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A modest occupation
Art-subscription program websites

Alula Editions (San Francisco, CA): www.alulaeditions.com

The Alula Story

Helena Keeffe and Amber Cady started Alula Editions as a way to bring patterned textiles and contemporary art together in the form of a limited edition multiple. We love it when fabric secretly holds a story, like the bedspread made for the set of Melrose place by Mel Chin and the Gala Committee whose pattern made from images of condoms subtly defied FCC regulations. Repeat patterns have a rich history from French toile to Japanese sashiko which we hope the artists we work with will be as excited about exploring as we are.

We are also deeply inspired by fellow art subscription pioneers such as The Present Group and The Thing. We share the conviction that this model provides an avenue for art production that sea-saws nicely between the worlds of commerce and experimentation. Much like a CSA (community support agriculture), subscribers provide the funds needed to make the editions and receive artworks in return for their investment.

We are committed to using the most environmentally friendly products and processes available to us. We currently use fabrics made from sustainable fibers such as bamboo, hemp, and organic cotton as well as water based inks.

Support for our first year of editions has been generously provided by an [Alternative Exposure grant](#) from SoEx.

Email: hello@alulaeditions.com

Art Practical Mail Art Subscription (San Francisco, CA): www.artpractical.com

About Art Practical

Art Practical is an online magazine that enriches critical dialogue for the Bay Area visual arts by providing comprehensive analysis of events and exhibitions. Since its launch in October 2009, we have worked with a network of partners to promote the Bay Area's role in the international art scene, to create a historical record of contemporary artistic practices, and to foster artistic production through critical writing and public programming.

Email: editor@artpractical.com

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Community Supported Art Chicago: CSA Chicago: www.communitysupportedartchicago.com

About CSA Chicago

Community-Supported Art Chicago is a yearly art subscription service of locally produced art. Much like Community Supported Agriculture, in which shareholders invest in a local farm and receive a monthly payout of fruits and vegetables, CSA Chicago asks shareholders to invest directly in the arts community with a "buy local" mentality. The program offers a reasonably priced way to support Chicago and regional artists and receive limited edition contemporary artist projects in return.

Email: info@three-walls.org

Community Supported Art Philadelphia: www.csartphilly.com

About CSA Philadelphia

Like a Community Supported Agriculture program, our CSA program supports a direct maker-to-buyer relationship between artists and collectors working and living in the Philadelphia region. Over the last 20 years, Community Supported Agriculture has become a popular way for consumers to buy seasonal food directly from local farms. With the same buy-local spirit in mind, Grizzly Grizzly and Tiger Strikes Asteroid's Community Supported Art is an endeavor to support local art, artists, and collectors. Since its inception by Springboard for the Arts in Minneapolis, MN (2010) this model has gained a lot of notoriety and has been replicated throughout the country. The goal of both Grizzly Grizzly and TSA is to cultivate an open, authentic, and deep connection between artists and collectors. This program seeks to create dialog through a series of events revolved around local, innovative artwork.

Email: tsagrizzacsa@gmail.com

Community Support Art Minneapolis: www.springboardforthearts.org

Who We Are

Springboard for the Arts is an economic and community development organization for artists and by artists. Our work is about building stronger communities, neighborhoods, and economies, and we believe that artists are an important leverage point in that work. Springboard for the Arts' mission is to cultivate vibrant communities by connecting artists with the skills, information, and services they need to make a living and a life.

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Our work is about creating communities and artists that have a reciprocal relationship, where artists are key contributors to community issues and are visible and valued for the impact they create. We do this work by creating simple, practical solutions and systems to support artists. Those programs support our goal to help create a local culture movement.

Email: info@springboardforthearts.org

The Drop/NOLA (New Orleans): www.thedropnola.com

THE DROP: Subscribe. Support. Surprise.

THE DROP is an innovative, sustainable art subscription program and a project of Pelican Bomb. Like all of our nonprofit projects, THE DROP seeks to make New Orleans a viable and supportive place for artists to live and work. We believe two of the best ways to support artists is by putting money in their pockets and connecting them with future collectors. To this end, we work directly with local artists, commissioning three artists every two months to each create 100 prints, multiples, or even unique works of art. Modeled on Community Supported Agriculture practices, we the box up the works and allow you to buy in, subscribing to receive one, two, or three works of art depending on the subscription level you choose. And like a CSA, you don't know exactly what will arrive in your box.

Email: info@thedropnola.com

The Present Group (Bay Area, CA): www.thepresentgroup.com

About The Present Group:

The Present Group is an arts based think tank and creative studio whose projects focus on leveraging new technologies in support of the arts and finding new ways to fund and distribute artists projects.

SUBSCRIPTION ART PROJECT

From 2006 - 2012 The Present Group's art subscription project enabled a community of subscribers to fund contemporary artists projects and receive limited edition artwork in return. Annual subscribers received...

- + 3 limited edition works of art by 3 contemporary artists
- + each piece signed and numbered by the artist
- + audio or video artist interviews
- + professional critiques contextualizing the edition
- + the honor of helping to bring these works into the world

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- + a new surprise every four months

Email: info@thepresentgroup.com

Regional Relationships (Chicago): www.regionalrelationships.org

About Regional Relationships:

Regional Relationships commissions artists, scholars, writers and activists to create works that investigate the natural, industrial and cultural landscapes of a region.

It is a platform to re-imagine the spaces and cultural histories around us. An invitation to join in seeing what we can learn—and learning what we can see—by juxtaposing spaces and narratives that are usually kept apart.

Popular beliefs about human geography are composed of binary oppositions like “urban” and “rural” and “cosmopolitan” and “provincial”. These divisions naturalize synthetic borders and harden political boundaries, obscuring their cultural function.

Applying a regional lens encourages us to think more expansively about the disparate geographies that might exist within the space of one small town or across continents and oceans.

Email: contact@regionalrelationships.org

The Thing Quarterly (San Francisco, CA): www.thethingquarterly.com

About The Thing Quarterly:

THE THING Quarterly is a periodical in the form of an object. Each year, four artists, writers, musicians or filmmakers are invited by the editors (Jonn Herschend and Will Rogan) to create a useful object that somehow incorporates text. This object is reproduced, hand-wrapped at a wrapping party, and mailed to the homes of subscribers with the help of the United States Postal Service. THE THING's current year of subscriptions (issues 20-23) will begin with an issue by NY-based visual artist [TAUBA AUERBACH](#),

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continue with author BEN MARCUS, followed by visual artist JOHN BALDESSARI, and end with visual artist DAVID KORTY. Back issue orders of THE THING ship out every Thursday.

Email: support@thethingquarterly.com