

Two artists chosen for AVA residency

ASTORIA — Astoria Visual Arts welcomes artists Melanie Steffl and Lucca Dust to work in its studios at 80 11th St. in Astoria, rent-free, as part of the AVA artist-in-residence (“AVA a-i-r”) program. The residency runs through Dec. 31.

“Melanie and Lucca were selected from a competitive field of terrific applicants,” AVA Board President Lisa Smith said. “It was a difficult choice, but they were the two stand-outs. Their respective work is highly original and of a very special nature — albeit quite different. Melanie’s practice is focused on the digitalization of imagery, whereas Lucca’s current interest lies in three-dimensional mask-making.”

Steffl received her MFA in contemporary art practice from the University of Edinburgh in Scotland and her BFA in studio drawing from Bowling Green State University in Ohio.

“My goals for this residency include taking my art practice another



COURTESY LUCCA DUST
Lucca Dust.



COURTESY ASTORIA VISUAL ARTS
A shaman mask by Lucca Dust.

step towards combining traditional image-making with contemporary ideology,” Steffl wrote in her AVA residency application. “This would culminate in an installation at the end of the residency based on



COURTESY ASTORIA VISUAL ARTS
Melanie Steffl.

the un/recognizable climate change at the mouth of the Columbia River.”

Dust has studied on a fellowship in Japan and traveled in Mexico, as well as the UK and Italy, as an aspirant in Mother Teresa’s order. She earned a teaching degree from the University of Portland and taught at schools in Oregon and Colorado and on the Navajo Reservation.

Dust says she will use the residency to “have enough room to create hide, clay, felt and papier-mâché mask forms,” and to develop a body of work worthy of an exhibition.

word nerd

By RYAN HUME
FOR COAST WEEKEND

PAINTED LADY [PĀNT•ƏD LĀ•DĒ]

noun

1. a colloquialism given to elaborate houses built in the Victorian or Edwardian — and sometimes Queen Anne — styles of architecture that use bright, multicolor paint jobs to emphasize the intricate designs of the homes’ facades.

2. *Vanessa cardui*, *Vanessa virginiensis*: a genus of colorful butterfly found in North America, Europe and Asia known as the painted lady. The subgenus *Vanessa virginiensis* is only found in North America and is known as the American painted lady.

3. *slang, archaic*: a prostitute.

4. *The Painted Lady Lavender Farm and Garden*: a quaint stop on U.S. Highway 101 south of Ilwaco, Wash., on the Long Beach Peninsula located in a purple historic house with eccentric statues, ponds and foliage. As the name implies, lavender is abundant and featured in products, including essential oils, lemonade and more.

5. *Painted Lady Gin*: an award-winning, floral-forward



COURTESY SUSAN WALLACE

The annual Belly Dance Festival is held at Painted Lady Lavender Farm in Ilwaco, Wash.



Painted Lady Gin

American-style gin heavy with lavender. Produced by Pilot House Distilling in downtown Astoria and named in ode to the city’s vibrantly painted domiciles.

Origin

The first known reference to the common name of the butterfly, also known as a *belle dame* in the French, is in 1699, though the taxonomy of the lepidopteran *Vanessa cardui* was not recorded until 1758. The term “painted lady” or “painted woman” as derogatory slang was most active in the 19th century.

Interestingly, the term as it applies to Victorian and other styles of brightly painted dwellings does not first come into use until very recently in 1978. While it was fashionable in the Victorian era to paint houses in splashy, vibrant hues (some critics at the time described the fad as gaudy and too loud), it was not until the publication of writers and literary agents Elizabeth Pomada and Mi-

chael Larsen’s photo essay on San Francisco’s famous row of houses across the street from Alamo Square titled “Painted Ladies: San Francisco’s Resplendent Victorians” that term came into vogue. It has since expanded rapidly to include any home intricately painted and multicolored and built in the style of these eras, from Baltimore to New Orleans to Astoria and anywhere in between.

“It isn’t all about the lavender at the Painted Lady Lavender Farm. ‘For me, it’s just the entire romance of the garden,’ says Sue Wallace ... The Wallaces were stunned by the herb’s amazing scent, its history, its versatility and its healing powers. They planted as much as possible upon their return to Washington.

After the fields of light purple lavender began to flourish, some folks in the area began to call Sue ‘The Lavender Lady.’”

—“Fairytale farm,” Coast Weekend, July 3, 2008

“The 3,512-square-foot, four-bedroom Foard House is offered for \$324,990. It is ready for a buyer who wants to add a few touches to recapture the painted lady’s original charm.”

—Nancy McCarthy, “Queen Anne on the hill,” The Daily Astorian, Oct. 30, 2015 **CW**

2ND ANNUAL PENINSULA R&B FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 14 & 15, 2018

Ocean Park, Wa, on the Long Beach Peninsula
Rose City Kings

Norman Sylvester Band, The Strange Tones, Billy D and the Hoodoos, Bottleneck Blues Band, North Coast Blues, and the Joanne Broh Band

For ticket and general information go to

PENINSULABLUESFEST.COM

<https://www.facebook.com/peninsulabluesfestival/>

tickettomato.com



Sunday, October 14, 2018

10K Run/Walk across the Astoria-Megler Bridge

GreatColumbiaCrossing.com

PRESENTING SPONSOR

**COLUMBIA
MEMORIAL
HOSPITAL**
CARDIOLOGY CLINIC
A CHORPUSU Collaboration

Registration: \$40 per person.
T-shirt: \$15-\$17 each.

NEW THIS YEAR:

Chip-timing for all participants.
Full bridge closure to vehicles.



**ASTORIA
WARRENTON
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE**