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For immediate Release

LOOK - WHAT'S - COMING - OUTTA HARLEM



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ARTIST

CLOUD MAPPING

West Harlem NYC... The West Harlem Art Fund has assembled a group of artists to engage with the public and present new works. Premiering at 5 pm is *Cloud Mapping* by Harlem artist Debra Swack. The *Cloud Mapping Project* is a real-time interactive animation installation and soundscape about the cloud, its significance and history in science and computing, as an enduring subject in art and music. The audience will have the option of seeing works via their smartphone or via a map. Curator Savona McClain will lead the walk.

UNDER THE VIADUCT, 2015 is an art & lifestyle series where folks can meet, bike, skate or dine in an open-air plaza. Situated in West Harlem on 12th Avenue and near the Hudson River, residents and fellow New Yorkers can enjoy performance and artist-led walks in the daytime and when the sun starts going down, engage in digital and reflective art. For more information, [visit our event site undertheviaduct.wordpress.com](http://undertheviaduct.wordpress.com).

The West Harlem Art Fund is leading a campaign to create public art districts throughout NYC and infuse these open spaces with contemporary, modern art. Such districts would leverage neighborhood resources and assets to enhance quality of life and local economic development, benefitting all.

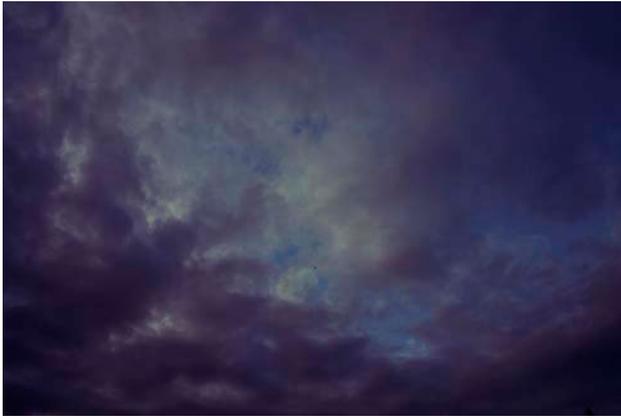


ABOUT THE ARTISTS

DEBRA SWACK is a Fulbright Specialist and Phi Theta Kappa in computer science that began exhibiting new media and sound art in the early 90s at Xerox Parc while doing software testing and technical writing for PolyGram Records/Universal Music Group. She is mentioned in *Art and Innovation at Xerox Parc*, published by MIT in 1999, and works with immersive and interactive environments in addition to all traditional media. She has received three co-production grants from Banff Centre (*95 Chimes, Carousel and Digital Maze Symmetry Project*) and was awarded a Summer Artist Residency by Creative Capital in 2012. Her last article on *The Emotions after Charles Darwin*, a project on the universality of emotions to aid international neuroscientists in autism research, was published by Leonardo Electronic Almanac/MIT Press in 2013 and will be featured in Binghamton University Magazine in 2015. *Animal Patterning Project*; a software derived, synthetic bio-art animation was published in *Infinite Instances*, by Random House in 2011 and exhibited at the Binghamton University Art Museum and Offline at Central Booking Gallery in NYC in 2014. In summer 2014 she was a visiting artist at the American Academy in Rome and also presented *Cloud Mapping Project* at the Pera Museum in Istanbul, which will be published in an upcoming issue of Leonardo Electronic Almanac by MIT Press and presented at Banff Centre for the Arts in August 2015. She is also collaborating with evolutionary biologist Monica Gagliano on *Bloom*, a bioacoustics sound-art installation that will also be published in *Plants and Us* by Lexington Press.



SAVONA BAILEY-McCLAIN currently lives and works in New York City. She is an independent curator and producer. The range of McClain's practice has included sculpture, drawings, performance, sound, and mixed media. McClain is the Executive Director & Chief Curator for The West Harlem Art Fund, Inc. a seventeen year old public art organization and curatorial collective serving neighborhoods around the City. Her public art installations have been seen in the New York Times, Art Daily, Artnet, Los Angeles Times, and Huffington Post among others. McClain has installed works in Times Square, DUMBO, Soho, Governors Island and Harlem. Noted works include The H in Harlem, Counting Sheep, Story Piles, East River Flows and Loosely Coupled. McClain is now developing new digital installations and location-based interventions using a tour platform.



ABOUT THE VENUE

The 12th Avenue Viaduct also known as the Riverside Drive Viaduct was built in 1900 by the City of New York. The viaduct was constructed to connect an important system of drives in Northern Manhattan -- a high-level boulevard extension of Riverside Drive over the barrier of Manhattanville Valley to the former Boulevard Lafayette, which today, is north of 158th Street.