

October 14, 2016

## **For Immediate Release**

### **Olivia Block in Residence at Flagler College from October 24-28, 2016**

We are pleased to announce Olivia Block as the inaugural artist for the Crisp-Ellert Art Museum and Flagler College's newly initiated Artist Residency program. During the week of October 24, Block will visit St. Augustine to conduct workshops and class visits. On Wednesday, October 26 at 7pm, Block will perform a multi-speaker concert entitled *Dissolution*, in the Rotunda of the Flagler College's Ponce de Leon Hall. This event is free and open to the public.

Olivia Block is a Chicago-based artist who creates sound recordings, audio-visual installations, performances, sound design for cinema, and scores for orchestra and chamber music concerts. Block is a classically trained musician with a degree in Anthropology, and for over the last twenty years has utilized field recordings and found materials to create trans-disciplinary work that spans genres such as visual art, music, film and performance. Block's body of work reflects her interests in site specificity, ethnographic sound, architectural sound, and found/archival materials from the 1950's-1990's.

*Dissolution* is a reflection upon human "webs of significance," and an investigation into the ways that electronic communications technologies, both past and present, facilitate, complicate and transmute the formation of these webs. Through multiple speakers, sounds of shortwave radio, municipal broadcasts, fragments of found microcassette tapes, tones and instruments dramatize the fragility and failures of communication and language in our everyday world.

Block has performed and created site specific installations at venues throughout the United States and worldwide. In 2016 she participated in the Sanatorium of Sound Festival, and AIR Residency, in Sokowosko, Poland, in which she created a site specific installation consisting of multi speaker sound recordings of breath, multiple curtains made from medical gauze. Her work was also included in the exhibition "Sound Positions," curated by Christoph Cox for Context New York. Block's "Sonambient Pavilion," utilizing sound recordings from Harry Bertoia's Sonambient sculptures in downtown Chicago, was commissioned by the Experimental Sound Studio and included in the Chicago Architecture Biennial in 2015.

Block's composition, *Make the Land (Heave To)*, which is included in the exhibition SOUND, currently on view, is an investigation of the themes and aural structures related to storms at sea. The piece includes ten instruments performed by chamber musicians, as well as other materials that include field recordings from various locations include an old wooden tall ship in California, and a wind farm in Hawaii, among others.

The CEAM Artist Residency is generously supported through a grant from the JoAnn Crisp-

Ellert Fund through The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida.

For further information on the exhibition and related programs, please visit the website at [www.flagler.edu/crispellert](http://www.flagler.edu/crispellert), or contact Julie Dickover at 904-826-8530 or [crispellert@flagler.edu](mailto:crispellert@flagler.edu). The museum's hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.