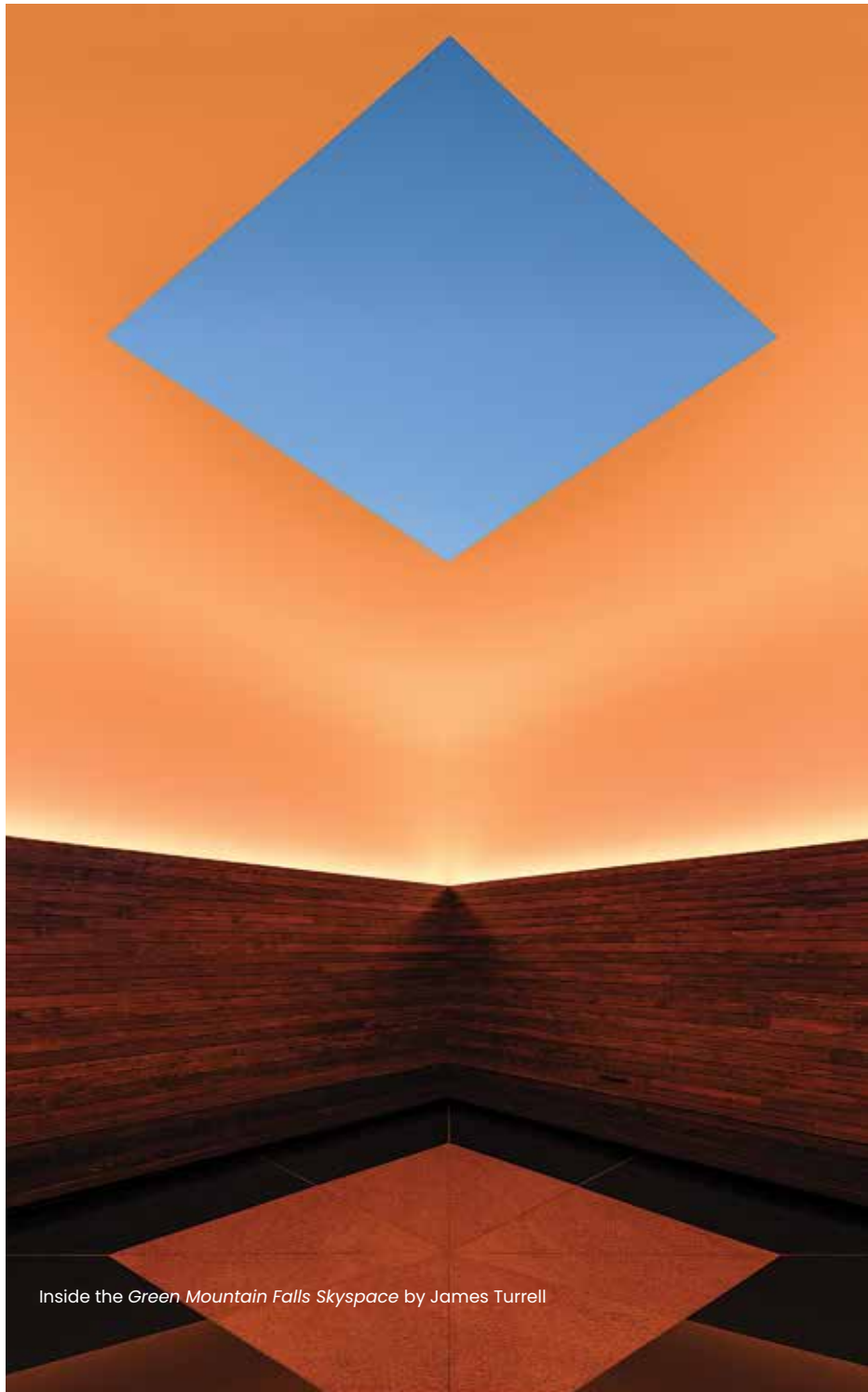




Inside the *Green Mountain Falls Skyspace* by James Turrell

INTRODUCTION



2023 MARKED AN EXTRAORDINARY year for Green Box. What began 15 years ago as a small arts festival has now blossomed into a thriving, year-round arts mecca, and we look back with pride on our many accomplishments throughout this last calendar year.

From our most attended Green Box Arts Festival, to our robust year-round artists in residency program; from the breadth of our art installations (anchored by the Green Mountain Falls Skyspace by James Turrell) to comprehensive arts education programming; from additional community events we host throughout the seasons, to our Adventures Outside The Box series, we are able to provide multiple doors of entry to arts and culture lovers, both across our beautiful campus in Green Mountain Falls and wherever our trips and affiliated artists take us.

Green Box is a continual work in progress, and as the organization continues to evolve, we have given more consideration to our values:

Access: We offer artists and artistic experiences that can be enjoyed by all

Amplification: We value the arts in all its forms and work to protect our natural environment through our work

Community: We create, present and support artistic experiences which engage with our place and the people in it

Excellence: We strive to provide artistic installations, performances and educational opportunities that promote the best contemporary artists and artistic trends

Welcoming: We are approachable, encouraging, open-minded and welcoming to all

Whether you engage with Green Box as a festival-goer, Skyspace visitor, artist, student, teacher, community member, volunteer and/or philanthropic partner, each of you are equally important to the success and vibrancy of Green Box. As we look back on this fabulous last year, we are equally excited to see what happens next. We invite you to join us and continue to support the work of Green Box, now, and well into the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott RC Levy".

Scott RC Levy
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christian K. Keesee".

Christian K. Keesee
Board President & Co-Founder



Communication X9 by Yaacov Agam

2023 GREEN BOX ARTS FESTIVAL

OUR FIFTEENTH ANNUAL GREEN

Box Arts Festival encompassed over 80 events held between June 30th and July 15th. Over 6,000 people participated in at least one event. With an increased focus on Health & Wellness, the festival held daily hikes, yoga classes, Healing Sound Journey sessions in the Green Mountain Falls Skyspace and training sessions at the Keith Haring Fitness Court. Additional highlights of the festival included:

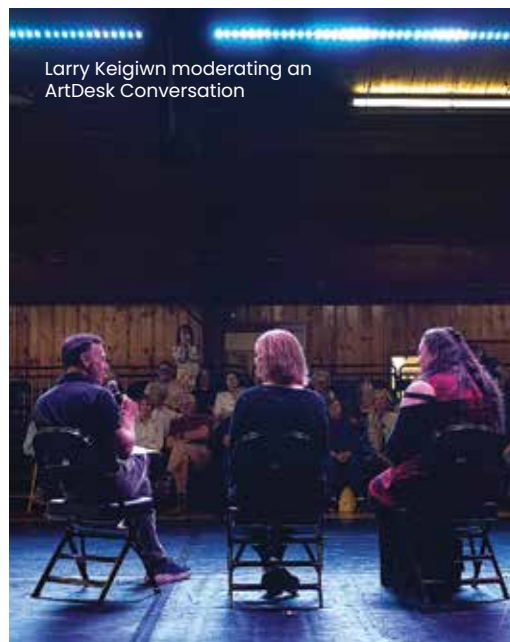
Paul Taylor Dance Company

The 16 dancers of the world-renowned Paul Taylor Dance Company presented six performances during the Green Box Arts Festival, a free masterclass open to the community, and spent rehearsal hours with Green Box co-founder Larry Keigwin, developing a new work that had its world premiere at Lincoln Center in New York City in November 2023.

Other Performing Arts Events

The 2023 festival featured a diverse array of other performing arts events, including concerts featuring the music of composer Marti Epstein via our partnership with the Summer Institute for Contemporary Performance Practice, western swing with *Carlos Washington's Steel Horse Swing*, New Orleans-infused soul with the *Lilli Lewis Trio*, beatnik porch folk with *Handmade Moments*, a stirring performance with the *Colorado Springs Youth Symphony*, and dynamic performances with the Native American jazz trumpeter Delbert Anderson and his quartet & the incredible *Larry & Joe*, who infuse bluegrass with traditional Venezuelan folk songs.

Theatreworks, the professional theatre company in residence at the University of Colorado in Colorado Springs presented two performances of *Shakespeare's Pericles*, and audiences were delighted by screenings of films by the *Youth Documentary Academy*, and the *Mont Alto Motion Picture Orchestra*, who performed live to a Buster Keaton classic.



Larry Keigwin moderating an ArtDesk Conversation

ArtDesk Conversations

Green Box's partnership with ArtDesk Magazine continued with a series of 6 extraordinary conversations with festival participating artists, other nationally-renowned thought leaders, and our annual Mayor's Forum, featuring Green Mountain Falls mayor Todd Dixon.

Katja Rivera, Curator of Contemporary Art at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, moderated a talk with festival participating visual artists, Brian Wall & Brenda Biondo, Larry Keigwin held a talk with Paul Taylor Dance Company members, Louisa McCune introduced wolf biologist Douglas Smith, Scott RC Levy led a conversation with jazz musician Delbert Anderson in advance of his public performance, and Brent Learned led our first-ever book club discussion around Dee Brown's seminal work, *Bury My Heart At Wounded Knee*.

Paul Taylor Dance Company members performing *Mercuric Tidings*



“Seeing kids interact this deeply with art and mindfulness and nature truly was unlike anything else I have witnessed in education because it centered experience and creativity over results or outcomes, trusting that students who learned something new will carry that awareness forward with them throughout their lives.”

—WES SPARKES

Colorado Licensed Music Educator and Grammy Nominated Teacher of the Year finalist- & Green Box Arts Summer Camp Teacher



IN JUNE, DURING THE three weeks leading up to the festival, Green Box held two different day camps, which in total served 80 1st-8th graders.

The 2-week integrated Green Box Arts Camp focused on site-specific visual and performing artworks. The teaching artists keyed into themes connected to the work of Green Box Artist-in-Residence, brooke smiley. Every camper participated in multiple classes, all designed to help children's growth in critical thinking, reasoning and problem solving, creativity and innovation, flexibility and adaptability, initiative and self-direction, social and emotional competency, productivity and accountability, & leadership and responsibility.

The 2-week Clowning Around With Shakespeare camp was held in collaboration with Theatreworks. 21 middle school campers created compelling characterizations with comedy in the language of the bard. Instructors taught both theatrical and clowning basics in a supportive

and playful environment. The camp concluded with an interactive intergenerational sharing of scenes from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, performed around brooke smiley's EARTH.SPEAKS installation.

Additional Arts Education

Our summer day camps are the foundation of our arts education, but this programming continues year-round. During the festival, we provided four sessions of Littles At Play – opportunities for the pre-school set to work with their parents/guardians on art-based exploratory experiences. Our artists in residence have provided masterclasses and other studio-based learning opportunities to both K-12 and college populations throughout the Pikes Peak Region. Field trips to the Green Mountain Falls Skyspace and to the rest of the Green Box campus occur year round, and in October we presented a performance of Creede Repertory Theatre's *The City Dog & The Prairie Dog*, a bi-lingual musical for youth.



A moment during the Green Box Arts Camps showcase

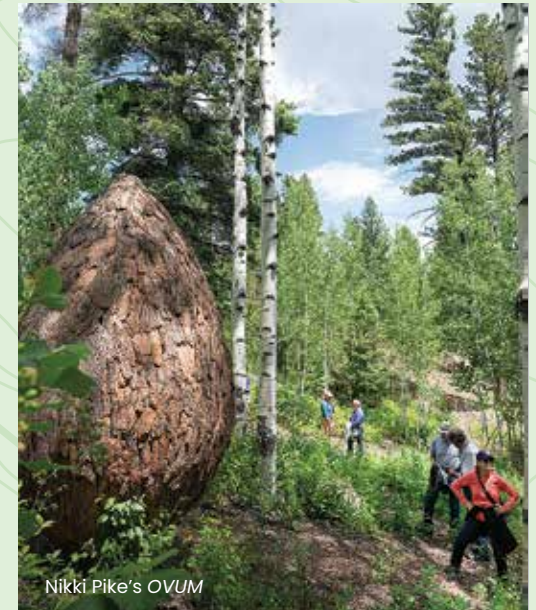
2023 ARTIST IN RESIDENCY PROGRAM



Stillhouse Junkies performed at the ENT Center For the Arts



Edwin Ushiro conducting a masterclass with Ute Pass Elementary School students



Nikki Pike's OVUM

SINCE 2019, GREEN BOX has provided time and space to artists from throughout the world, working in any artistic discipline. While in residence, artists reside in The Shed, our dedicated artist-in-residency lodging, which features three private apartments. Additionally, appropriate studio space is provided to each artist. The extraordinary and diverse 2023 cohort of Green Box resident artists were chosen from approximately 175 applications that we received.

Stillhouse Junkies

This Durango, Colorado based bluegrass trio spent their residency creating and developing music for their next album. While in residence, the trio held masterclasses at the Ute Pass Elementary School and performed

a sold-out concert at the ENT Center for the Arts in Colorado Springs. Additionally, they filmed a music video in the Sallie Bush Community Building.

Amir Amiri

Composer and Santur-master, Amir Amiri, originally from Iran, joined us from his home in Canada. He spent his residency composing works for the French-based Ensemble Kimya, shared his artistic process with local students (at both the K-12 and College level) and explored creating and playing live improvised music in our Green Mountain Falls Skyspace.

Arvin Ramgoolam

Crested Butte, Colorado author Arvin Ramgoolam utilized his residency to work on his novel in

progress which unsettles the west through the story of a family living with grief, rooted in the geological, mythological and human history of southern New Mexico.

Paula Bohince

In residence at the same time as Arvin, Paula worked on material for her fourth poetry collection, *Illume*, which explores the role of artificial light on climate change and wildlife. Of her residency work, Paula noted that her time with Green Box profoundly shaped the work. "The poems in their final forms could only have been composed here, in such a special place."

brooke smiley

An artist who guides land and body learning, brooke spent her residency developing *EARTH.SPEAKS*, a

public art installation she built with community volunteers and input from members of the Southern Ute Tribe. This has resulted in five new earth markers on either side of the creek in Green Mountain Falls. The work centers Indigenous identity through reconnecting with our bodies, one another and the land.

Nikki Pike

Denver-based installation artist, activist, and educator Nikki Pike created the outdoor sculpture *OVUM* during her residency, which is now on display in the H.B. Wallace Reserve. Nikki utilized her residency creating drawings related to the work, sourcing the bark that skins the sculpture, and embarked on community engagement workshops throughout her residency.

Edwin Ushiro

During Edwin's residency in September, this Hawaiian-born, southern California-based artist created paintings exploring the oral traditions, focusing on ghosts and legends, of the Pikes Peak region. Edwin interviewed community members and held various workshops, masterclasses and open studios during his time in Green Mountain Falls.

Bill Frisell & Carole d'Inverno

Life partners Bill Frisell (Grammy Winning master jazz guitarist) and his wife Carole d'Inverno (acclaimed abstract painter), spent their residency forging new connections between their disparate artistic practices, in the distraction-free environment

that Green Box is able to provide. Composing music and paintings were at the core of their month, with additional public conversations and college-level masterclasses provided to the community.

Additional Residency Activity

When space is available, Green Box gives back to the community by offering our artist housing and studio space to other organizations and individuals. This year, we were honored to host three guest artists who were working with the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, and we provided studios to two independent artists who live in the Pikes Peak Region but did not previously have access to dedicated creative space.



EARTH.SPEAKS by brooke smiley

ART INSTALLATIONS AT GREEN BOX



Brian Wall's Skye



Open Skies by Brenda Biondo

THIRTEEN WORKS OF art are currently on display throughout the Green Box Campus in Green Mountain Falls and are available to the public every day of the year. Beyond self-exploration of the works, we offer our free Audio Walking Tour, created by 2022 Resident Artist Jessica Kahkoska, which has been accessed at least 2,000 times since it launched in the summer of 2022. We host Guided Art Walks, both during the summer festival, and throughout the year, and provide ticketed experiences and field trips to the Green Mountain Falls Skyspace weekly.

Skyspace

Since opening in June of 2022, Green Box has welcomed 10,000 people to the Green Mountain Falls Skyspace. Visitors have come from almost all 50 states, as well as Canada, Mexico, United Kingdom, Ireland, Netherlands, Germany, Sweden, and Bulgaria. Green Box has enhanced the Skyspace in 2023 with programming including acoustic concerts, meditation sessions, and Healing Sound Journeys.

Work Introduced in 2023

Skye by Brian Wall
Open Skies by Brenda Biondo
OVUM by Nikki Pike
EARTH.SPEAKS by brooke smiley joined the following works already on display

Communication X9 by Yaacov Agam
Keith Haring Fitness Court by Keith Haring
Loveletter by Pard Morrison
Four Orbits by Charles O. Perry
Faime Walking by Julian Opie
The Managers by Molly Rideout
Schulhoff's Curve by Richard Serra
226.5' ARC x 4 by Bernar Venet
Green Mountain Falls Skyspace by James Turrell

OTHER PROGRAMMING



Green Box adventurers at a post-show discussion on Broadway

Adventures Outside The Box

Our new trip program began in 2022, with an excursion to Montana to explore the Tippet Rise Art Center and continued in 2023 with two exciting adventures.

In April, 20 intrepid adventurers joined Executive Director, Scott RC Levy on a 5-night trip to New York City, which included performances of 5 Broadway shows, including a special post-show conversation with the performers in *Dancin'*, a special private tour of the Frick Collection, and a celebratory dinner hosted by Green Box co-founders, Christian K. Keesee and Larry Keigwin.

In December, Green Box's most ardent supporters ventured to Miami Beach for 5-nights of art via special VIP visits to Art Basel, Untitled and Scope Art Fairs, along with area museums and private collections.

Participants joined the touring group from Oklahoma Contemporary to toast and celebrate the 10th Anniversary of ArtDesk Magazine.

Markets

On the first Saturday of Autumn, Green Box hosted our second annual Farm & Art Market, curated by Karin Ellis. Featuring organic produce and other food items from local farms, hundreds of people brought their totes on a beautiful Fall afternoon and filled them with fruit, veggies, baked goods, items created by local artisans, and more.

And on the first Saturday of December, in collaboration with other community organizations, Green Box held a *Yule Day*, featuring a holiday craft fair, carolers from the Colorado Springs Conservatory, Santa in the Skyspace and a tree lighting ceremony around the Green Mountain Falls lake.

Annual Parties

Kirkpatrick Bank Kick-Off Party

Through the generous support of Kirkpatrick Bank, Green Box held a party on the eve before the first day of the festival at the Kirkpatrick Bank branch in downtown Colorado Springs, which kicked off the 15th Annual Green Box Arts Festival!

Creative Participants Dinner

A highlight of each festival season, Mr. Keesee & Mr. Keigwin hosted a dinner for all artists that participated in the festival. This year's edition featured the Paul Taylor Dance Company, the Lilli Lewis Trio, and other creatives, who enjoyed a multi-course family-style buffet. The evening closed with a spontaneous dance party.

Festival Patron Party

Another highlight, exclusively for donors who contribute at least \$250 to support Green Box, this summer's party included an exclusive performance of Larry Keigwin's latest choreographic work, commissioned by Paul Taylor Dance Company, and musical performances from festival artists, Larry & Joe.

Year-End Party

Over 100 Green Box supporters joined staff and board members in mid-December at the beautiful Trianon Building on the Colorado Springs School campus to celebrate our 15th anniversary year. Attendees were treated with delicious culinary treats and were the first to hear about Green Box's 2024 programming.



The 2023 Creative Participants Dinner

WHAT'S NEXT IN 2024



The 4th of July Water Lantern Launch

GREEN BOX'S SWEET SIXTEENTH YEAR will be filled with extraordinary arts events and the introduction of a number of new installations and new spaces. Our 2024 cohort of Artist Residencies include a Pulitzer Prize winner and a MacArthur fellow. Disciplines represented include sculpture, fiction writing, music composition, animated filmmaking, podcasting and photography. Resident Artists will work and live in the community between March and November.

The 16th Annual Green Box Arts Festival will be held from July 1-14, following three weeks of Arts Camps. The festival will include a robust series of performances, including dance from five different companies including Ephrat Asherie, Michela Marino Lerman, and Barkha Patel, amongst others, being performed in the soon to be renovated Sallie Bush Community Center, which will create a permanent year-round state of the art indoor performance space. Additional

performances include a concert by the acclaimed Dalí Quartet, a Charlie Chaplin film with live music accompaniment, a silent disco party, our continued ArtDesk Conversation series, and a number of participatory classes and other community events. New installations will include work from Australian-based artist James Tapscott which will adorn Gazebo Lake. Additionally, visitors to Green Box will be able to enter the Lakeview Terrace building for the first time in over a decade to view an ephemeral paper lantern installation by Thu Kim Vu, which will be designed and installed specifically for the Green Box festival.

Our Adventures Outside The Box series continues with trips to New York City and the Vail Dance Festival. Visitors to Green Box will find something to do at any time of the year, including special performances in the *Green Mountain Falls Skyspace*, our growing seasonal markets, and pop-up studio visits and masterclasses from visiting artists.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Gifts of \$250 or more, received between December 1, 2022 & December 15, 2023

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Larry & Joe in performance
at Lakeview Terrace

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#GBAF2023

#GREENBOXARTSFESTIVAL

#GREENBOX

All photos taken by Scott Levy and/
or Jeff Kearney/TDC Photography.

The logo consists of two adjacent green squares. The left square contains the text "green box" in white, lowercase letters, stacked vertically. The right square is empty.

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2023 Annual Report