



APRIL 7

Dear RU Community and friends,

We hope this finds you safe and healthy!

As we enter week #4 in the U.S. epicenter of the Covid-19 Pandemic, we find ourselves relying more than ever on the sounds, words, and images of artists for inspiration, motivation and salve.

We open this E-blast with the short video *Calm the mind and cook the cucumber* (2020) by 2010 RU alum [Ana Prvacki](#) (Serbia/Berlin). Both whimsical and mindful, the video speaks to memory and culturally-specific healing practices. We hope you find it as practical in this moment as we do. We are also delighted to share *New York NoteFilm* by RU artist Wawrzyniec Gucewicz (Poland), a cinematic ode to NYC as we know it. COVID-19 resources and ways to help are followed by an RU staff recommendation for hands-on and practical stimuli.

Please let us know if there is anything that you would like us to share for you.

Take much care!

The RU Team



Ana Prvacki, *Calm the mind and cook the cucumber*, 2020, Video. Courtesy the artist.

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## Online Programming

RU is pleased to share [New York NoteFilm](#) (2015) by resident artist Wawrzyniec Gucewicz (Poland).

*New York FilmNote* is an #essential cinematic ode to New York City as we know it, consisting of a sequence of meanderings through many of NYC's iconic touch points - Times Square, Central Park, and NYC's underground arteries among them. Vacillating between black and white that evokes the street photography of Elliott Erwitt and Helen Levitt and the saturated color of 1970s film, Gucewicz's footage of NYC street scenes, holiday parades, subway buskers, Christmas windows and backyard holiday celebrations capture the relentless pulse of the city through everyday scenes and ambient sounds.

After many years working in the film industry, Gucewicz returned to painting in 2017 with a focus on people and the times they live in, their ideas and inventions. He was a 2020 artist-in-residence until having to return to

Poland recently as a result of the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic.  
Gucewicz will be back in residence at RU in the fall.



*Wawrzyniec Gucewicz, New York NoteFilm, 2015. Courtesy the artist.*

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## COVID-19 Resources

The Foundation for Contemporary Arts has created a temporary fund to meet the needs of experimental artists who have been impacted by the economic fallout. The Foundation will disburse one-time \$1,500 grants to artists who have had performances or exhibitions canceled or postponed because of the pandemic. For eligibility requirements and to apply, click [here](#).

The historic \$2 trillion Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) includes relief programs that are especially relevant to arts organizations and practitioners, including Paycheck Protection, forgivable loans, extended unemployment benefits and charitable giving incentives. While full details about how to apply for many of these funds are not yet available, Alliance of Artists Communities post updates regularly as well as key components of the bill. Read more [here](#).

NYC HOPE can connect you to resources to help you or a loved one experiencing dating, domestic, or gender-based violence. Call for services or support, including immediate safety planning, shelter assistance, and other vital services. You can also find additional Resources For Survivors During COVID-19. For more information, click [here](#), or call NYC Domestic

Violence Hotline at 1-800-621-4673 (HOPE). In an emergency, please call 911.

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## How To Help

The pro-bicycling nonprofit Transportation Alternatives in New York City has launched a program called Bike Match, with the goal of bringing unused bikes to people who need them for transportation. Those who are willing to donate a bike, and those who need one, can fill out this form [here](#).

Help Food Bank for NYC prepare for increased hunger during this crisis and provide meals for neighbors in need. To donate, click [here](#). To learn more about the response in your community and to find your local food bank, click [here](#).

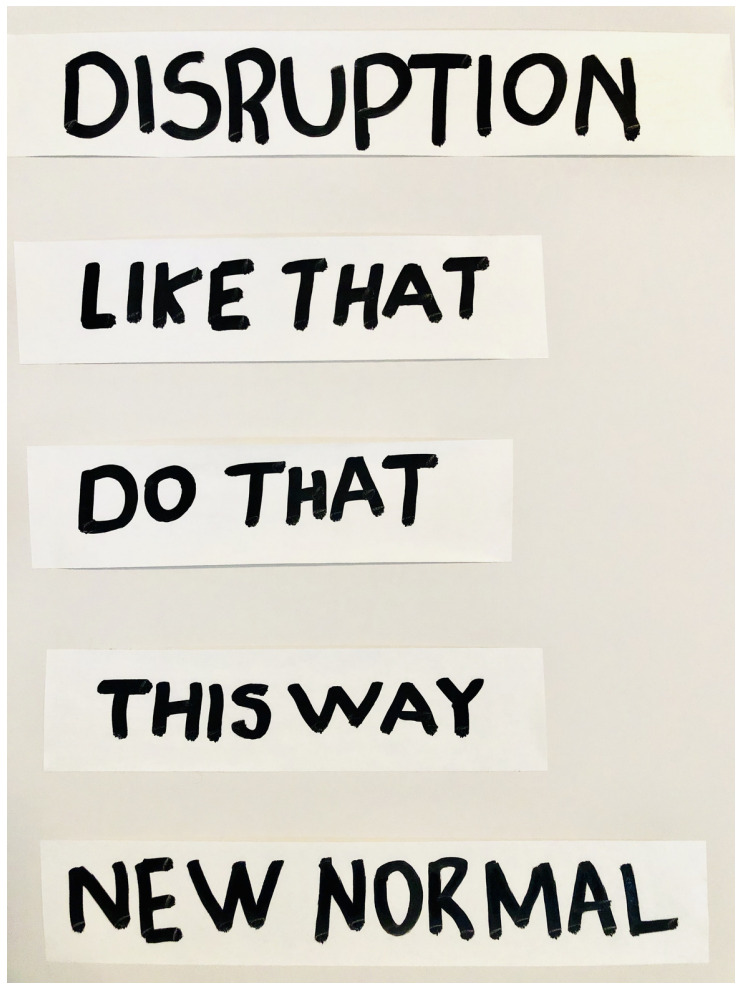
Don't need that \$1,200 Stimulus Check? *The New York Times* has compiled a list of places to donate it to, including food programs, health aid and protection for medical personnel, independent businesses, media, and mentorship programs. Read more [here](#).

## RU Staff Recommendation

Thursday, April 9th at 7 pm (ET): Join the next activation of 2017 RU alum [Carolina Paz](#)'s participatory art project *Escola Aqui* to work on the concept of "Disruption." Create art together! Online!

Suggested materials for participation: artist tape and markers or any piece of paper and something to write with.

To participate, please submit your name and e-mail to [contato@carolinapaz.com](mailto:contato@carolinapaz.com).



*Image courtesy of Carolina Paz.*

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