

# t r a n s f o r m e r

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 1, 2016

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## Southern Constellations Convergence

FRAMEWORK PANELS #24 & #25  
Exploring Experimental Practice &  
Exploring Alternative Resources  
in Southern Cities

Saturday, April 30, 11:00am - 5:00pm

The American University Museum at the Katzen Arts  
Center



[Transformer](http://transformerdc.org) (transformerdc.org) & [Elsewhere](http://goeslewhere.org) (goeslewhere.org) are pleased to co-present Southern Constellations Convergence: Exploring Experimental Practice and Alternative Resources in Southern Cities. This full day convergence will include two panels with southern-based national arts leaders - one focused on experimental practice, one focused on alternative resources of support for those practices - each followed by participatory breakout sessions. Our goal is to map out and connect Southern based art spaces, artist led projects, and the resources that support them.

**Exploring Alternative Practice** panelists include: **Regina Agu**, [Alabama Song](#), Houston, TX; **Chris Appleton**, [WonderRoot](#), Atlanta, GA; **Margaret Boozer**, [Red Dirt Studios](#), Washington, DC; **Jina Valentine**, [Artist](#), Durham, NC; & **Sheldon Scott**, [Artist](#), Washington, DC. Moderator: **George Scheer**, [Elsewhere](#), Greensboro, NC.

**Exploring Alternative Resources** panelists include: **Wendy Clark**, [National Endowment for the Arts](#), Washington, DC; **Bob Snead**, [Antenna / Common Field](#), New Orleans, LA; **Salem Acuña**, [Southerners on New Ground](#), Southern-Regional; **Kristina Billonick**, [Pleasant Plains Workshop](#), Washington, DC; & **Trey Hartt**, [Alternate Roots](#), Richmond VA. Moderator: **Victoria Reis**, [Transformer](#), Washington, DC.

This convergence is presented in tandem with the exhibition [Southern Constellations](#) at the American University Museum. Curated by Elsewhere, *Southern Constellations* features a selection of works from their collection created by artists who participated in Elsewhere's residency and southern curatorial initiative. *Southern Constellations* is the 3rd exhibition in the *Do You Know Where Your Art Comes From?* series, curated by **Victoria Reis**, Executive & Artistic Director of Transformer, in collaboration with **Tim Doud**, Associate Professor of Art and coordinator of the Visiting Artist Program at American University.

Inspired by [Common Field](#) (commonfield.org), a new visual arts organizing network connecting contemporary, experimental, noncommercial artist spaces and projects across the US and beyond, *Do You Know Where Your Art Comes From?* highlights various contemporary platforms, artists, and arts organizations and investigates current and future models of art organizing.

Outcomes from the Southern Constellations Convergence will help to inform planning for the next national Common Field convening to take place in Miami, FL fall 2016.

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Participation is free, limited to the first 100, and includes one boxed lunch and light breakfast (please specify dietary restrictions with registration).

## Southern Constellations Convergence Schedule:

11:00 - 11:30: Welcome & Coffee Reception  
11:30 - 1:00: Panel #1: *Exploring Alternative Practices*  
1:00 - 2:00: Boxed Lunches and Breakout Sessions  
2:00 - 3:30: Panel #2: *Exploring Alternative Resources*  
3:30-4:30: Break Out Sessions  
4:30 - 5:00: Closing Statements  
5:00: AU MFA Reception

The *Southern Constellations Convergence* is presented as part of Transformer's ongoing FRAMEWORK Panel Series. Launched in December 2002, Transformer's FRAMEWORK Panel Series engages artists, arts professionals, cultural leaders, and audiences in conversation to create an oral 'field guide' to encourage and support individual emerging artists in our community, and educate audiences through the sharing of best practices within the contemporary visual arts.

The 2009 FRAMEWORK Panel Series was supported by the Robert Lehman Foundation, and the 2010 FRAMEWORK Panel Series was supported through our first National Endowment for the Arts' Access to Artistic Excellence grant, awarded "to encourage and support artistic excellence, preserve our cultural heritage, and provide access to the arts for all Americans." Through National Endowment for the Arts support, Transformer is thrilled to have the opportunity to expand the scope of our FRAMEWORK Panel Series, including more national perspectives on best practices within the contemporary visual arts, and advance our mission to build audiences for emerging artists and emergent expression in the visual arts.

**Southern Constellations Convergence** and Transformer's FRAMEWORK Panel Series are generously supported by The National Endowment for the Arts' Artworks Award, and The Visionary Friends of Transformer – individual donors, members of our Annual Auction Host Committee, and Corporate Sponsors.

Image credit: *Southern Constellations* exhibition detail, Elsewhere

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t r a n s f o r m e r is a Washington, DC based 501 (c) 3 artist-centered non-profit visual arts organization, providing a consistent, supportive, and professional platform for emerging artists to explore and present experimental artistic concepts, build audiences for their work, and advance their careers. A catalyst and advocate for contemporary artists and emergent expression in the visual arts, Transformer connects and promotes emerging visual artists within regional, national and international contexts through exhibition and programs partnerships with artists, curators, commercial galleries, museums and other cultural institutions. [www.transformerdc.org](http://www.transformerdc.org)

**Elsewhere Museum and Residency** is an artist-run non-profit contemporary art organization set in a former thrift store in downtown Greensboro, NC. Utilizing the massive 58-year inventory, artists from across the globe utilize Elsewhere's environment of art and everyday objects to invoke new modes for creative response, living, doing and exchanging. The museum is open daily to the public and provides a unique cultural anchor for downtown Greensboro. It presents a changing, interactive environment of artworks, objects, and events that inspire new ways to look at and re-purpose recent cultural surplus. An experience at Elsewhere activates contemporary memory and brings new concepts, perspectives, and life practices to visitors. [www.goelsewhere.org](http://www.goelsewhere.org)