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Shaker  
Museum



## SHAKER MUSEUM AND PAMELA SALISBURY GALLERY LAUNCH "SHAKER MUSEUM BENEFIT BOX PROJECT"

**A Year-Long Initiative Engages Contemporary Visual Artists Exhibiting at Pamela Salisbury Gallery to Reimagine the Iconic Shaker Oval Box**

***The First Two Boxes by Artists Elliott Green and Lothar Osterburg Will Be Unveiled At Their Respective Solo Shows Opening Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>***

**CHATHAM, NEW YORK, APRIL 7, 2023** – Shaker Museum, which stewards the most comprehensive collection of Shaker material culture and archives, and Pamela Salisbury Gallery, a prominent contemporary art gallery in Hudson, New York, today announced the launch of the "Shaker Museum Benefit Box Project." The year-long initiative engages contemporary visual artists exhibiting at the Pamela Salisbury Gallery to reimagine the iconic Shaker oval box.

As part of the project, each participating artist is given an authentic reproduction of a Shaker oval box made by local woodworker Peter Forward. The artists are then tasked with creating a unique artwork using the box as their point of departure.

The one-of-a-kind artworks created as part of this project will be auctioned off and/or sold with proceeds benefitting Shaker Museum, which is building a new home in Chatham, New York. The boxes will be offered at silent auction through the end of each exhibition, with a "buy now" option available. Proceeds of the box sales will be shared: 50% of the selling price for Shaker Museum and its programs, 40% to the artist, and 10% to Pamela Salisbury Gallery, to cover administrative costs. Bids will be accepted in person at the gallery (Thursday through Monday, 11:00am to 5:00pm), via telephone (518-828-5907) or email ([info@pamelasalisburygallery.com](mailto:info@pamelasalisburygallery.com)).

The first two artists to show their bespoke boxes will be Elliott Green and Lothar Osterburg at their simultaneous solo exhibition openings at the Pamela Salisbury Gallery on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> with an artists' reception from 3:00pm to 5:00pm. Elliott Green's box will be on view through May 14<sup>th</sup>, and Lothar Osterburg's piece will be on view through June 18<sup>th</sup>.

Installed on the second floor of the gallery's historic Carriage House, Lothar Osterburg's solo exhibition, *The Long Way In*, includes recent sculpture and photogravures. For the "Shaker Museum Benefit Box Project," Osterburg creates a glimpse into the Shaker world in miniature form. A glass lens mounted in the side of the box enables viewers to discover the Shaker interior within. Diminutive Shaker-style chairs, peg rails, and a broom crafted by the artist define the simple beauty of a Shaker-inspired room.

Also opening on April 8<sup>th</sup> is Elliott Green's *Ascension*, a one-person show of paintings and works on paper installed on the first and second floors of the gallery's Warren Street building. As the critic and poet John Yau writes, Green depicts "radiant landscapes and seascapes where paint-as-paint also reads as a series of materially defined abstract shapes and gestures..." Green has brought his deft handling of oil paint to the exterior of his Shaker oval box, creating a piece that bridges painting, sculpture, and traditional craft.

Future participating artists in the project include Barbara Takenaga, Joshua Marsh, Chie Fueki, and others. Dates and times of their exhibitions will be announced six weeks prior to each show.

"Shaker Museum is proud to partner with Pamela Salisbury in this creative endeavor. Pamela has been a great support to the museum. When she approached us with the idea for the "Shaker Museum Benefit Box Project," we were instantly enamored with the idea. We saw it as a perfect way to celebrate Shaker design influence while showcasing the incredible work of so many talented artists at this highly regarded Hudson Valley art gallery," said Shaker Museum Executive Director Lacy Schutz.

"I am so thrilled to be undertaking this project with Shaker Museum and such an amazing roster of artists. In the hands of these artists, the new boxes are not only emblems of original American craft, but also unique works of art. The artists have generously accepted the opportunity and challenge to make something new, bridging the past and the present. The outcome is incredible," said Gallery Owner Pamela Salisbury.

Lothar Osterburg is a sculptor and master printer in etching and photogravure whose work is held in numerous collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Library of Congress, Art Institute of Chicago, New York Public Library, and Houston's Museum of Fine Arts. Recent fellowships and awards

include the Bogliasco Foundation, Liguria, Italy; the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship; American Academy of Arts and Letters; and New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowships. Osterburg has taught for over 30 years at prestigious academic institutions including Columbia University, The Cooper Union, the Lacoste School of the Arts in France, and Bard College. Osterburg, who lives and works in Red Hook, New York, is represented by Emanuel von Baeyer in London, and Pamela Salisbury Gallery in Hudson, New York.

Elliott Green is the recipient of numerous distinctions including fellowships and grants from the American Academy of Arts and Letters; Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant; BAU Institute; Yaddo Residency; Jules Guerin Rome Prize, American Academy in Rome; Peter S. Reed Foundation Grant; Marie Walsh Sharpe Art Foundation Grant; and the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship. Green is represented by Miles McEnery Gallery in New York City, and Pamela Salisbury Gallery in Hudson, New York. The artist lives and works in Athens, New York.

### **About Shaker Museum**

With more than 18,000 objects, Shaker Museum stewards the most comprehensive collection of Shaker material culture and archives. It is the leader nationwide among organizations devoted to Shaker history. Its permanent new facility in Chatham, New York, which is in development, was designed by Selldorf Architects. The museum also stewards the historic site in New Lebanon, New York and has a campus in Old Chatham, New York, which is open year-round by appointment, where the administrative offices, collections, library, and archives are housed. The museum's collection can be viewed online at [www.shakermuseum.us](http://www.shakermuseum.us).

### **About Pamela Salisbury Gallery**

Located in Hudson, New York, Pamela Salisbury Gallery opened in March 2020. The gallery shows contemporary painting, sculpture, and photography by emerging, mid-career, and highly established artists. The exhibition space includes two floors on Warren Street, a sculpture courtyard, and four floors in a turn-of-the-century carriage house. For more information, visit [www.pamelasalisburygallery.com](http://www.pamelasalisburygallery.com).

**Photos Link:** [Here](#)

**Photo Credit:** "Courtesy of the artist and Pamela Salisbury Gallery"

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