



WASHINGTON PROJECT FOR THE ARTS

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Mirror Mirrored: Art Meets the Monsters

Curated by Michelle Aldredge and Corwin Levi

March 4 – April 15, 2016



DJ Spooky, "Red Cap I," 2015, archival pigment print, 36 x 54 in

Opening Reception: Friday, March 4, 2016, 7-9pm

Curator Talk: Saturday, March 5, 2016, 2-3:30pm

Performance: Joseph Keckler, Wednesday, March 16, 2016, 7-8:30pm

February 24, 2016 (Washington, DC) – Washington Project for the Arts (WPA) is pleased to present *Mirror Mirrored: Art Meets the Monsters*, curated by Michelle Aldredge and Corwin Levi. This mixed-media exhibit reimagines select Grimms' Fairy Tales through the eyes of contemporary visual artists.

The tales the Brothers Grimm released into the world two centuries ago (as *Children's and Household Tales* in 1812) are woven into the fabric of our lives. They have informed our campfire stories, Disney's iconic films, and our reflections on human nature. Psychoanalyst Carl Jung believed that fairy tales held the key to understanding human archetypes and the collective unconscious. Today, these stories—and new readings of them—are more important than ever. Pairing fairy tales with new artwork is not only a way of

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reemphasizing the stories' relevance to diverse contemporary audiences, but also a way of challenging the canned notions of beauty, good and evil, and identity that many have popularly ascribed to them. Also, as it turns out, those notions are not quite so canned as we have come to believe over the last hundred years...

For *Mirror Mirrored: Art Meets the Monsters*, artists from across the country have created pieces for a new Brothers Grimm compendium, forthcoming later this year. This exhibition marks the first time a selection of those pieces will be shown together.

Participating artists include: Anne Connell, Brittany DeNigris, Anna Schuleit Haber, Joseph Keckler, Margaret Lanzetta, Corwin Levi, Walter Martin & Paloma Muñoz, David Packer, Rachel Perry, Agustin Lucho Pozo, Pam Rogers, DJ Spooky, Debra Smith, Carrie Mae Weems, and Stephanie Williams.

There will be an Opening Reception on Friday, March 4, 2016, 7-9pm.

More information is available at: <https://www.wpadc.org/exhibitions/mirror-mirrored-art-meets-monsters>.

This project and Washington Project For the Arts Inc. are supported by the City Fund, which works to make the District of Columbia a more healthy, stable, and vibrant place to live for all its residents. The City Fund is administered by The Community Foundation for the National Capital Region.

This project is also supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

RELATED EVENTS

Curator Talk: Michelle Aldredge: Saturday, March 5, 2-3:30pm

WPA will present a talk and conversation with Michelle Aldredge, co-curator of "Mirror Mirrored: Art Meets the Monsters," about how the representation of Grimms' Fairy tales has changed over time and how our perceptions of beauty, good and evil, and identity have changed along with them.

Joseph Keckler: "A Voice and Nothing More": Wednesday, March 16, 7-8pm

In conjunction with the exhibition "Mirror Mirrored: Art Meets the Monsters," WPA presents a performance by vocalist and writer Joseph Keckler. Often combining classical sources and forms—from opera, to myth, to fairy tale—along with autobiography, Keckler's performances create strange and humorous portraits of contemporary life. This event will combine a slide talk with a vocal performance (Joseph will sing in his beautiful baritone voice). It is a rare opportunity to see this rising star in an intimate setting.

ABOUT THE CURATORS

Arts writer Michelle Aldredge and visual artist Corwin Levi met at an artist residency in Wyoming and together decided to reimagine classic, public domain books into a contemporary visual format. "Mirror Mirrored" is the first result of their collaboration and the WPA show is the first exhibition of collected artworks from that book. Levi has lived in the DC area off and on for the last decade and is currently travelling around the country for shows and residencies. He is the founder of Uzzlepye, which is dedicated to reimagining imagery in the public domain. Aldredge is based in New Hampshire, where she worked at The MacDowell Colony for 13 years before founding and running the arts blog Gwarlingo.com. She is a 2016

recipient of the Wampler Art Professorship at James Madison University and now shares her experiences of how to live the artistic life with makers around the world.

ABOUT WPA

Since 1975, Washington Project for the Arts (WPA) has nurtured artists in the Washington D.C. region at all stages of their careers through commissions, exhibitions, workshops, and public dialogue. With its new gallery in the Atlantic Plumbing Building at 2124 8th Street—the seventh gallery space in its history—WPA will continue to deliver the engaging and innovative programs for which it is known.

WPA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to serve as a catalyst for contemporary art. WPA has showcased the works of thousands of artists and has reached hundreds of thousands of visitors and viewers. For more information on WPA please visit: www.wpadc.org.

Major support for WPA comes from its members, Board of Directors, invaluable volunteers, and by generous contributions from numerous individuals and the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities, an agency supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, Abramson Family Foundation, Anonymous, Arlington Cultural Affairs, Susan & Dixon Butler, Capitol Skyline Hotel, The Chesapeake Framing Company, Clark Construction, DC Office of Planning, DCRE Residential, Delucchi Plus, Ditto Residential, Dr. Joan M. Fallon Family Foundation, Forest City Washington, Nadine Gabai-Botero & Luis Botero, Raymond Garcia, Graham Holdings, Hickok Cole Architects, Giselle & Ben Huberman, The JBG Companies, Kirkland & Ellis LLP, Yvette Kraft, La Palina Cigars, Meredith Margolis & Gary Goodweather, Mark G. Anderson Consultants, Inc., Marshfield Associates, Mary Snider State Farm Insurance Agency, Sophia McCrocklin & Bill Isaacson, Microsoft, NextGen LED, NoMa Business Improvement District, Frederick P. Ognibene, M.D., Bill & Alison Paley, Peacock Cafe, ripe, Judy & Andrew J. Sherman, Shinola, Shelley Singer & Michael Gross, Amanda & Earl W. Stafford, Kim & Timothy Ward, William S. Paley Foundation, and Winmar Construction.

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