



Bogliasco: Stay Home Edition

Welcome to this week's newsletter, in which we learn about digital dance technology in France, Chinese-American surrogacy in Southern California, the implication of encountering Theodor Adorno in an Italian horoscope, the long-term impact of plastic pollution in the Mediterranean, and how not reading Virginia Woolf's *The Waves* can inspire a poem. Enjoy this virtual residency!



Jean-Marc Matos and Marianne Masson 2017 Fellows in Dance, France



Jean-Marc Matos and Marianne Masson began working on *Myseles* during their joint residency in Bogliasco, with input from visiting artist Antoine Schmitt.

"The shared residency with dancer-choreographer Marianne Masson and myself was an extremely rich period of concentrated work that has allowed the laying down of ground bases for new artistic work at the intersection between contemporary dance and digital technology."

—Jean-Marc Matos

Frances Gynn 2018 Fellow in Visual Arts, United Kingdom



Frances Gynn's new drawing, *Ghost Nets (20)*, pictured right, is touring as part of the Trinity Buoy Wharf Drawing Prize Exhibition 2019. The exhibition at Leicester Gallery at De Montfort University, UK has recently been postponed due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

"This drawing was made shortly after my residency at Bogliasco. The background drawing of the seabed was inspired by reference material from The University of Genoa, kindly introduced to me by The Bogliasco Foundation.

Ghost nets are derelict fishing gear that has been lost, dumped or abandoned. The image is initially benign and ethereal, floating gracefully through the open sea. However, a more malign consequence becomes apparent. A perpetual moving killing zone, they are ubiquitous in our oceans and a major cause of plastic pollution."

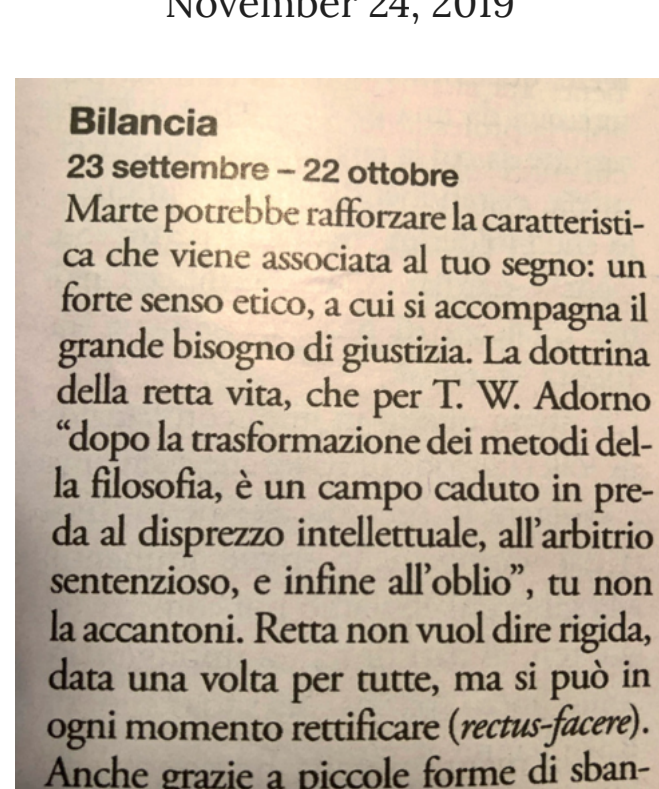
Susan Yelavich 2018 Fellow in Architecture, United States



"It was not just a matter of shared professional interests that made my residency so meaningful. Impromptu concerts in the evening, lively mealtime conversations with other Fellows, and insights into the cultural offerings in Liguria offered by Ivana, Valeria, and Alessandra made Bogliasco an ideal respite from the demands of teaching."

Below is the beginning of a recent entry from her blog [Assaying – stray thoughts, culled words](#).

Horoscope as 'doppio senso' (or, if you prefer French, double entendre) November 24, 2019



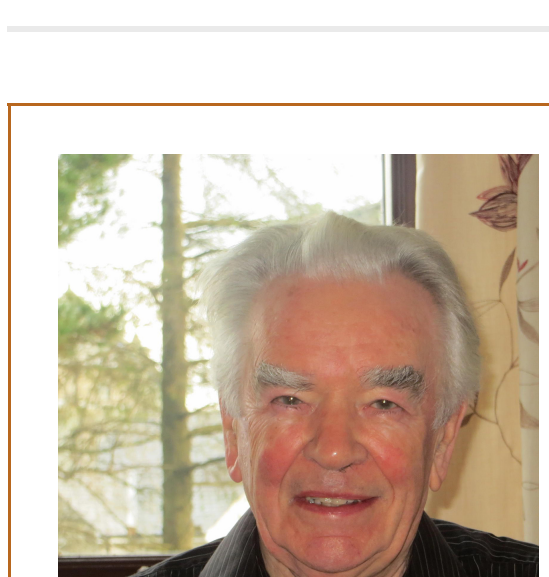
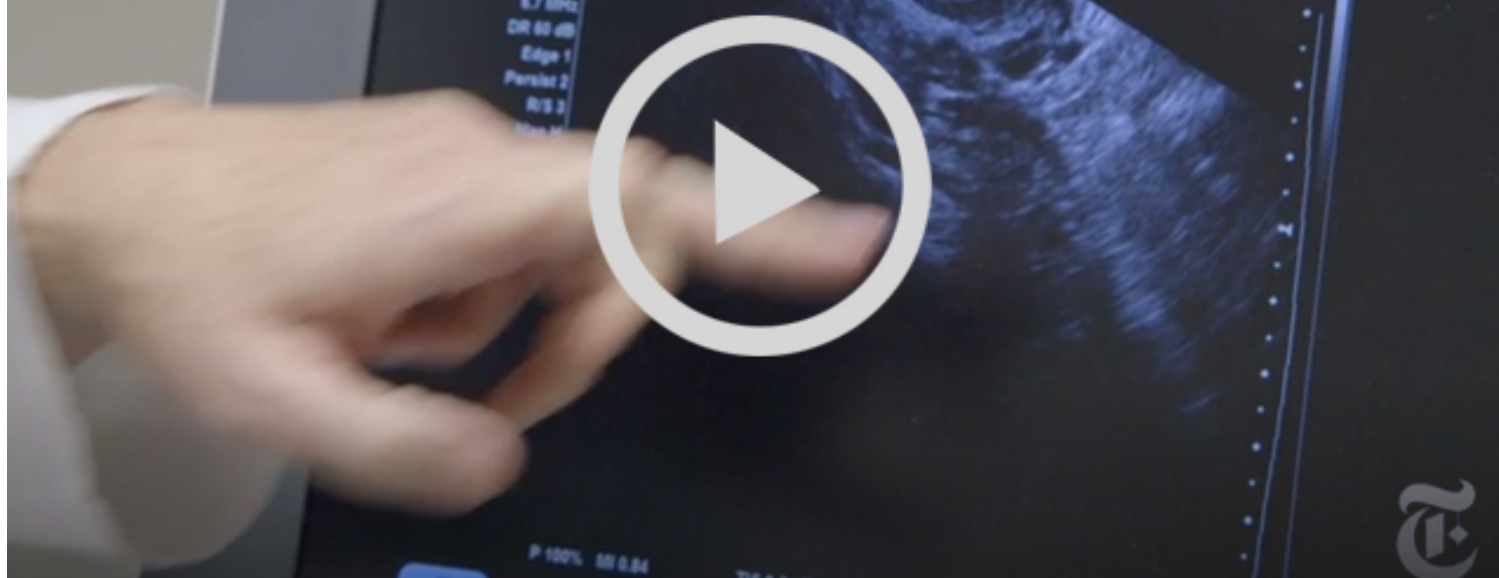
Libra horoscope for November 10, 2019, D Magazine, La Repubblica

Flabbergasted to find a philosopher, specifically Theodor Adorno, enlisted in a magazine horoscope for Libras (a.k.a Bilancias), I asked the friend I was staying with in Milan: "How could this be?" (I'm almost certain there are no equivalent references, say, to Kant, Heidegger, or even Thoreau in an American star chart.) She rather dismissively said that the author was known for being pretentious. [Continue reading.](#)



Leslie Tai 2017 Fellow in Film/Video, United States

During her Bogliasco residency, Leslie developed her film project *My American Surrogate*, which went on to be featured as a New York Times Op-Doc. It tells the story of a Chinese businesswoman in California who has become a matchmaker between infertile Chinese parents and American wombs.



Neil Curry 2004 Fellow in Literature, United Kingdom

"While at Bogliasco I was working on a poem sequence later published under the title 'On Keeping Company with Mrs Woolf. One lazy day, doing nothing produced this poem. Being able to do nothing can be a prime requirement at times."

on my
not managing to read
"The Waves"

Down on the lowest level
Of the cliff-face gardens of the Villa dei Pini
(It's at Bogliasco on the Ligurian coast)
I don't quite know how to tell you this,
Virginia, but I'll risk it nonetheless –
As I say, on the lowest level –
You get there down a steep and narrow
Twisting path between sabre-toothed cacti
And dark pines to where three great trees
Lean out so far they've had to be tied back
To the land to stop them rushing out
To paddle their old roots in the sea.
Then at the very lowest level of all there's this
Sudden little patch of lawn in bright sunlight
And a bench waiting for you in the shade
Of an olive tree.

I'd taken a copy
Of *The Waves* to read there, but never
Got round to as much as opening it.
Even your words, Virginia, could not compete
With the actuality of the way they came
Pounding their fists against the rocks, then chuckling
To themselves ("We didn't really mean it.")
As they went meekly shuffling out again.

Calling all Bogliasco Fellows: Do you have something you would like to contribute to our weekly newsletter? Always feel free to [reach out](#), we would love to hear from you!

The Villa dei Pini Garden is Flourishing!



BF staff members **Luigi Crovetto** (left) and **Franco Romeo** (right) have been tending the garden. In the middle, a bee helps pollinate an orange blossom!

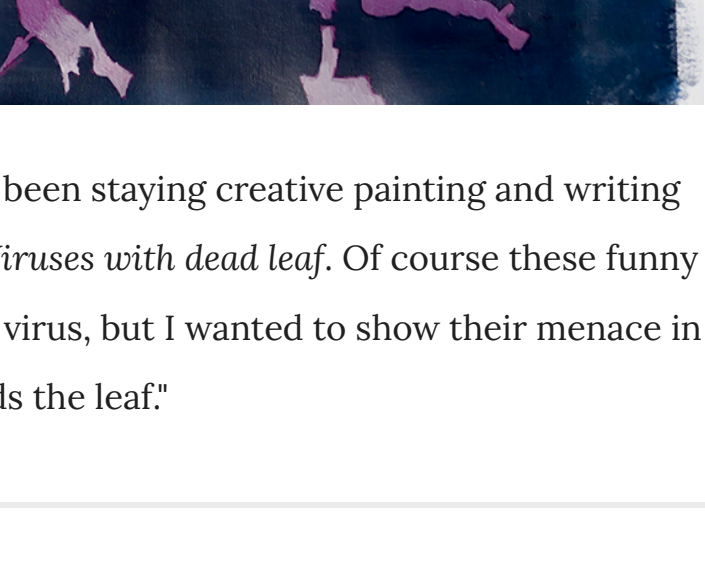
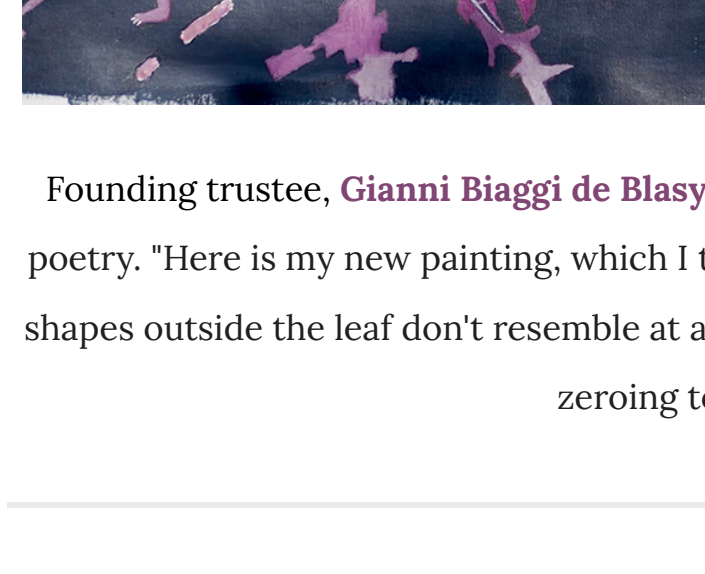
COVID-19 Financial Resources

Have you or someone you know been impacted by the current pandemic? [Here is a growing list](#) of response grants and resources compiled by Sparkpoint Fundraising as well as [a link](#) to the **Emergency Artist Relief Fund** that was recently launched by the Coalition of Arts Funders. Feel free to share widely!

What We've Been Making



Founding trustee, Gianni Biaggi de Blasy has been staying creative painting and writing poetry. Here is my new painting, which I title *Viruses with dead leaf*. Of course these funny shapes outside the leaf don't resemble at all the virus, but I wanted to show their menace in zeroing towards the leaf."



BF staff member, Raffaella Folle and her family made salsa di tre pomodori, a delicious slow-simmered tomato sauce, and built picture frames out of recycled materials.



Development Associate, **Leah Guadagnoli** tried to bring a little piece of Bogliasco to her home in Upstate NY this weekend and made pansoti con salsa di noci and focaccia con la cipolla. She learned how to make this delicate Ligurian sauce during a cooking lesson she took with the last group of Spring 2020 Fellows. [Click here](#) for the recipe!

