

Historic Santa Fe

The Historic Santa Fe Foundation Monthly Journal June 2017



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Inside Historic Santa Fe

We are headed to the solstice and our Annual Meeting in the Garden at El Zaguán is approaching – mid-year at the Foundation. As is to be expected the Garden is coming on strong and is an oasis in the sometimes madness of Canyon Road. We hope you can join us for the event and our speaker Michael F. Brown, author and President of School for Advanced Research.

In this issue of our monthly eZine, Mara Saxer interviews our 2017 summer intern Janell Keyser. We publish some photos of the 2017 Heritage Preservation Awards presentation that took place at San Miguel Chapel in May 2017. It was a wonderful event in an historic and elegant space. We also present a book review of Sarah Stark's award winning novel, *Out There*. We are lucky to have Sarah as a resident at El Zaguán.

A reminder that Mary Sloane's superb photography exhibition *Billboards* remains in the Gallery at El Zaguán until the end of the month. It has been a very successful show, well attended, and proceeds from sales of the photographs benefit HSFF.

Happy Summer.



2017 HERITAGE PRESERVATION AWARDS

Photography by Melanie West

Presented annually during May, Preservation Month is a collaborative award and ceremony presented by the Historic Santa Fe Foundation, the Old Santa Fe Foundation, and the City of Santa Fe Historic Preservation Division. The event was held this year at San Miguel Chapel – a wonderful and appropriate setting for the event. The Historic Santa Fe Foundation gave its Architectural Stewardship Award to a group of craftspeople who exemplify the hands-on work that is normally goes unrecognized, but without whom the restoration and preservation of Santa Fe could not be accomplished.



2017 Honorees

Tomas Lipps

Master stonemason

Gretchen Overman

Artist, faux finishes, traditional earthen and lime finishes

Antonio Martinez

Adobe conservation, earthen and lime plasters

Grey Howell

Adobe conservation, wood conservation, stone masonry, tile work, earthen finishes





BOOK REVIEW

Out There

By Sarah Stark

Reviewed by Pete Warzel

The newspaper and magazine articles have begun to proliferate over the past several months. It is the fiftieth anniversary year of The Beatles' *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*. Remarkably it is also the fiftieth year since publication of *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. Two truly creative masterpieces within sight of each other, within three days of each other in 1967.

I remember the release of both. I bought the only available version of *Sgt. Pepper's* – vinyl – and stayed the weekend in Canada at a high school friend's family beach house, listening to the album over and over in a small office on a small portable player. We smoked cigarettes while listening and then wrote a letter to the *New York Times* announcing the masterpiece as anointed by two fifteen-year-olds.

One Hundred Years of Solitude was given to me by another friend immediately following publication in English, 1970, three years after its magical appearance in Spanish. I remember reading it at a fast clip, dazzled from the first sentence: "Many years later, as he faced the firing squad, Colonel Aureliano Buendía was to remember that distant afternoon when his father took him to discover ice." I had discovered something much better than ice – a word-hoard of South American literature.

Enter Sarah Stark. You have met Sarah before in this eZine. She is our new tenant at El Zaguán. She is also the author of *Out There*, and the co-founder of Leaf Storm Press, a Santa Fe based book publishing company. *Out There* utilizes the central conceit of a soldier returning from Iraq after two tours of duty, on a quest to find Gabriel García Marquez because *One Hundred Years of Solitude*... "It saved my life." The premise makes for a fascinating, touching, sometimes disturbing, and poetic novel.

Jefferson Long Soldier, part Lakota, part Scots-Irish has returned to Santa Fe with the novel trapped to his chest beneath his shirt. His grandmother and cousin are at the Albuquerque Sunport when Jefferson comes through security doing a handstand, and chanting his name added to words relevant to him from the "book": "I am Jefferson Long Soldier, and I am returned from WA-AR." The image is powerful and a signal to his loved ones that things may not be all right with this return. Esco, his grandmother, and Nigel, his cousin, sleep at the end of Jefferson's bed to make sure he heals and re-enters correctly. But Jefferson is haunted by the list he has kept during his tour of duty – the names of those he knew killed in action, some with their blood splattered on his own body, some dying in his arms. He buys a dog from the animal shelter and names her Remedios *ex Remedios* the Beauty from Marquez. When he visits a VA counselor he chants, "You ask where I have been and I answer: Out there. Out there."

Jefferson Long Soldier begins a journey of healing. His quest is to find García Marquez at his home in Mexico City and tell him that the book had saved his life. He borrows his cousin's motor bike, puts Remedios in a carrier on the rear and heads south. In Mexico, his journey becomes centered on several surreal scenes, each worthy of García Marquez's own writing. The

imagery is remarkable and the story moves to the San Angel district of the city where Jefferson is given the address of the Nobel Laureate by a former neighbor. He sits in the night and waits, unsure whether the ill and aging writer will ever come out of his gate to retrieve the morning paper and offer the opportunity for conversation. Jefferson has mentally prepared a poem constructed of snippets of sentences from the great book and it is printed as an epilogue to the novel; a magnificent synopsis of *One Hundred Years of Solitude* and a mirror of Jefferson's own life. In the first third of the poem is this: "Out there, /Everything, even music, reminded me of beauty, and/That literature was the best plaything of all."

Out There is its own beautiful plaything, tapping one of the great novels of the twentieth century as well as the wonderful writing of a Santa Fe novelist who happens to live at El Zaguán. Sarah Stark has written a fierce book.

BOOK REVIEW:

Out There by Sarah Stark

Leaf Storm Press

Trade Paperback

\$17.95

286 pages

Interview

Janell Keyser

with Mara Saxer

Janell Keyser is the 2017 Faith and John Gaw Meem Preservation Trades Intern. Preservation Specialist Mara Saxer has a chat with her about what brought her to HSFF.

Mara Saxer: Tell us a bit about yourself, beyond the preservationist.

Janell Keyser: The first 22 years of my life were spent in Nebraska. I grew up in Broken Bow, a small farming/ranching community in central Nebraska. After graduation, I attended Chadron State College in the western Panhandle of the state. All my family



members still reside in the Cornhusker state and I visit as often as I can. I consider myself an outdoorsy person and enjoy hiking, camping and exploring the world around me. My dog Riley is a terrific traveling buddy and makes all adventures more enjoyable. After my internship is over, we are planning to visit friends in Missoula, Montana for a few weeks and revisit favorite hiking trails and a special top secret swimming hole.

MS: You just completed a degree at Belmont College in Ohio. What was your area of focus, and what was the program like?

JK: The Building Preservation/Restoration program was a general 2-year program that provided a wide range of coursework in preservation theory and practical application. My courses included 3 field labs, 2 of which took place at a historic property owned by the school. Other courses I took included Architectural Drafting, Masonry/Ceramics, Chemistry for Conservators, Plaster, Wood, Mechanical Systems, Building Pathology, Doors and Windows and Decorative Finishes. Our program didn't offer specializations in any particular aspect of preservation, but prepared us for a wide range of opportunities in the field.

MS: You worked in social work before transitioning in to preservation work, what led you to this field? Do you see any parallels or ways in which your former work has given you a unique perspective?

JK: My career change was heavily influenced by my lifelong interest in history, architecture and travel. I was the kid who anxiously awaited the arrival of National Geographic magazine each month, because it helped me realize the world was bigger than Custer County and that different people had unique stories I wanted to hear. One of the first tenets of social work is to start where the client currently is, not where you think they should be. Preservation is similar – if you have a building in danger of falling down, painting the interior walls isn't the most logical place to start. In social work, I often worked with people with building problems; in preservation, I work with buildings with people problems.

MS: It looks like you have lived in several different places. What drew you to the southwest?

JK: Before I came to Santa Fe, New Mexico was a place I had only driven through on my way somewhere else. My reasons for coming here are like many other peoples: unique architecture, chances to explore another culture, great food, and a beautiful outdoor environment. After two years in Michigan for grad school and 18 months in Ohio for trade school, I also needed to see the sunshine on a regular basis. Mission accomplished!

MS: What do you see as the biggest challenges facing preservationists in the future?

JK: Finding qualified people to do the work on historic buildings is definitely a challenge. I also think the preservation field, as a whole, needs to continue to remind people that preserving historic buildings contributes to a healthier environment by reusing existing materials and structures instead of shipping them to a landfill. In my mind, it makes sense to reuse existing buildings by respectfully adapting them for modern use.

Preservationists have opportunities to be the unifying force that brings people together. Our history is filled with challenging stories and I think preservationists have a unique opportunity to share these stories in

ways that doesn't condone or glamorize people's bad behavior.

MS: While in Ohio, you were involved with the Cockayne Farmstead in Glen Dale, WV. Tell us about the site and your work there.

JK: The Cockayne Farmstead was built in 1850 on land settled by the family in the mid-1790s. Located on the Ohio River, the Farmstead came to regional prominence during the Merino Sheep operation of Samuel A.J. Cockayne, an astute businessman who earned a bronze medal for high quality sheep wool at the World's Fair seven years after starting the farm's breeding business. Five generations of the family lived on the original settlement, the size of which grew quickly during the first three generations and was reduced significantly as the town of Glen Dale grew up around it in the 1900s. During my time as Executive Director of the Farmstead, some of my work included the creation of a logo for marketing purposes, regular social media postings to share stories of the family and the Farmstead's collections and re-focusing efforts to protect and catalog the extensive collection of Cockayne Family artifacts that had been left behind when the last resident of the farmhouse passed away in 2001.

My favorite activity at the Farmstead was not my idea! Students from the high school across the street wanted to restore a historic wooden wagon that was deteriorating in the front yard. After consulting with the Board and their teacher, I began teaching students the basics of historic preservation and how to preserve and restore historic wood. Many of the students were already taking Wood Shop, but had never had the opportunity to learn why historic materials were important and how to work with them. Three of the students became the leaders for the class, directing the work and teaching their classmates what I had taught them. Other students dove into researching the wagon and contacted a wagon restoration business in South Dakota who acted as a consultant for the project. The wagon was returned to the Farmstead earlier this month and is located prominently where visitors can appreciate the time and effort the students put into restoring it. I hope their involvement in the wagon restoration project sparks greater interest in the skilled building trades, specifically historic preservation trades.



© Mary Sloane

HSFF MISSION

Our mission is to preserve, protect, and promote the historic properties and diverse cultural heritage of the Santa Fe area, and to educate the public about Santa Fe's history and the importance of preservation.

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JUNE/JULY 2017 CALENDAR

June/July 2017 –**Mary Sloane: Billboards** photography exhibition in the El Zaguán sala. Large format photographs of southwest landscapes featuring billboards. The show will run through July 14. <http://www.historicsantafe.org/events>

Through June 27 – **Currents New Media** festival at El Museo Cultural and varying locations across Santa Fe. The Festival brings together the work of established and emerging New Media artists, from New Mexico, the US and the World, for events showcasing a variety of works in video, multimedia, performances and more.

<https://currentsnewmedia.org>

Thursday, June 22, 5-7pm – **Annual Membership Meeting** in the El Zaguán garden. This members-only event is an annual tradition held in the Garden at El Zaguán for Historic Santa Fe Foundation. Michael Brown, president of the School of Advanced Research, will give a talk titled *An Anthropologist Meets Santa Fe New Age*. RSVP required.

<http://www.historicsantafe.org/events>

Sunday, June 25, 4:00pm – Second 2017 Stewards Event. Stewards membership required.

<http://www.historicsantafe.org/stewards/>

Friday, July 14 – Deadline for *Pushing the Boundaries with Water and Color in New Mexico*, Historic Santa Fe Foundation's annual call for watercolor, gouache, acrylic paint and water-based ink. More information on

<http://www.historicsantafe.org/2017watercolorentry>

July 14, 15 & 16 – **The 14th Annual International Folk Art Market** – the world's largest folk art market featuring more than 150 master artists from 54 countries will be held on Museum Hill. <https://www.folkartalliance.org>

To share events please contact the HSFF Office Manager Jacqueline Hill 505-983-2567 or

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SANTA FE
PROPERTIES™



The Historic Santa Fe Foundation would like to thank Dave Feldt, Associate Broker at Santa Fe Properties, for his sponsorship of HSFF's 2016 eZines.

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