



## **NPN/VAN On the Move**

NPN/VAN has new offices at 1024 Elysian Fields Avenue. Tour the space during Arts Estuary 1024's Grand Opening on Thursday, January 22 from 6-9:00 p.m., in conjunction with New Orleans artist Dawn Dedeaux's Prospect 3+ installation, Mothership III: the Station. Read more about the new space — and the meaning of estuary — from NPN staffer Steffani Clemons.

The mailing address, phone and fax numbers remain the same (PO Box 56698, New Orleans, LA 70156-6698). The shipping address is 1024 Elysian Fields Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70117.

Arts Estuary 1024 is supported in part by the Keller Family Foundation, the Quixote Foundation and the RosaMary Foundation.

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## **Tulsa's Warm Welcome Defeats Winter Freeze**

Despite freezing temperatures and a scattering of snow, NPN/VAN convened its successful Annual Meeting in November, hosted by Living Arts of Tulsa. Two nights of performances were digitally captured and are now archived by HowlRound, as is the keynote speech by conceptual artist, philosopher and raconteur Mel Chin:

[howlround.com/livestreaming-the-national-performance-network-annual-meeting-in-tulsa-oklahoma-mon-nov-17-tues-nov](http://howlround.com/livestreaming-the-national-performance-network-annual-meeting-in-tulsa-oklahoma-mon-nov-17-tues-nov)

Another compelling component of the Annual Meeting was the Visual Artists Network's exhibition at Living Arts, featuring the works of Steve Prince, Laurie Spencer and Akiko Kotani.

On the updated Annual Meeting Tulsa website you'll find some "lagniappe": quick links to the HowlRound archived performances, the Live & On Stage Playbill, the VAN Exhibition Playbill (both Playbills have artist contact information), and more from the Greenwood District tour, including a bibliography for information on the 1921 Tulsa Race Riot:

[npnweb.org/site/annualmeeting2014](http://npnweb.org/site/annualmeeting2014)

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# Cramped No Mo'!

by Steffani Clemons, NPN/VAN Administrative Assistant

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*Estuary (n.) – where inland freshwater mixes and flows with tidal saltwater, producing fertile ground and supporting a diverse eco-system*

NPN/VAN has found a new home at 1024 Elysian Fields Avenue located in the Faubourg Marigny neighborhood of New Orleans. A multi-tenant facility, Arts Estuary 1024 is located at the gateway to the burgeoning St. Claude Avenue arts corridor. Even with the occasional whirling of a drill and buzzing of saws, the staff is settling down into their new offices and are thrilled to be sharing a space with three anchor tenants: KidSmart, an arts education organization; Make Music NOLA, a Local Network Partner that works with young people; and Junebug Productions, a theatre organization and long-time NPN Partner.

A permanent space has been a dream of NPN/VAN for well over ten years. The facility not only provides administrative space for the anchor tenants, it also includes multiple meeting spaces and a six-desk co-work space. There is outdoor space for events and a parking lot that is vital in an historic area known for its parking issues. Arts Estuary 1024 will help foster organic collaborations within the New Orleans cultural community helping to support a diverse arts ecosystem.

The project has come to fruition with the help of Sage Crump, project manager, who made sure that staff and tenants' needs were met while staying aligned with NPN/VAN's mission. The move was orchestrated by recently-hired Facility Manager Kathleen Welch, with the help of interns Monica Tyran and Rachel Swan, while the NPN/VAN staff were at the Annual Meeting in Tulsa.

Although we are working around a skeletal construction crew and are dodging a hoard of office supply cast-offs in the hallway, we haven't missed a beat and we want our readers to know that we are finally home! Thank you so much for your continued support.

Fun Factoid: 1024 Elysian Fields was the location of the Ranson Funeral home, where John Kennedy Toole, author of *The Confederacy of Dunces*, was said to be laid out. ■

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## NPN/VAN Welcomes New Board Members

NPN/VAN welcomes five new board members: visual artist Leticia Bajuyo, art professor at Hanover College, Madison, IN; Olga Garay-English, arts consultant, Los Angeles, CA; Abel López, associate producing director at GALA Hispanic Theatre, Washington, DC; Shay Wafer, executive director, 651 Arts, Brooklyn, NY; and Will K. Wilkins, executive director of Real Art Ways, Hartford, CT.

## Explore Diversity at SphinxCon: January 30 – February 1, 2015

NPN/VAN is a founding partner of the SphinxCon Diversity in the Arts conference. The 3rd Annual SphinxCon will feature presentations by distinguished arts leaders, including NEA Chairman Jane Chu. NPN/VAN Partner and board member Abel López will be honored as the Arthur L. Johnson Award Recipient. For more information and registration, visit [www.SphinxCon.org](http://www.SphinxCon.org).

COMMUNITY FUND

**John Hitchcock**

Madison, WI [hybridpress.blogspot.com](http://hybridpress.blogspot.com)

**Emily Arthur**

Jacksonville, FL [emilyarthurspace.com](http://emilyarthurspace.com)

*Air, Land, Seed*

June 24 – 29, 2013

**516 ARTS**

Albuquerque, NM

John Hitchcock uses multimedia methods in conjunction with print media and its long history of social and political commentary to explore relationships of community, land and culture.

Emily Arthur's fine art practice is informed by a concern for the environment, displacement, exile and the return home from dislocation and separation. She seeks the unbroken relationship between modern culture and ancient lands which uses tradition and story to make sense of the enduring quest to understand our changing experience of home.

Artists John Hitchcock and Emily Arthur participated in *Air, Land, Seed* with their project *Impact Vs. Influence*, a large-scale printmaking installation in 516 Arts' front gallery *Air, Land, Seed* was a small group exhibition that addressed global tensions between home and exile, drawing from the unique perspectives of the indigenous peoples of Native North America. The exhibition featured Hitchcock, Arthur and additional artists who engaged in the politicized medium of printmaking to exhibit works that question the forced displacements and ideologies that define our collective contemporary existence. In *Impact Vs. Influence*, the re-appropriation of colonial markers – flags, boats and airwaves – served to subvert the control and militarization of indigenous homelands. Through participatory live print actions, performance, exhibition and dialogue, the artists repurposed these potent icons inscribed in the US Marine credo: "From the halls of Montezuma, to the shores of Tripoli, We fight our country's battles, in the air, on land and sea."

In addition to their VAN exhibition residency, Hitchcock and Arthur collaborated with Marwin Begaye and Ryan O'Malley, printing a large-scale banner and inviting the public into the gallery to engage in dialogue and participate in the creative process throughout the duration of the residency. At the end of the week, during the Downtown Growers' Market, the artists staged a *Print Blitz* in which the public was encouraged to observe and participate in the production of multiple prints, and by using the artists' designs on both fabric and paper, the artists made and ceremonially distributed screen printed objects in the Native tradition of "give-aways." The culmination of the *Print Blitz* featured the communally-designed banner produced during the VAN residency week in the *Parade of Flags* demonstration at the close of the Downtown Growers' Market.

John Hitchcock is Graduate Chair and Professor at the University of Wisconsin Madison and earned his MFA in printmaking and photography at Texas Tech University. Emily Arthur is an Associate Professor at the University of North Florida. She received an MFA from the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and has served as Fellow at the Barnes Foundation for Advance Theoretical and Critical Research. She has served as an International Artist-in-Residence in France and Japan with artists from the Diné/Navajo Nation.

**"This residency was also a 2013 VAN Community Fund project. See page 123 for more information."**

John Hitchcock & Emily Arthur  
*Chemically Wasted Warhorse*, 2011  
screenprint & drawing  
44 x 30 inches



46 VISUAL ARTISTS NETWORK Exhibitions 2013–2014

Exhibitions 47

## Hot off the press: New VAN Catalog!

NPN/VAN is proud to announce the latest edition of the Visual Artists Network (VAN) Catalog. The catalog spans the 2013-14 program years and features the work of 33 artists, all of whom participated in VAN Exhibition Residencies. Leaf through the catalog to check the pulse of exciting, new contemporary art. The catalog is available as a free PDF from:

[nnpweb.org/resources/](http://nnpweb.org/resources/)

You can also purchase a print copy at Amazon:

[amazon.com/Visual-Artists-Network-Exhibitions-2013-2014/dp/1501067796/](http://amazon.com/Visual-Artists-Network-Exhibitions-2013-2014/dp/1501067796/)



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## Thank You!

*NPN/VAN is proud to announce recent grants from the Nathan Cummings, the Keller Family and the RosaMary foundations. As a sign of their continued support, the Cummings Foundation awarded a \$100,000 grant for general operating. New funding was secured for NPN/VAN's facility, Arts Estuary 1024, in the amounts of \$25,000 from the RosaMary Foundation and \$5,000 from the Keller Family Foundation.*