

2010 Highlights for the Esopus Foundation Ltd.

January. A continuous screening of three undistributed short films by acclaimed independent filmmaker Kelly Reichardt (*Wendy and Lucy*, *Old Joy*) opens at Esopus Space on January 4 and runs through February 11, garnering an enthusiastic review by Amy Taubin at *Artforum.com*. The Esopus Foundation receives a grant from the Coby Foundation Ltd. to support the production costs of an artist's project by knitting designer Jared Flood in *Esopus 14*.

February. *Esopus* returns to NYC's performance venue The Kitchen for another "Evening with *Esopus*" event, this time featuring a reading of Kelly Sandoval's "How to Win in Reno" (*Esopus 13*) by the actress Lili Taylor, a screening of several short films by Neil Goldberg (featured in *Esopus 8*), and a musical performance by *Esopus 3* contributor El May. On February 9, Esopus Space hosts an intimate evening with the filmmaker (and *Esopus 10* contributor) Peter Hutton, who projects 7 of his films to a packed house. On February 22, acclaimed musician Sam Amidon offers a musical and spoken-word performance to another capacity crowd at the space. *Esopus* editor Tod Lippy is the subject of a two-part interview at *Art21.org* related to arts education.

March. "The Assembled Picture Library of New York," a collaborative exhibition and workspace environment organized by artists Robin Cameron and Jason Polan, runs through March 18 at Esopus Space. Visitors are invited to come in during gallery hours and use images from the artists' extensive collections—including manuscripts, advertisements, prints, original drawings, and more—as raw material for their own artworks, which are displayed on the walls of Esopus Space for the length of the exhibition.

April. The exhibition "*Esopus Make-Ready*," consisting of a representative selection of nearly 50 press sheets collected from press runs of *Esopus*, opens at Esopus Space. In conjunction with the MoMA exhibition "Lost and Found: The Work of Bern Porter," Mark Melnicove, Dan Domench, Kenneth Goldsmith, and Rachael Morrison perform and screen work related to the legendary artist, philosopher, poet, and scientist (whose work was reproduced in facsimile in *Esopus 12*) at Esopus Space on April 22. *Esopus* editor Tod Lippy is invited to deliver a lecture to M.F.A. students at Rice University in Houston, TX, on April 20, and speaks to Hunter College M.F.A. students about the magazine on April 28. Influential art-book blog *5B4* runs a feature on *Esopus*, claiming that its "quality and inventiveness sets the gold standard for all magazines."

May. *Esopus 14: Projects* is released. The issue is composed entirely of 12 artists' projects created by the established figures John Baldessari, Judy Pfaff, Roxy Paine, and Kerry James Marshall and emerging artists Barbara Probst, John O'Connor, Juri Morioka, Marcia Kure, Suzanne Bocanegra, Erica Allen, Jared Flood, and Fernando Santangelo. The publication's largest issue ever, the magazine features 10 different paper stocks, 6 foldouts, a 25" x 34" poster, and 30 removable inserts. The enclosed compilation CD features songs inspired by (and named after) visual artists by Doveman, Sharon Van Etten, PS I Love You, and 9 other musical acts. In conjunction with the issue, Esopus Space hosts an exhibition featuring work from all 12 artists included in the issue. On May 12, artist Chris Doyle and choreographer/dancer Amy Smith discuss their cross-disciplinary collaborations, including the upcoming *Red Rovers* dance/performance project, for an artists' presentation at Esopus Space.

June. "Clayton Patterson: Pyramid Portraits" opens on June 3 at Esopus Space. The exhibition includes 44 never-before-seen photographs of the extraordinarily inventive drag queens that performed at New York's legendary Pyramid Club in the mid-1980s. In conjunction with the exhibition, Esopus Space hosts a panel discussion on June 30 which is co-sponsored with the Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation, and takes as its subject the dynamic creative scene at the Pyramid Club in the 1980s. Panelists include photographer Clayton Patterson, performance historians Joe E. Jeffreys and Iris Rose, drag performer Agosto Machado, and Andrew Berman, executive director of the Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation. *The Utne Reader* excerpts a piece about autistic artist Alex Masket from *Esopus 13* for its June issue, bringing Masket's extraordinary work to its 200,000 readers.

July/August. Both New York City's Department of Cultural Affairs and the New York State Council on the Arts renew their support for the Esopus Foundation Ltd. for the upcoming fiscal year. The Esopus Foundation's Facebook page, which allows visitors easy access to photographs, videos, and other information related to both *Esopus* and Esopus Space, gains its 1,500th fan. *Esopus* is nominated for a prestigious Utne Independent Press Award for its arts coverage.

September. "Mark Hogancamp: Picturing Marwencol" opens at Esopus Space on September 16. The exhibition features 43 photographs of an imaginary town, populated by military figurines and Barbie dolls, created by Hogancamp as a therapeutic tool after suffering devastating brain damage from an attack in 2000. The show is featured as a "critic's pick" at *New York* magazine and engenders a feature piece in *The Wall Street Journal* on September 18. Hogancamp's artwork and inspiring story, which first appeared in *Esopus 5* in 2005, are also the subject of *Marwencol*, a documentary film made by *Esopus* subscriber Jeff Malmberg, which wins major awards at a number of festivals, including South by Southwest and the Seattle International Film Festival.

October. *Marwencol* opens at New York City's IFC Center and soon expands to theaters around the country, garnering nearly unanimous enthusiastic reviews. Artist Mark Hogancamp, *Marwencol* director Jeff Malmberg and the film's producer Chris Shellen attend a special reception and screening sponsored by Esopus Space on October 11. Singer-songwriter Nina Nastasia performs an acoustic show for a full house at Esopus Space on September 21. The Esopus Foundation is included in New York-based Exit Art's "Alternative Histories" exhibition, which celebrates the contributions of alternative exhibition and performance venues to New York City's cultural history over the past several decades.

November. *Esopus 15: Television* is released. The issue features artists' projects by Alex Bag, Dara Birnbaum, and Johan Grimmonprez, as well contributions from Lisa Kudrow, Michael Patrick King, Norman Lear, Rainer Werner Fassbinder, Larry Auerbach, Jean Passanante; Keith Arnatt, Mame McCutchin, Michelle Elligott, Buck Henry, Liam Gillick, Louis Menand, Laura Mulvey, Lili Taylor, John Kelly, and nearly 20 others. *Esopus 15* closes with an audio CD featuring new songs inspired by specific TV programs; participants include Stephin Merritt (*Meerkat Manor*), Cloud Nothings (*The Golden Girls*), and One Ring Zero (*MythBusters*). "TV/VIDEO," an exhibition featuring video work by Bag, Birnbaum, and Grimmonprez, opens at Esopus Space on November 11. Alix Pearlstein's performance piece "Shoot: Moving Paper Fantasy," which features actors performing scenes while being photographed and videotaped by audience members, is staged at Esopus Space on November 2. On November 15, Esopus Space hosts a screening of R. Alverson's feature film *The Builder*, which is preceded by an acoustic concert by Old Clump, the musical project of Eamon O'Leary (who also appears in the film). *Esopus* participates in the 2010 Editions/Artists Book Fair at in Chelsea.

December. On December 7, Esopus Space hosts an omnibus evening of performances by blogger Pitchfork Reviews Reviews, rap artist Juiceboxxx, filmmaker Daniel Kibblesmith, and storyteller Gabe Roginic. The Greenwall Foundation renews its funding of the Esopus Foundation for 2011. *New York* magazine film critic David Edelstein names *Marwencol* one of the 10 best films of the year, and its TV critic, Emily Nussbaum, writes about *Esopus 15* on the magazine's website.