

Curriculae Vitae

Aviva Rahmani is an ecological artist who works with scientists to design solutions for degraded environments. She began her career as a performance artist in the late sixties, and currently is an Affiliate at the Institute for Arctic and Alpine research (INSTAAR), University of Colorado at Boulder (UCB) and a researcher with the Zurich-Node group of the University of Plymouth, United Kingdom. Best known for her seminal work, *Ghost Nets* 1990-2000 (www.ghostnets.com), Rahmani received an Arts and Healing Network 2009 award for her work on water. Her current new media project on the impact of extractive industries and climate change, *Gulf to Gulf* (2009- present), is a collaboration with scientists, fiscally sponsored by the New York Foundation for the Arts. Previous ecological art projects have resulted in the restoration of a former dump site to a flourishing wetland system (*Ghost Nets*) and helped catalyze a USDA expenditure of \$500,000 to restore 26 acres of critical wetlands habitat (the *Blue Rocks* project) in the Gulf of Maine. In 2009, she began presenting performance workshops on her theoretical approach to environmental restoration, "Trigger Point Theory as Aesthetic Activism." The first event was at the Survival Academy, Copenhagen, Denmark, as part of her participation as a formal observer for UCB at the United Nations IPCC conference on climate change.

Education

PhD Candidate, expected completion 2013, Z-Node Program, Institute for Cultural Studies, Zurich University of the Arts, (ZHDK) Zürich, Switzerland and the School of Technology, Communication and Electronics at the University of Plymouth, UK. Dissertation Topic: "Trigger Point Theory as Aesthetic Activism"
GIS Certificate Candidate, expected completion 2011, Environmental Modeling, Lehman College, Bronx, NY
MFA Multi-media and Electronic Music, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA, 1972-1974
BFA Multi-media and Electronic Music, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA, 1971-1972
The Cooper Union School of Art & Architecture, New York City, NY, 1964-1967

Awards and Affiliations

Research Affiliate with the Institute for Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR), at the University of Colorado at Boulder, CO, 2010 - present
New York Foundation for the Arts Fiscal Sponsorship, 2009
Recipient of Arts and Healing Network Award, 2009
Recipient of the Nancy H. Gray Foundation for Art in the Environment, 2000
Recipient of the Nancy H. Gray Foundation for Art in the Environment, 1999
T. A. and Scholarship to work with Allan Kaprow, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA, 1972-1974

Selected Solo Exhibitions

Trigger Point Theory as Aesthetic Activism, CUNY New York, NY, 2011
Trigger Point Theory as Aesthetic Activism, Centre for Contemporary Art and the Natural World, Exeter, UK, 2011
Trigger Point Theory as Aesthetic Activism, University College Falmouth, Cornwall, UK 2011
Trigger Point Theory as Aesthetic Activism, Gaskell Building, School of Arts, Brunel University, Middlesex, UK, 2011
earthtoearth festival, Desecration/ Resurrection film shown, Curated by Suzanne Thorpe and Joel Chadabe, Gallery 307, Electronic Music Foundation, New York, NY, 2010
Trigger Point Theory as Aesthetic Activism, Survival Academy, Copenhagen, Denmark, 2009
Gulf to Gulf, Virtual Concerts II, performance paintings, Internet, 2009-present
Gulf to Gulf, Virtual Concerts, Talkshoe Internet, 2006-2010
Ghost Nets Project, If, Curated by Bruce Brown, Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Rockport, ME, 2000
Ghost Nets, Environmental Restoration/ Performance Installation of wetland site that functioned as the island's former dump site, Vinalhaven, ME, 1991-2000
Echoes of the Islands, Public Art Landscape Sculptures, Vinalhaven Island Ferry Terminal, for the Maine Department of Transportation, Vinalhaven Island, ME, 1999
REQUIEM, Curated by Tom Kocheiser, Gallery 210, University of Missouri at St. Louis, St. Louis, MO, 1990
REQUIEM, Curated by David Beck Brown, Grossmont College Art Gallery, San Diego, CA, 1989

The Outsider in New York City, Todd's Space, New York City, NY, 1989
Seiche Torque: Medicine Wheel Murals, Sushi Gallery, San Diego, CA, 1985
The Medicine Wheel Murals, Woman's Building, Los Angeles, CA, 1985
Floating Worlds: Ghost Dreams, Art Gallery, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA, 1983
Floating Worlds Revisited, performance/installation, Woodland Pattern Gallery, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Film in the Cities Gallery, St. Paul, MI, 1983
Floating Worlds Part 3, performance/installation, Rachel Rosenthal's Espace DBD, Los Angeles, CA, 1983
Floating Worlds Part 2, performance/installation, Sushi Gallery, San Diego, CA, 1983
Floating Worlds Part 1, performance/installation, Center for Music Experiment, University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, CA, 1983
New Paintings, Art Gallery, United States International University, San Diego, CA, 1983
Floating Worlds: Child Birth, performance/installation, White Columns Gallery, New York City, NY, 1982
Figures and Other Images, Penthouse Gallery, Village Hotel, La Jolla, CA, 1979
Stay, Wait, Look, Listen, My Symphony, performance/installation, Gallery 707, Woman's Building, Los Angeles, CA, 1974
 The American Ritual Theatre (touring performance company) director and founder, Art Gallery, University of CA, Diego at La Jolla, CA and San Diego State College, San Diego, CA, 1968-1973

Selected Group Exhibitions

New Perspectives on Urban Ecology, Curated by Alex Tolman Max-Born-Saa, Berlin, Germany, 2010
SHFT, Curated by Edie Kahula Pereira, 133 Greene Street, New York, NY, 2010
WEAD, Curated by Susan Steinman, Berkeley Art Center, Berkeley, CA, 2010
Blue Sea Lavender for Site Specific Curated by Pat Nick, Vinalhaven Island, ME 2009
Still Waters, Curated by Lisa Alembik, Dalton Gallery, Agnes Scott College, Decatur, GA, 2009
Feeling the Heat, Curated Liz Christensen, Deutsche Bank Art Gallery, New York City, NY, 2009
In Transition Russia 2008, Curated by Sheila Pinkel, The Independent Museum of Contemporary Art (IMCA), Cyprus and NeMe in collaboration with the National Centres of Contemporary Art (NCCA), Ekaterinburg and Moscow, Russian Federation, 2009
The Cultura21 Group at the Joseph Beuys 100 days of Conference Pavilion, Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy, 2007
Called to Action, Curated by Lillian Ball, Art Sites, Riverhead, NY, 2007
Bios4, Curated by Antonio Pinto, Centro Andaluz de Arte Contemporaneo, Seville, Spain, 2007
Weather Report, Curated by Lucy Lippard, Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, Boulder, CO, 2007
The Drop Curated by Jodi Hanel, Exit Art, New York City, NY, 2006
Groundworks, Curated by Grant Kestor, Regina Miller Gallery, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburg, PA, 2006
Visions about Nature, Curated by Anke Mellin, Korean Nature Artists Association-Yatoo, Chungnam, South Korea, 2005
Imaging the River, Curated by Amy Lipton, Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, NY, 2003-2004
Site Specific, Curated by Pat Nick, Pleasant River Causeway, Vinalhaven Island, ME, 2002
Ecovention, Contemporary Art Center, Cincinnati, OH, 2000
Rock Rescue, The Art Center at Kingdom Falls, Belfast, ME, 2000
LA Woman, curated by Barbara T. Smith, The Brewery, Los Angeles, CA, 2000
First International Art and Ecology, invitational workshop and installation, Society for Ecological Restoration, British Park, Jerusalem, Israel
Shaped Structures: Bookworks in FORM, curated by Judith Hoffberg, Beckstrand Gallery, Palos Verdes ArtCenter, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA, 1993
Sexual Harassment: A Dialogue, Triplex Gallery, City University of New York, New York City, NY, 1992
Visions of Life, Chuck Levitan Gallery, New York City, NY, 1990
Mythic Moderns, Real Art Ways, Hartford, CT, 1990
The Revolutionary in Art, Castillo Center, New York City, NY, 1990
Undercover, Fresno Art Center, Fresno, CA, 1990
Connexus, Museum of Contemporary Hispanic Art, New York City, NY, 1990
Family Album, Womans Building, Los Angeles, CA, 1990
Violations, Moonmade Space, New York City, NY, 1990
Oppressions/Expressions, curated by Leon Golub, Contemporary Art Center, New Orleans, LA, 1990

Nine San Diego Artists, San Diego Arts Center, San Diego, CA, 1990
16X26 Landscapes, Quint Gallery, San Diego, CA, 1990
East/West Rochester, Pyramid Arts Center, Rochester, NY, 1990
California Bookworks, Otis/Parsons Exhibition Center, Los Angeles, CA, 1990
From History to Action, curated by Lucy Lippard, Womans Building, Los Angeles, CA, 1990
A Decade of Woman's Performance Art, Mandeville Art Gallery, University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, CA, 1982
Christmas Invitational, A.I.R. Gallery, New York City, NY, 1981
A Decade of Women's Performance Art, Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans, LA, 1980
Approaches to Xerography, Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, 1979
Book as Art III, Fendrick Gallery, Washington, District of Columbia, 1979
Artwords/Bookworks, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia; Los Angeles Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA; Franklin Furnace, New York City, NY, 1978-1979
Copy Art Exhibit, SoHo Hansen Gallery, New York City, NY, 1978
Perfumed Milk, Three Womanspace Performances, Woman's Building, Culver City, CA, 1973
Meat Piece Film, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA, 1973
Ablutions, with Judy Chicago, Suzanne Lacy and Sandi Orgel, Venice, CA, 1972
Performance, Time & Space, with John White (touring company), Lone Mountain College, San Francisco, CA and Pomona College, Claremont, CA 1971

Residencies

Trigger Point Theory as Aesthetic Activism, Santa Fe Institute of Art, Santa Fe, NM, 2012
Virtual Cities and Oceans of If, Simultaneous presentation at *Nature Arts Biennale* Curator: Anke Mellin Geumgang, Korea, *Khoj International* New Delhi, India, and Pescia, Italy, 2006
Cities & Oceans of If, Rosemont College, Philadelphia, PA, University of Southern Maine, Portland, ME, University of Washington at Bothell, Bothell, WA, 2001- 2005