming residency with The Nile Project, which will not only provide the campus community with an incredible performance but will also represent the coming together of the arts and the various efforts around campus to further sustainability and environmental stewardship.

Arts NC State's Dance Program regularly partners with faculty and students across campus. Last fall, College of Design students visited a dance rehearsal to help create wearable structures activated by the human body through movement. Students create their own interdisciplinary connections between the subjects they study and the movement they are learning.

Supporters of Arts NC State can give students Extraordinary Purpose by supporting our interdisciplinary initiatives through endowment and sponsorship gifts.



PHOTO BY JULIAN CLARK

It's so amazing to me as a science major to see how dance and the arts can mirror what I've learned in physics class.

– Gini Brown '19

▼ EXTRAORDINARY PLACES

Less than a year from now, the new Gregg Museum of Art & Design will open at the site of the historic chancellor's residence on Hillsborough Street. Donors to the Gregg Campaign contributed nearly \$4 million to support the transformative project, which was an early priority for Arts NC State as part of the Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign.

The new Gregg will seek to:

- Engage as many members of the campus and local communities as possible.
- Inspire students to discover new and innovative ways of thinking about their fields of study.
- Encourage NC State students and the community to believe that art is a vital engine of creativity and ideas.

Arts NC State is grateful to those who have made the Gregg Museum an Extraordinary Place on NC State's campus.

EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCE

When visitors enter the Gregg Museum's striking contemporary addition, they will see that one of the three gallery spaces is named the Robert Keith Black and J. Ormond Sanderson, Jr. Gallery. The gallery naming is just one way that the Gregg is honoring Robert and Ormond for their transformative planned gift of \$3.4M – the largest in Arts NC State's history. With their generosity, Black and Sanderson are ensuring that generations of NC State students will have Extraordinary Experiences at the Gregg.

Robert and Ormond have led amazing lives as craftsmen, collectors and interior designers. They founded the Straw Valley Craft House in Durham in 1959, where they transformed buildings from a dairy farm into a vibrant creative enclave of galleries, studios and a store. Robert and Ormond have committed their lives to creating and fostering art in North Carolina, and Arts NC State is humbled that they have chosen to create an endowment to support the Gregg's exhibitions and collection acquisitions in perpetuity.

Arts NC State hopes that Robert and Ormond's story of giving will inspire others to consider how they might create an Extraordinary Experience at NC State through a lasting commitment, such as an endowment.



PHOTO BY MARK TULBERT

I am constantly amazed by NC State's students and the daring and creative ways that they approach their work. They are already artists in their own ways but may not have discovered their potential yet. That is where the Gregg comes in, providing students with a creative home and muse both while they're on campus and long after they graduate.

*– Roger Manley,
director and curator*

▼ EXTRAORDINARY LEADERSHIP

The arts create leaders. Alumni regularly attest to how performing on stage as a member of University Theatre, the Music Department or the Dance Program strengthened their confidence and ability to present themselves and to speak before a crowd. Arts NC State fosters leaders who are bold and willing to take risks and who, through collaboration and teamwork, have tremendous empathy that they carry with them throughout their professional and personal lives.

The performing arts programs aren't the only ones that create leaders, however. Many of the Crafts Center's instructors are themselves students at NC State. These students commit time outside of their demanding academic schedules to teach fellow students and members of the community a skill that they have mastered, such as origami or wire-wrapped jewelry.

University Theatre has presented me with countless opportunities on and off the stage to foster my passion for the arts. Arts NC State captivates young minds and nurtures them into their destinies.

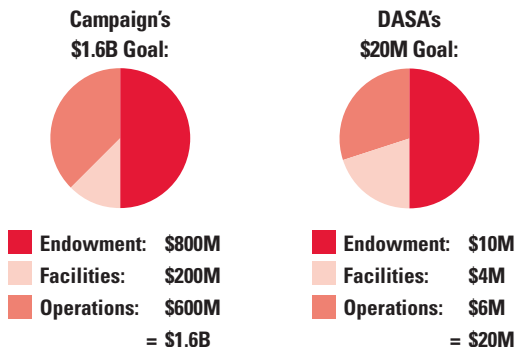
– Kimberlin Torain '16



PHOTO BY RON FOREMAN

HOW FUNDS RAISED WILL BE USED.

Campaign funds will support three key areas of need: **endowment** funding in the form of scholarships, travel funds, interdisciplinary teaching and more; **facilities** such as the new Gregg Museum; and **current operations**.



BE AN ADVOCATE. BE A SUPPORTER.

Everyone can participate in the success of the Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign by advocating for Arts NC State on campus and in the community and through financial support.

How to advocate.

Tell the people around you what's great about NC State. Here are a few reasons we like to share:

- Arts NC State believes that the arts are for everyone, and our programs are open to *all students*.
- Arts NC State nurtures future community leaders. Our students will be more well-rounded and successful graduates because of their experience in the arts.
- Arts NC State serves the greater community by:
 - Making admission and most public programs held at the Gregg Museum of Art & Design free to everyone.
 - Offering many of our classes at the nationally-recognized Crafts Center to the general public.
 - Selling affordable tickets to many dozens of performances in dance, music and theatre.
 - Hosting a presenting series which brings artists from all over the world to perform and interact with student and community audiences.

How to give.

All gifts made to Arts NC State during the Campaign period will count toward our \$20M goal. Multiyear commitments and planned gifts provide ways for supporters to both meet their philanthropic and financial goals. To learn how you can transform the experience of NC State students through the arts, contact Jill Orr, Director of Development, at 919.513.4101 or jhor2@ncsu.edu.

BLACK GRACE
APRIL 11 IN STEWART THEATRE



PHOTO BY DUNCAN COLE

NC State LIVE Spring 2017

THE HILLBENDERS THE WHO'S TOMMY: A BLUEGRASS OPRY

Saturday, February 18 at 5pm & 8pm
Titmus Theatre

Forty-five years after its original release, one of the greatest rock albums ever created has been fully realized as a full-length bluegrass tribute, featuring The HillBenders. Conceived and produced by SXSW co-founder Louis Jay Meyers, this *Bluegrass Opry* brings a new perspective to *Tommy* while paying total respect to its creators. "You haven't heard Acid Queen until you've seen it sung by a bearded man with a mandolin." – *Rolling Stone, 50 Best Things We Saw at SXSW 2015.*

CAMILLE A. BROWN & DANCERS BLACK GIRL: LINGUISTIC PLAY

Saturday, February 25 at 8pm
Stewart Theatre

Camille Brown uses the rhythmic play of African-American dance vernacular – including social dancing, double dutch, steppin', tap, Juba, ring shout, and gesture – as the black woman's domain to evoke childhood memories of self-discovery. This spirited work is complemented by live music from pianist Scott Patterson and bassist Tracy Wormworth.

This performance is funded in part by a grant from South Arts in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

TEACHER FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

Saturday, March 4 at 3pm
Stewart Theatre (Kidstuff Series)

Seven delightful stories come to life in this Theatreworks USA musical revue. Books featured in the show include *Teacher from the Black Lagoon*, *Dogzilla*, *Grumpy Bird*, *I Want My Hat Back*, *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*, *Love Splat (Splat the Cat)*, and *The Grasshopper and the Ant* (based on the fable by Aesop).

THE NILE PROJECT

Wednesday, March 15 at 7:30pm
Stewart Theatre

The first Nile Project U.S. tour in 2015 earned raves from coast to coast. *The New York Times* called them "a committed, euphoric international coalition," and *Afropop Worldwide* said the Nile Project was "nothing short of revolutionary." Founded in 2011 by Egyptian ethnomusicologist Mina Girgis and Ethiopian-American singer Meklit Hadero, the Nile Project is one of the tightest cross-cultural musical collaborations in history.

See page 34 to learn more about The Nile Project at NC State.

AQUILA THEATRE THE TROJAN WAR: OUR WARRIOR CHORUS

Thursday, March 30 at 8pm
Stewart Theatre

The Aquila Theatre and American combat veterans/actors of the Warrior Chorus collaborate on a unique theatrical experience – *The Trojan War*, where the classic myths of ancient Greece and Rome are set against the compelling narratives of modern war. The Warrior Chorus is a national program that brings together men and women who served in the United States military and trains them to the highest level in the performing arts and humanities.

ETHEL'S DOCUMERICA
APRIL 22 IN STEWART THEATRE



PHOTO BY ERIN PATRICE O'BRIEN



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER DUGGAN

CAMILLE A. BROWN & DANCERS
BLACK GIRL: LINGUISTIC PLAY
FEBRUARY 25 IN STEWART THEATRE

BLACK GRACE

Tuesday, April 11 at 8pm
Stewart Theatre

New Zealand's leading contemporary dance group creates sensational dance that is highly physical, rich in the storytelling traditions of the South Pacific, and expressed with raw finesse, unique beauty and power. With their distinctive dynamism, the dancers of Black Grace take possession of the stage and own the audience from the first moment. And they never let go.

ETHEL'S DOCUMERICA

Saturday, April 22 at 8pm
Stewart Theatre

A meditation on America's relationship to our land, our resources and ourselves, *Documerica* is a multimedia concert that melds multiple screen video projections with original music by some of today's top composers. *Documerica* is performed with electrifying virtuosity by the postmodern indie-classical quartet ETHEL.



PHOTO BY RICHARD TERMINE

AQUILA THEATRE
MARCH 30 IN STEWART THEATRE



FOR **TICKETS**

919.515.1100 and arts.ncsu.edu

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live.arts.ncsu.edu

   NCStateLIVE

THE RIGHT PERSON,



**GEORGE THOMAS POSES WITH
HIS CARVING OF THE NC STATE
BELLTOWER, C. 1984.**

PHOTO BY JIM PRESSLEY

AT THE RIGHT TIME

BY ORLA SWIFT

George Thomas did a double take when he saw potter Michelle Brooks near the entrance to the Crafts Center. A 1998 graduate, Brooks hadn't been to the center in 14 years, so her reappearance at the Holiday Crafts Fair was unexpected.

But Thomas' surprise was nothing compared to Brooks'. Since her departure from the area, the Crafts Center has gone through a dramatic transformation both in artistic resources and programming. And that's due in no small part to Thomas, 58, who will retire in February after nine years as director and decades on staff. Brooks called the changes "breathtaking."

"The sense of culture and art in one building was inspiring," said Brooks, a horticultural sciences major who spent many hours in the Crafts Center in her college years. She was so inspired by her November visit that she went to a friend's studio after returning to Maryland and began working with clay again after a five-year hiatus.

"The buzz and electricity in the air at the Crafts Center woke me up again," she said.

Angel Cruz knows that buzz well. A Ph.D. student in the Crop and Soil Sciences Department, Cruz has taken a class at the Crafts Center almost every semester in her six years at NC State. Besides being interesting, fun and challenging, she says, the classes also keep her disciplined.

"I'm more productive during the day because I'm feeling excited about something I'm doing that night," she says of her classes in wood turning, pottery, glasswork, jewelry-making and more.

Cruz is one of many students invited to teach at the Crafts Center in recent years, in an effort to increase

student engagement. Cruz teaches how to make body care products such as lip balms and soaps. Her class is open to the public, though some student-taught classes and workshops are reserved solely for fellow students.

Cruz says teaching increases her own creativity and openness to risk-taking, because participants often come up with intriguing new ideas.

Sam Mayes agrees. A junior in computer and electrical engineering, he teaches people how to make electric cigar box guitars.

"I think teaching improves anyone's life," says Mayes, who worked closely with Thomas to design his class. "It makes you think through the things you're doing and analyze the processes you follow, instead of just focusing on the end goal. If I can make some object and be pleased with the end result, that's one thing, but it's much more challenging to lay out and schedule a plan that allows a group of people to

successfully make that same object in a limited series of classes."

Alex Barnes, a senior majoring in mechanical engineering, says his academic growth has improved due to the classes he takes and teaches at the Crafts Center. In his first class, he learned how to make a wooden bowl using a lathe. Now he teaches others to do the same.

"Working on my own projects has definitely helped me with other aspects of my life," he says. "I am more aware of manufacturing processes and how things are made, which comes in handy for my engineering classes. I also design most of the projects that I want to build, so I know how a project is organized from

"The sense of culture and art in one building was inspiring. The buzz and electricity in the air at the Crafts Center woke me up again."

Potter Michelle Brooks '98, whose visit to the Crafts Center inspired her to work with clay again after a five-year hiatus

start to finish. It also teaches me to be patient and persistent.”

Thomas knows well the benefits of pursuing a craft, both as a student and later in life. He discovered the Crafts Center in 1978, while majoring in technology education at NC State. Enamored, he headed to the wood shop four to five nights a week to practice woodcarving and learn to make furniture. Eager to land a job there, Thomas served as a student shop attendant during college and a community volunteer thereafter, while teaching wood shop full-time at East Garner Middle School.

In 1990, Thomas joined the Crafts Center full time as assistant director. When longtime director Jim Pressley retired in 2007, Thomas was promoted to interim director. That position became permanent in 2009, as the center prepared to reopen after a two-year, \$16 million renovation of its historic home base, Frank Thompson Hall.

The renovated center is a far cry from the program’s humble start in the 1950s as a recreational outlet with limited offerings for students and their spouses. Each decade brought new

growth and ambition, and now it’s one of the largest university crafts centers in the nation.

Jim Wallace, a wood turning instructor at the Crafts Center for 30 years, praised Thomas’ leadership and vision through the renovation and thereafter.

“George not only ensured the continued survival of the Crafts Center, he made it better,” Wallace says. With updated tools and machinery, and reimagined studio spaces, the renovated Crafts Center is able to attract and serve far more people, most notably students.

Among the program enhancements were student-only quickie “crafternoon” workshops, Barnes’ woodturning boot camp and hip offerings such as student-instructor Caleb Gallentine’s popular skateboard-making class.

Thomas’ instincts were on target. Student participation is now at an all-time high. And as students such as Gallentine – a senior majoring in aerospace engineering – prepare to graduate, they do so with confidence and creative problem-solving skills that will serve them well in their professions



PHOTO BY MICHAEL SCHWALBE

“The university is very much different than when I first learned about the Crafts Center in 1978 as an NC State student. Today’s education is far less bound by the traditional concept of book and classroom. As instructors seek new ways to make lessons real, I’m most proud that the Crafts Center has reached out to enhance the educational experience through meaningful support of the whole student.

“Thank you to past directors Conrad Weiser and Jim Pressley for laying the foundation and to the wonderful staff, team of teachers and volunteers whose efforts support the Crafts Center daily.”

– George Thomas '82

and beyond. Gallentine has already begun building a cherry wood kitchen table that he and his fiancée plan to use for years to come, a memento of – and tribute to – his education at the Crafts Center.

Wallace, the wood turning instructor, says Thomas has worked diligently to continually reshape an environment where students can explore and thrive.

“George is always focused on the students,” Wallace says. “He makes a concerted effort to engage new students and to respond to the needs and desires of returning students. George always reviews the class evaluations and will make changes based on the comments that are made. Above all, what I have seen is that he wants the NC State students to experience the joy of self-expression that comes from creating something that begins with the students’ imagination. George encourages spontaneity but teaches the value of craftsmanship.”

Thomas says he’ll miss helping Crafts Center participants build skills and discover talents they

didn’t know they had. But he’s also looking forward to spending his early retirement with his wife, and delving deeper into his growing interest in his family’s ancestral history.

Former director Pressley praised Thomas’ accomplishments, calling him an integral player in the center’s long-term success.

“As he retires, he will be passing forward an amazing, one-of-a-kind legacy to future generations of NC State students,” Pressley says. “George has been the right person, at the right time, to oversee the growth and enrichment of this very special place.” ●

Explore spring classes and workshops at the Crafts Center: crafts.arts.ncsu.edu.

Orla Swift was a theatre critic and arts reporter at the News & Observer and other newspapers for 20 years. She is now director of marketing and communications at Sarah P. Duke Gardens.



PHOTO BY GEORGE THOMAS

“This bowl was turned from an apple tree that I cut down on my granddad’s farm. As the wood dried, it started to warp and crack. Instead of trying to hide the imperfections, I decided to highlight them by adding crushed turquoise to the crevices. The bright blue stone draws attention to the wood’s natural character.

“The Crafts Center is a place that allows students to highlight their own character. Just like shaping a bowl brings out the best natural qualities of the wood, wood working molds students to be the best possible version of themselves.”

*– Alex Barnes
Senior, Mechanical Engineering*

AN IDEAL HUSBAND,
FALL 2016



University Theatre

Spring 2017

THE SECRET GARDEN

February 15-19
Stewart Theatre

This enchanting classic of enduring popularity is reimagined in brilliant musical style. Orphaned in India, 11-year old Mary Lennox returns to Yorkshire to live with her embittered, reclusive uncle Archibald and his invalid son Colin. The estate's many wonders include a magic garden which beckons the children with haunting melodies and the "Dreamers," spirits from Mary's past who guide her through her new life, dramatizing *The Secret Garden's* compelling tale of forgiveness and renewal with a magnificent and soaring score. *The Secret Garden* was written by Lucy Simon and Marsha Norman, adapted from the novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett.



*From the director,
John McIlwee:*

The magic of a beautiful, blooming garden is at the center of the much-loved tale of Mary Lennox. As a Victorian orphan, the world holds little promise for a happy ending until

Mary responds to her beautiful Aunt Lily's ghost to "come to my garden"... a hidden refuge! Surrounded by one of musical theatre's most heart-warming scores, the young heroine finds love and her forever home.

THE MERRY REAL (HOUSE) WIVES OF WINDSOR

March 30-April 9
Titmus Theatre

A modern spoof of the Shakespeare classic, this production will use the reality TV genre to tell the romping story of Falstaff as he tries to trick Mistress Ford and Mistress Page out of their money. Set in the trashy nouveau riche town of Windsor, Connecticut, jealous husbands, silly suitors, and mischievous fairies make this classic play a riotous trip through small town politics and merry matchmaking. Adapted from Shakespeare's work by Rachel Klem.



From the director, Rachel Klem: The Merry Wives of Windsor by Shakespeare is produced infrequently because it was written as a popular piece for Queen Elizabeth somewhere around 1597. Therefore, a lot of the cultural

references and even the language are so archaic that they don't resonate with modern audiences. By setting the production in the genre of reality TV, and by making some minor changes to the language and structure of the play, it is my hope as the director that University Theatre audiences will see themselves in the romping world of Falstaff's pastoral play.



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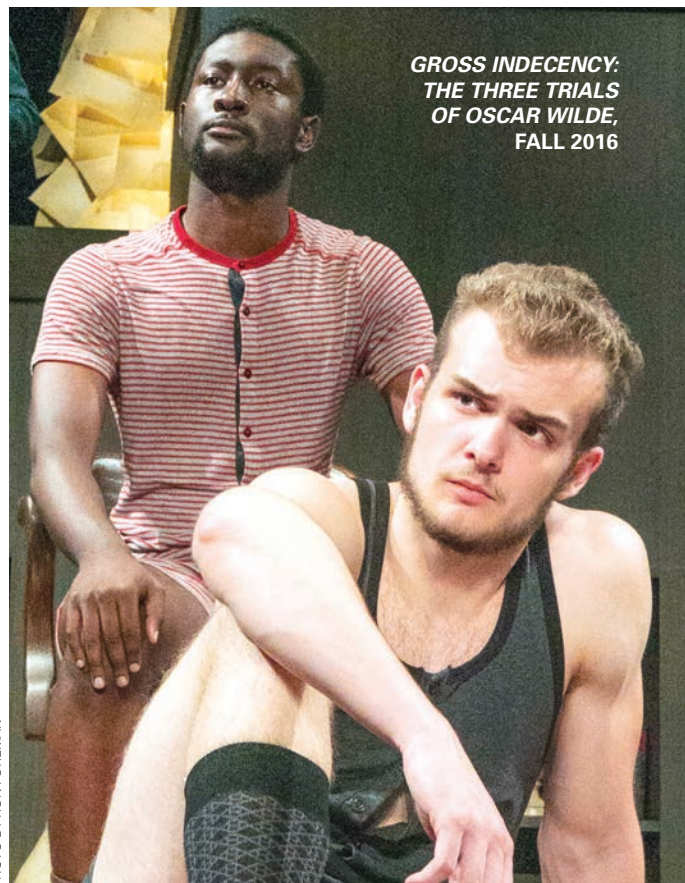
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LOVE/SICK,
FALL 2016

PHOTO BY RON FOREMAN



GROSS INDECENCY:
THE THREE TRIALS
OF OSCAR WILDE,
FALL 2016

PHOTO BY RON FOREMAN



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ANNOUNCING

TheatreFEST 2017**TEA WITH EDIE AND FITZ****Kennedy-McIlwee Studio Theatre****June 1-18**

TheatreFest 2017 opens with the regional premiere of a new work by playwright Adam Pasen. The Jazz Age and the Gilded Age collide in *Tea with Edie and Fitz*, a play that chronicles the tempestuous meeting of literary icons Edith Wharton and F. Scott Fitzgerald at her estate for tea in the 1920s. The play examines the lives of two authors at the height of their powers – and imagines what may have happened in that meeting that led them to never speak again. Directed by Mia Self.

FULL GALLOP**Titmus Theatre****June 9-24**

Look for the announcement of special events that will coincide with this enthralling one-woman show, starring Linda Clark!

Full Gallop is a portrait of a remarkable woman, based on the life of Diana Vreeland, who stood at the center of American style for five decades. As editor of *Harper's Bazaar* and *Vogue* magazines, she chronicled the extraordinary people and events of her time. "*Full Gallop* is, as Vreeland herself might have said, divine, divine, divine!" – *NY Daily News*. Directed by John McIlwee.

HAY FEVER**Titmus Theatre****June 15-25**

From one of the greatest British playwrights of all time – Noël Coward – *Hay Fever* is a cross between high farce and a comedy of manners. Hoping for a quiet weekend in the country with guests, David Bliss, a novelist, and his wife Judith, a retired actress, find that an impossible dream when their high-spirited children Simon and Sorel appear with guests of their own. A houseful of drama waits to be ignited as misunderstandings and tempers flare. *The New York Post* calls *Hay Fever* "Light, luminous, and charming, and hilariously funny." Directed by John McIlwee.

THEATREFEST 2016



PHOTO BY RON FOREMAN

THEATREFEST 2016



PHOTO BY RON FOREMAN



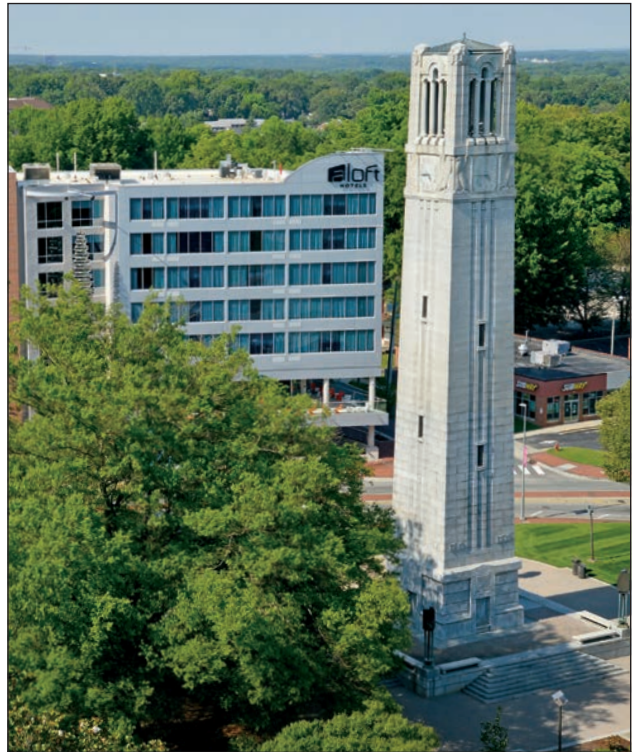
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Our State supports the North Carolina Presenters Consortium (NCPC) with a monthly listing in the magazine of exciting professional arts and entertainment events.

PHOTO BY HABI GIRGIS



THE NILE PROJECT

Something very special happens when the artists of the Nile Project perform together. In spite of language barriers, cultural differences, and sometimes, opposing viewpoints, citizens of 11 African countries come together in a powerful musical performance that quickly captivates their audience.

Their songs range from thoughtful to celebratory. There's a blues-like feel to *Ya Avay Weha*, while *Uruzi Nil* might inspire one to get up and dance. Songs can celebrate love or nature, and at other times, they speak to what the Nile Project hopes to accomplish – encouraging dialogue, breaking down barriers, and



Bringing people together to find solutions through music

BY LEA HART

finding common ground among the 11 African nations that share use of the Nile River.

The Nile Project performs at Stewart Theatre on March 15, kicking off a weeklong series of events that aim to inspire, educate and empower stakeholders on campus and in the community. The

week of participatory workshops and presentations will explore cultural, political and environmental issues through a musical lens.

Units across campus with interests in topics such as sustainability, social entrepreneurship, conflict resolution and world music see the Nile Project as



PHOTO BY MARK TULBERT



ETHNOMUSICOLOGIST AND NILE PROJECT CO-FOUNDER MINA GIRGIS MADE TWO TRIPS TO NORTH CAROLINA IN 2015 TO HELP PLAN THE 2017 RESIDENCIES AT SIX NORTH CAROLINA UNIVERSITIES.

an opportunity to serve the work of multiple colleges and departments, said Sharon Moore, director of NC State LIVE, and the driving force behind the Nile Project's visit to NC State and five other North Carolina universities.

In fact, the Nile Project embraces many aspects of NC State's own mission, from its role as a land-grant university in serving the state with outreach and extension, to its mission to promote an integrated approach to problem solving that transforms lives.

"We're bringing in a project that really gets to the core of thinking about how you talk about these issues, think together, and create solutions together," Moore said. "There are so many entry points and ways to engage."

THE NILE PROJECT AND USING MUSIC TO AFFECT CHANGE

The Nile Project continues NC State LIVE's 44-year tradition of bringing to campus performing artists who, according to its website, "reach beyond the stage to enrich the lives of our community members with meaningful educational experiences."

True, the Nile River is half a world away, but the lessons taught through the Nile Project have applications here at home, Moore said. Though based in the arts, the Nile Project has a number of meaningful touchpoints for the university, bringing a model for change to the campus community.

The Nile Project visit serves as just one example

of arts outreach at NC State.

In Moore's opinion, funding for arts outreach on campus allows the community to experience a different form of inspiration and creativity, and helps participants think outside the box, she said.

"We're letting students know these opportunities exist and they can take part," Moore said. "It enables and empowers what they do in the classroom."

At more than 4,000 miles long, the Nile is the longest river in the world, and impacts the political, economic and social lives of 462 million people living in the 11 countries through which the Nile flows. While each country has its own economic plans for the Nile to promote economic growth and alleviate poverty, the nations do not share a unified vision. Historically, rather than engage in dialogue and partnership, these countries tend to view each other as adversaries, leading to mistrust, according to the Nile Project founders.

Enter the Nile Project, whose mission is to "transform the water conflict in the Nile Basin by inspiring, informing and empowering Nile citizens to collaboratively foster the sustainability of their shared ecosystem."

By bringing together artists from the 11 Nile countries in multiweek residencies "to compose new music featuring diverse instruments, languages and styles indigenous to the world's longest river," leaders of the Nile Project say performances inspire cross-



PHOTO BY PETER STANLEY

cultural empathy and serve as an example of how collaboration could transform the Nile water conflict.

"Music is not a real obvious choice," said Mina Girgis, Nile Project co-founder.

Yet music can play a role. The appreciation of music from another culture leads to connection and humanization of that culture, he said.

At a less obvious level, Girgis sees the need for the people of east Africa to find different ways of organizing themselves to resolve conflict. The Nile Project serves as one such example. There is no hierarchy of musicians, but rather a self-organizing ensemble within the Nile Project. A collective group of equal members take turns leading, following, arranging music, and teaching each other.

"It's a very different experience when you see these people perform," Girgis said. "You can feel brotherhood and citizenship among musicians."

Since it was founded in 2011, the Nile Project has performed 75 concerts internationally and held workshops at 40 universities.

NC STATE: LEADING AND COLLABORATING

As the Nile Project tours each year, Girgis said one or two universities often play a leading role in facilitating a Nile Project visit and galvanizing the focus in their

region of the country.

"This year, Sharon was the person who really played that role," Girgis said of Moore. "Sharon brought this to the radar of university officials."

Moore said it was the Nile Project's mission, its focus on sustainability, and on working with students as the change-makers of the world that really struck a chord for her.

"It's a music project. It's a sustainability project. It's an African continent and identity project," Moore said.

The idea was met with enthusiasm when Moore introduced it on campus, gaining rapid buy-in from units across campus.

One such unit is NC State's Sustainability Office, where Tracy Dixon, director, said the Nile Project serves as a global example of what can be done at a local level.

"It really models an approach," she said. "One where we take conversations and turn them into actionable results."

Dixon envisions partnerships across campus strengthening following the Nile Project's visit.

"We hope to see different social groups contributing toward a similar vision," she said.

Students and faculty can expect a weeklong series of events, beginning on March 15 with the

Nile Project concert in Stewart Theatre and pre-show discussion with Mina Girgis, and ending on March 21 with a free outdoor public concert.

In between, “we’re programming as much as we can in a week,” Moore said. For example, a daylong student leadership retreat with Girgis, the Nile Project musicians and faculty will explore topics such as cross-cultural collaboration challenges and opportunities, self-organizing systems and resilience across disciplines, according to Moore.

The visit coincides with the Water Resources Research Institute (WRRRI) of the UNC System’s annual water conference on March 15-16 at NC State’s McKimmon Center. WRRRI invited NC State LIVE and the Nile Project to participate in the conference and share the Nile Project’s message of collaboration. Girgis will deliver the keynote address and the Nile musicians will host an interactive lecture on the topic of “Musical Collaboration and Water Cooperation.”

Nicole Wilkinson, coordinator for research and outreach with WRRRI, said the focus on working across disciplines, as well as the opportunity to apply lessons from the Nile Project at the local level fit perfectly with the WRRRI’s goals.

“We have 17 major river basins in North Carolina that cross a lot of social and political boundaries,” she said. “The Nile Project will really bring focus on how to find common ground.”

The Nile Project will arrive at NC State having already visited Western Carolina University for a

similar, but shorter residency. When the group departs Raleigh, they’ll travel to four other North Carolina universities: UNC Wilmington, Wingate, Appalachian and East Carolina.

NC State’s membership in the North Carolina Presenters Consortium served as a platform for Moore to share the idea with other universities. She brought the idea to the group’s 2015 summer meeting. The nonprofit membership network brings together professional performing arts presenting organizations, agents, managers, performing artists, service organizations, and vendors.

“When I learned about the Nile Project, I decided I wanted to share it with other presenters across the state,” she said. “I knew there’d be common interest.”

Kristen Brogdon, director of the Office of the Arts at the University of North Carolina Wilmington, saw an opportunity to make connections between the complexity of the Nile River conflict and the Cape Fear River, which flows more than 200 miles through North Carolina.

The Nile Project showcases the ability of the arts to play a role in a complex, multidisciplinary conversation, she said.

“It helps the entire campus see how the arts can be relevant to their work, particularly how arts can help them get out their message,” Brogdon said.

While a Nile Project performance highlights each stop on their tour, each university is programming its own series of accompanying events that focus

The Nile Project is a statewide collaborative initiative of the Bardo Arts Center at Western Carolina University, the Batte Center at Wingate, NC State LIVE, the Schaefer Center for the Performing Arts at Appalachian State University, the S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series at East Carolina University, and UNCW Presents. While at NC State March 15-21, the university’s deep commitment to sustainable practices will provide fertile ground for a week of participatory workshops and presentations that explore cultural, political and environmental issues through a musical lens. Learn more at go.ncsu.edu/nile.

This project is made possible by grants from the NC State University Sustainability Fund, the NC State University Foundation; the N.C. Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural & Cultural Resources; and is funded in part by a grant from South Arts in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and the N.C. Arts Council.



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on topics beyond music, including sustainability, social justice, global studies and more. Many are inviting local community members to participate.

Bringing the Nile Project to campus would normally be beyond the financial means of NC State LIVE, Moore said. To make it happen, NC State LIVE secured outside grants from the North Carolina Arts Council and South Arts, a regional nonprofit headquartered in Atlanta serving art organizations and individual artists, as well as on-campus support through grants from the Sustainability Fund and the NC State University Foundation.

"We offer high impact educational opportunities with artists in service to the university's mission," Moore said. "These significant activities and events generate no additional revenue, so must be subsidized through grants and sponsorships."

That impact is expected to be felt across campus long after the Nile Project departs. Students will be inspired as change-makers; and people who would not otherwise meet will have come together – encouraging new discussions and ideas.

By highlighting the power of music to forge unconventional linkages across campus and beyond, Girgis said the Nile Project hopes to show how solutions for social change can lie in unlikely places.

"How many people are there out there who could have a significant impact, and have not had the opportunity?" he questioned. "It requires a beginner's mind, or perhaps thinking outside the box." •

Lea Hart is a freelance writer based in Durham, N.C. and a proud 1998 NC State graduate.

THE NILE PROJECT co-founder Mina Girgis first visited NC State in May 2015 to explore connections and opportunities for an artist residency on our campus in spring 2017. The response to Girgis and the project was electric, and resulted in campus-wide conversation and collaboration around local sustainability challenges, social and environmental issues, and global exchange and cooperation.

The result? For one week (March 15-21), Mina and the Nile Project collective will engage NC State students and our local community through dialogues, panels, lecture-demonstrations and performances in support of the university's deep commitment to sustainable practices and meaningful social change.

Following is a partial list of events. Visit go.ncsu.edu/nile for a complete schedule and details.

The Nile Project Concert
Wed, March 15, 7:30pm, Stewart Theatre

Dinners with Purpose
Thur, March 16, 5:30pm

Mina Girgis will speak about his work as an inspiring example of finding purpose and passion in one's life. Hosted by the Social Entrepreneurship Initiative at the Institute for Nonprofits.

Nile Project Student Leadership Summit
Sat, March 18, 9am-5pm

NC State students will learn about the environmental and social issues impacting the Nile River and explore similar issues and solutions in North Carolina, using the Walnut Creek Wetlands in Raleigh as a case study.

Musical Collaboration & Water Cooperation
Mon, March 20, 3pm

Interactive lecture and performance with Mina Girgis and the Nile Project collective. Co-sponsored by the University Scholars Program.

Closing event: NileFEST
Tues, March 21, 5:30pm, Stafford Commons

Free outdoor family-friendly celebration featuring the Nile Project collective, hands-on activities and food.

Related Arts NC State Events

Panoramic Dance Project Concert
Thur and Fri, March 23 and 24, 8pm, Stewart Theatre

Featuring *Countless Tracks in the Riverside Mud*, choreographed by NC State Dance Program director Tara Mullins with music from the Nile Project CD *Aswan*.

Raleigh Civic Symphony
Sun, April 23, 4pm, Stewart Theatre

See page 14 for details of *A River Runs Through It*, a concert of music related to rivers and water.

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 Lew & Billie Rentel Museum Enhancement Endowment
 Lew & Billie Rentel Thompson Building Endowment
 Reynolds Music Performance Scholarship
 Banks & Louise Talley Arts Endowment
 Banks C. Talley Jr. Arts Endowment for the Frank Thompson Building
 Kimberly Titmus Przybyl Music Endowment
 Alby Rose Marching Band Scholarship
 Stafford Endowment for Arts NC State Student Travel
 Brita M. Tate Memorial Endowment
 Martha Emerson Upchurch Performing Arts Endowment
 Wachovia Endowment for the Visual & Performing Arts
 Randall & Susan Ward Arts NC State Scholarship
 Randall & Susan Ward Museum Endowment
 Mary Lib Wood Endowment for the Visual & Performing Arts

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DINING GUIDE

TALLEY STUDENT UNION

Floor 1 Starbucks

Floor 2
Jason's Deli
Los Lobos Mexican Grill
One Earth World Cuisine
Port City Java
Red Sky Pizza Company
Talley Market
(Howling Cow & Yates Mill Bakery)
Tuffy's Diner

Floor 3 1887 Bistro

NEAR CAMPUS

David's Dumpling & Noodle Bar

1900 Hillsborough St
919.239.4536

Gonza Tacos y Tequila

2100 Hillsborough St
919.268.8965

H-Street Kitchen

2420 Hillsborough St
919.745.1983

Jubala Coffee

2100 Hillsborough St
919.792.1767

Kabob and Curry

2418 Hillsborough St
919.977.6974

Liquid State

1908 Hillsborough St
984.200.6184

Mitch's Tavern

2426 Hillsborough St
919.821.7771

Neomonde

3817 Beryl Rd
919.828.1628

Players Retreat

105 Oberlin Rd
919.755.9589

CAMERON VILLAGE

Brixx Wood Fired Pizza

402 Oberlin Rd
919.723.9370

Cameron Bar & Grill

2018 Clark Ave
919.755.2231

Cantina 18

433 Daniels St
919.835.9911

The Flying Biscuit Café

2016 Clark Ave
919.833.6924

Sugarland

2031 Cameron St
919.835.2100

Tazza Kitchen

432 Woodburn Rd
919.835.9463

Tupelo Honey

425 Oberlin Rd
919.723.9353

Village Draft House

428 Daniels St
919.833.1373

DOWNTOWN

Beasley's Chicken + Honey

200 South Wilmington St
919.322.0127

Bida Manda

222 South Blount St
919.829.9999

Capital Club 16

16 West Martin St
919.747.9345

Chuck's

237 South Wilmington St
919.322.0216

The District

317 West Morgan St
919.977.5440

Fiction Kitchen

428 South Dawson St
919.831.4177

Five Star Restaurant

511 West Hargett St
919.833.3311

Flying Saucer

328 West Morgan St
919.821.7401

Gravy

135 South Wilmington St
919.896.8513

Humble Pie

317 South Harrington St
919.829.9222

Irregardless Café

901 West Morgan St
919.833.8898

The Pit

328 West Davie St
919.890.4500

Poole's Downtown Diner

426 South McDowell St
919.832.4477

The Raleigh Times Bar

14 East Hargett St
919.833.0999

Second Empire

330 Hillsborough St
919.829.3663

Sitti

137 South Wilmington St
919.239.4070

Taverna Agora

326 Hillsborough St
919.881.8333

Trophy Brewing Company

827 West Morgan St
919.803.4849

Trophy Tap & Table

225 South Wilmington St
919.424.7817



**Support the arts.
Leave a lasting legacy
for future generations.**

A bequest is one of the easiest gifts you can make to significantly impact Arts NC State. You may designate beneficiaries for assets such as a retirement plan, life insurance policy, or other funds, in addition to including us in your will.

To learn about the benefits of making a charitable bequest contact **Jill Orr**, Director of Development, at **919.513.4101** or **jill_orr@ncsu.edu**.





A MAJESTIC OAK TRANSFORMED

The Gregg Tree Project began when it became evident that two beautiful, large oaks would need to be felled to make way for the new Gregg Museum of Art & Design. The Friends of the Gregg (FOG) and director Roger Manley committed to repurposing the oaks, which had provided color, shade, dappled light and shadows across the lawn of the historic chancellor's residence for many years.

Through a juried selection process, the FOG board chose a design by Ann Cowperthwaite of Eidolon Designs.

Eidolon and another local company, Arrowhead Designs, had been searching for opportunities to collaborate, and this project offered the perfect opportunity to combine generational friendship and experience, technical skills and artistic vision.

For the sculpture, the artists of Eidolon and Arrowhead will create a single bench, out of which a towering, vertical 8" x 8" column rises 12' skyward – a minimal replication of the posture of the oak once rooted, cut from the center heart of the trunk after sawing the log lengthwise.

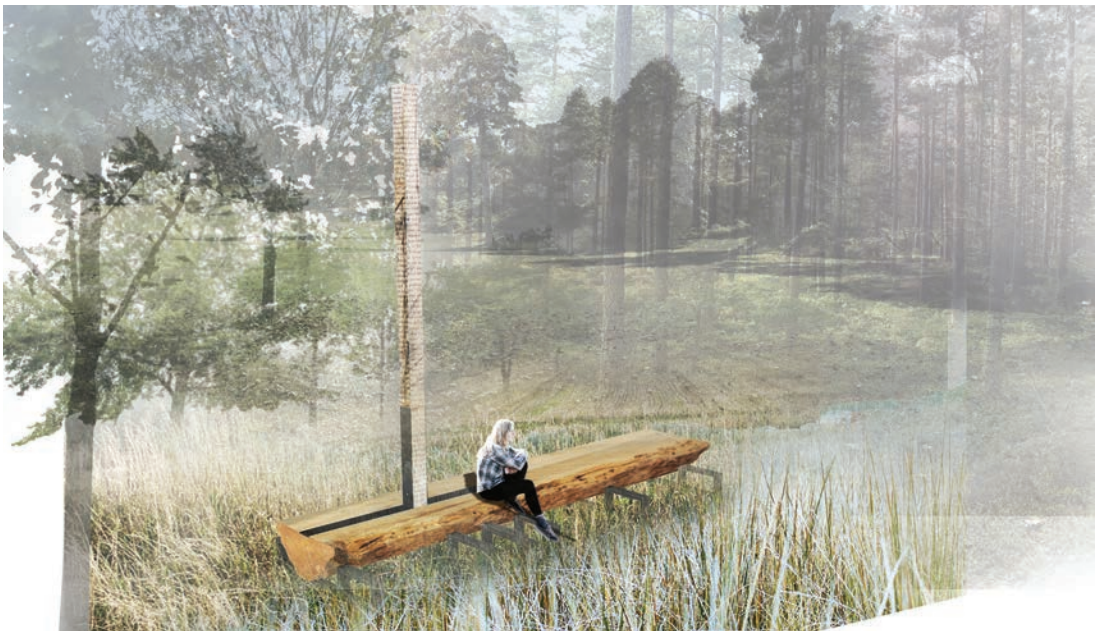


The integrity of the log's form will remain, as a reminder of the magnificence of scale. Turning this once vertical trunk to a horizontal position that becomes a functional surface, this huge tree is now positioned as a branch to the parent trunk. The sawn face will provide a 16' x 3' seating surface, and the outside radius of the log will remain unprocessed. ●

L-R, Mike Parker and Ann Cowperthwaite of Eidolon Designs, Justin Johnson of Arrowhead Designs.

Learn more and help make this project possible with your tax-deductible donation. Visit greggtreeproject.com.

While the Gregg Tree Project will be a special addition to the new museum, this work has been commissioned to local artists, and any money donated to the project will be processed through a nonprofit not associated with NC State University. As such, these gifts will not be recognized or recorded by the university.



RENDERING COURTESY OF EIDOLON DESIGNS



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Startup Culture

All our programs teach students to make things happen. Take Vansana Nolintha, who studied chemistry, design and world religion — and went on to open Bida Manda, one of the first and finest Laotian restaurants in America. He's just one of our alumni applying all-around education to foster companies and culture in the City of Oaks.

NC State graduates are sparking Raleigh's revival:



Capitol Couture

Design grad Sarah Yarbrough and business alum Victor Lytvinenko are the bright minds behind Raleigh Denim.



Bespoked Brewery

Crank Arm Brewing melds environmental sciences alumnus Michael Morris' two loves: beer and bicycling.



NC State. Think and do. Join forces with us at ncsu.edu

Vansana Nolintha '09
Co-owner, Bida Manda