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Lamont Gallery Hosts “Clew: A Rich and Rewarding Disorientation”

On view Jan. 20-Apr. 15

Exeter, NH (Jan. 12, 2016) — The Lamont Gallery at Phillips Exeter Academy presents “Clew: A Rich and Rewarding Disorientation,” an artistic collaboration that emulates the labyrinth with its confluences and unexpected turnabouts.

“Clew: A Rich and Rewarding Disorientation” features the creative work of Boston-based visual artist Deborah Barlow; poet and writer Todd Hearon, instructor in English at Exeter; and musicians Jung Mi Lee and Jon Sakata, who teach in the Music Department at Exeter.

Using overlays of music, poetry and visual arts, these four artists give viewers and listeners new ways to see, hear and navigate a tripartite, intricately layered world. Within the setting of a physical gallery space, all three formats intermingle freely, and scheduled events shift the central focus from poetry to sound to the visual. Experienced individually or collectively, “Clew” compounds and expands into a journey of multidimensionality and surprise.

Clew: The word can mean variously a ball of yarn, part of a ship's sail, and an expanse of wings. The most famous clew in Western culture was the ball of thread given to Theseus by Ariadne, used to guide the hero back through the labyrinth of the Minotaur. Over time clew has come to mean “a fact, circumstance, or principle which, being taken hold of and followed up, leads through a maze, perplexity, difficulty, intricate investigation” (*Oxford English Dictionary*). The labyrinth in that famous story is often a metaphor for what is baffling, complex and unfathomable. But a labyrinth can also suggest the mysterious and uncanny. Wandering through a maze — to be in a state of “amazement” — can be a rich and rewarding disorientation. When

sailing in uncharted waters, the clew we need is one that brings us into proximity to the unknown and then back out again. Wings open and expand.

Programs

Opening Reception: Friday, Jan. 20, 5-7 p.m.

Gallery Talk: Saturday, Jan. 21, 10 a.m.

Lunchtime Artists' Talk: Thursday, Feb. 23, 12:30 p.m.

Artists Barlow, Hearon, Lee & Sakata will discuss their collaborative project and their work as individual artists. A light lunch will be served.

Space is limited. Please RSVP by Feb. 17 to gallery@exeter.edu.

Slow Art Day: Saturday, April 8, 10 a.m.

The Lamont Gallery will participate in the global Slow Art Day program. For more information, visit our website www.exeter.edu/lamontgallery.

Program is free. Please RSVP by April 1 to gallery@exeter.edu.

Location: Lamont Gallery, Frederick R. Mayer Art Center, 11 Tan Lane, Exeter, NH 03833

Gallery Hours: Monday by appointment; Tuesday-Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; closed Sunday and between exhibitions.

All programs are free and open to the public. Visit our website to learn about additional events and educational programming: www.exeter.edu/lamontgallery

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Two low-resolution images are attached: For more information about the artists or access to high-resolution images, please contact Lamont Gallery at gallery@exeter.edu or 603-777-3461.