

Watch stop-motion animated film with live band

KALA hosts Seattle filmmaker Clyde Peterson Dec. 11

ASTORIA — KALA will present a screening of “Torrey Pines,” a stop-motion animated feature film by director Clyde Petersen, with a live score performed by Peterson’s band Your Heart Breaks, on Sunday, Dec. 11.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the show starts at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$10 at the door. Refreshments will be available for purchase. All ages are welcome with I.D. KALA is located at 1017 Marine Drive.

“Torrey Pines” is a stop-motion animated feature film. Based on a true story, the film is a queer punk coming-of-age tale, taking place in Southern California in the early 1990s.

Raised by a schizophrenic single mother, Petersen’s life story unfolds in a series of baffling and hallucinated events. With a mother

fueled by hallucinations of political conspiracy and family dysfunction, 12-year-old Petersen is taken on a cross-country adventure that will forever alter the family as they know it.

Just south of Del Mar, California, is Torrey Pines beach and state park. As a child, Peterson lived several blocks from Torrey Pines and spent time there often boogie boarding, throwing rocks at train cars and counting pelicans.

Handmade, textured and full of life, every object in the film was individually constructed and hand-painted by a team of seven interns in a small basement studio in Seattle. The film is unique in that it has no dialogue and is driven by visual storytelling and original music.

“This film is for queer punks, trans youth and people who struggle with mental health issues in their lives. It’s for people who grew up without much money and used their imaginations to



SUBMITTED PHOTO
BY JOSEPH P. TRAINA

Director Clyde Peterson will present his stop-motion animated feature film “Torrey Pines” at KALA on Dec. 11.

escape and find safe spaces. It’s about being transgender, before you could look that word up on the internet and find others like you,” says Peterson.

“Torrey Pines” is both a feature film and a touring theatrical show. The film has a soundtrack produced by Chris Walla, (Tegan and Sara, Decemberists, Death

Cab for Cutie) while the live theatrical version has a score, which debuted in October at Seattle’s Queer Film Festival TWIST, performed by the band Your Heart Breaks and special guests, including Kimya Dawson, Lori Goldston, The Beacontettes, Corey J. Brewer, Chris Looney and Art Petersen.

Petersen is a Seattle-based artist working in film, animation, music, installation and spectacle. He is a member of the transgender and queer communities in Seattle.

His work has been featured around the world at the London Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, SXSW, the Henry Art Gallery, the Walker Art Gallery, Bumbershoot Arts Festival, Seattle Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, and many more. His clients include The Thermals, Kimya Dawson, Laura Veirs, Minor Alps, Quasi, Deerhoof, Sean Nelson, The Portland Cello Project and Thao with the Get Down Stay Down to name a few.

Salty Talks delves into the world of pollinators

Julie Tennis to talk about native bees, how to cultivate a bee-friendly yard

ILWACO, Wash. — Pollinators play an important role for a healthy ecosystem. Learn more about bees at the next Salty Talks free community lecture, “There’s a Buzz Going Around: Let’s Keep it That Way,” by naturalist, writer and beekeeper Julie Tennis. The talk is set for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14 at the upstairs pub at Salt Hotel & Pub, located at 147 Howerton Ave. The event is free to the public.

Come discover the steps to cultivate a pollinator-friendly yard, and practice skills for making your environment friendly to bees.

Salty Talks presenter Tennis has kept bees since 2008 and is passionate about helping native bees in the local area. For Tennis, the route to appreciating native bees

came through her work with honeybees as a beekeeper, and she strives to find a balance between the two, recognizing the importance that each population brings to the local ecosystem.

Tennis, business owner of BeeMentor.com and Bee Haven Apiaries, has multiple colonies from Astoria to Skamokawa, Washington. Topics of the evening will range from the background of native bees, describing differences in bee species living in the Long Beach area, and how human intervention can play an important role to help these pollinators survive and prosper.

Salty Talks are in partnership with the Salt Hotel & Pub, Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum, Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission and Lewis and Clark National Historical Park with support from Friends of Columbia River Gateway and the Port of Ilwaco.

Richard Rowland to discuss the creative journey

Nature Matters talk to focus on natural materials Dec. 8

ASTORIA — At the next Nature Matters event, local ceramics artist and Clatsop Community College instructor Richard Rowland will give the talk “Cultural Landscapes: Collaborative Conversations with the Natural World.”

The free presentation is open to the public and starts at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8 at the Fort George Lovell Showroom.

Rowland will discuss the universal and specific cultural contexts of some of the natural materials and forms he uses to create ceramic art. His focus will be on demonstrating ways we can

discover our thoughts and intentions in an unfamiliar and sometimes seemingly familiar environment.

He’ll explore questions including: How do these intentions manifest into ceremony, inspiration, responsibility, reflection, justice and transformation? How do certain materials become symbolically embedded in a spiritual life or help us claim our identity/cultural heritage? How and why do natural materials have the power to reconnect us to a place and bring into being our lost memories and imagination?

Rowland will also share images of his creative journey that are rooted in these questions and his ancestral relationships to the natural world.



PHOTO BY KATHERINE LACAZE
CCC art instructor Richard Rowland will talk about the creative journey and using natural materials at the next Nature Matters event Dec. 8.

Rowland, an Astoria-based artist, has shown his artwork around the world including in Tasmania and New Zealand. He has been

an art instructor at Clatsop Community College since 2001. He specializes in creating ceramics using an anagama woodfired kiln and incorporating local materials into his work.

Doors will open at 6 p.m. for those wanting to purchase dinner or beverages before the event.

Nature Matters, a lively conversation about the intersection of nature and culture, takes place on the second Thursday of each month from October through May. Nature Matters is hosted by Lewis and Clark National Historical Park in partnership with the North Coast Watershed Association, the Lewis & Clark National Park Association, and the Fort George Brewery.

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