

Art professor to give a 'Performance To Go'

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Alfred University's (AU) longstanding lunchtime series, the Bergren Forum, continues Thursday, Oct. 2 at 12:10 pm in Nevins Theater, Powell Campus Center with "Performance To Go" by Laurel Jay Carpenter, associate professor of art. The program is free and open to the public.

Since her sabbatical two years ago, Carpenter has presented new performance art work in Italy, Norway, Poland and Germany. Her forum will focus on her solo and collaborative work, and perhaps include a few tourist shots of the residency sites.

According to her personal webpage, "Carpenter is a performance and installation artist, investigating longing, devotion and alchemy in her durational live works."

She has exhibited her work both nationally and internationally. It has been featured at eight different venues in New York, two in Germany, and one in Spain, Italy, Norway, and Poland.

Carpenter was one of only two U.S. participants in the Independent Performance Group (IPG) from 2004-07. The IPG is a non-profit established to promote young international performance artists.

Carpenter holds a bachelor of arts degree in English literature and art history from Tufts University, Medford, MA, and a master of fine arts degree in sculpture and performance from the University of Connecticut, Storrs.

She teaches in the Interdisciplinary Art program at AU with special interest in performance art, found object sculpture, and site-specific installation.

The Bergren Forum is sponsored by the Division of Human Studies, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Provost's Office. Guests are encouraged to bring a brown bag lunch; coffee and tea will be provided.

The series known as the Bergren Forum began in 1970. Rick Bergren, who taught at the University in the '70s, started the forums after being inspired by learning of the gatherings that (AU) students in the 19th century were known to conduct in Alumni Hall to discuss community issues. After Bergren's death in 1974, the University decided to continue the tradition in his name. Various faculty members have taken on the coordinator duties since that time. William S. Dibrell, professor of philosophy, is the current coordinator.