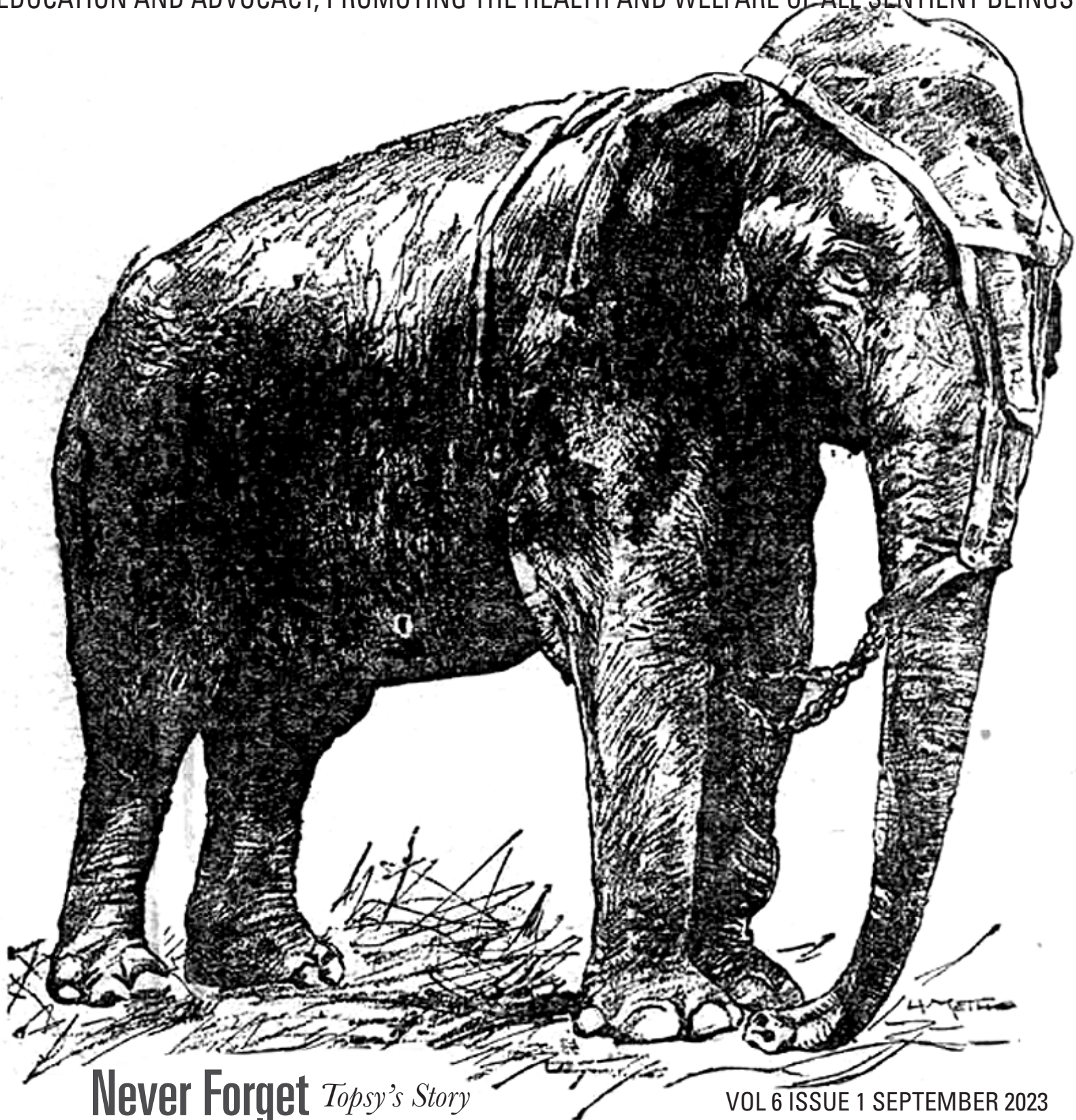


animal culture

EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY, PROMOTING THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF ALL SENTIENT BEINGS



Never Forget *Topsy's Story*

VOL 6 ISSUE 1 SEPTEMBER 2023

Welcome To Animal Culture

The *Animal Culture* team welcomes you back to our magazine. Congratulations are in order – this issue begins year six of our magazine! *Animal Culture* aspires to educate, to motivate, and to celebrate! We are here to educate our readers about animal issues, to motivate you to act on these issues, and lastly, to celebrate victories for all sentient creatures. Our Feature this issue is on a film in the making; we spoke to Gene Baur of Farm Sanctuary about his involvement in the film project, and author Victoria Moran, one of the script's co-authors, who explained how the film has come into being. Kim Stallwood is our Special Feature. He spoke of his successful effort to get his historical animal rights history Archive/Collection housed safely, partially in the British Library, and partially at Tier im Recht, in Zurich. He also shared his progress on the book he's currently writing, a biography of Topsy the Elephant. Project Coyote has a special contribution this issue, an article by Camilla Fox's father, Michael Fox, DVM, on the similarities between wolves and humans. In the News has multiple topics: the untimely demise of coral reefs; the death of Lolita at Miami Seaquarium; the rally for Ryder, the New York City carriage horse, on the year's anniversary of his collapse on the streets of the city; and the devastation wreaked by the Maui wildfires.

Visual Culture features the work of Jane O'Hara's *State of the Union*. O'Hara is founder of Jane O'Hara Projects, and is an ecofeminist artist and animal activist, and a co-founder of Compassion Arts. Lastly, we have our regular, powerful, and tireless contributors – Lisa Karlan and Mark Bekoff without whom ... Continue to hold Lisa Karlan in your thoughts; she is still in recovery from a stroke she suffered in April 2021. We are following her progress and sending healing energy her way.

We are supported by our Patreon page, where you can become subscribers, and gain access to *Animal Culture* and special content. Please consider being a Patreon subscriber, and share *Animal Culture* on all your social media, with all your friends and family. Since January 2021, we are offering patrons an annual subscription option, with a 10% savings!

And to all our loyal family of subscribers, thank you for your incredible support. We have made great gains for the animals on many fronts over the years but there is much work to do. Please help us help those who cannot advocate for themselves. Join us to create a powerful voice for animals, a voice needed now more than ever.

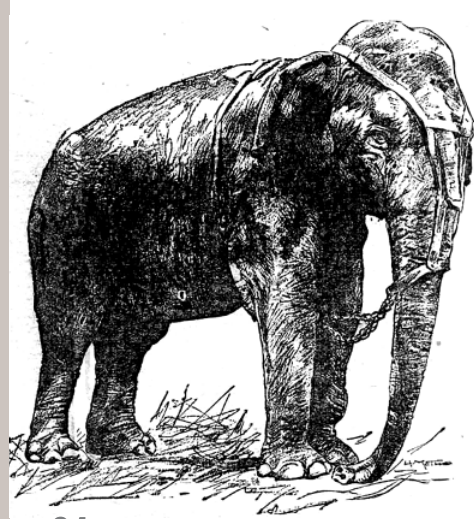
For the animals,
Mary Holmes, Editor-in-Chief

Inquiries should be sent to
mary.animalculture@gmail.com

DEDICATION

This magazine is dedicated to all sentient creatures; the young, the seniors, the wild, the captive, the abused, neglected, lost and the hidden. We, along with many others who are represented in these pages, will never stop working for you. We will never give up.

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Never Forget

Topsy's Story

©Topsy, St. Paul Globe, June 16, 1902

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MORRIS

FOR A MORE HUMANE WORLD



PHOTO © JON KAWA

Our mascot, Andy, offers good advice

CAT TIPS FOR GOOD CARE

My cat friends are telling me that they need more space in my column! So this is for them!

- First and foremost, spay and neuter your companion animal! According to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 7.6 million companion animals enter animal shelters nationwide every year. Of those, approximately 3.4 million are cats. Each year, approximately 2.7 million animals are euthanized (1.4 million cats). We need to change that to 0!!
- Spaying prevents uterine infections, ovarian cancer, and reduces the risk of mammary tumors in female cats, while neutering prevents testicular cancer and some prostate problems in males.
- Fresh water daily especially during hot weather! Hydration is everything!
- Maintain a healthy weight through diet and exercise, just like our doctor says to you. Playtime with engaging toys is a good way to exercise and an important time to bond with each other. Something as simple as a scratching post is great for cats and, for engagement and exercise!
- Maintain the litter box! Cats like to be clean and stay clean!
- It is critical to be sure your companion cat is in a carrier when in the car, when a repair person is in the house or someone new, who could leave a door or window open, whenever traveling and especially when you are going to the vet and at the vet waiting with so many sounds, smells and stress.
- Grooming is of course, good care. but also another way to have quality time with your family member.
- Keep a medical record so you stay current on health checks and be sure to choose a veterinarian who understands cats as a species.
- Microchips are just smart. If an emergency should occur, a door is left open, anything short of unplanned separation, your microchip can come through for both of you.
- Although cats can be independent, many prefer a space, a bed, a blanket that is theirs. This can represent a comfortable and safe place for them.
- Be mindful of what plants you live with; many plants are toxic to cats and dogs. The ASPCA has a printable list and a poison control number: **(888) 426-4435**.

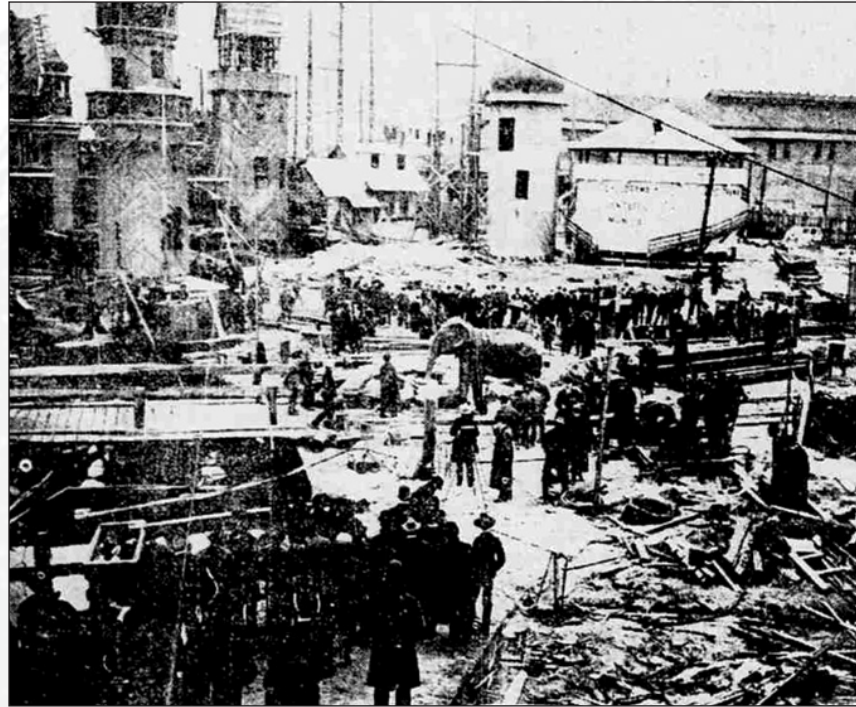
[Toxic plant list here.](#)

You may be surprised at the number which are!

With love,

Andy

In truth, Kim Stallwood needs no introduction, as he is well-known to animal advocates the world round.



Topsy's Voice: The Quest of Kim Stallwood

BY MARY HOLMES AND PATRICIA DENYS

Topsy was born in the wild in Southeast Asia around 1875. She was stolen from her family and smuggled into the United States. Topsy was forced into "performing" as a circus act by 1877 and was promoted as the first baby elephant born in the United States

[above] Topsy before her electrocution, Luna Park, Coney Island, New York, January 4, 1903 amongst onlookers and photographers, she refused to cross the bridge over the lagoon, at Luna Park, knowing she was going to be killed. Photo: World Library.

Nevertheless, here's a brief bio on Stallwood from his website. "Kim Stallwood is an animal rights advocate and theorist, who is an author, independent scholar, consultant, and speaker. He has more than 40 years of personal commitment as a vegan and professional experience in leadership positions with some of the world's foremost animal advocacy organisations. He is a member of the board of directors of the Culture and Animals Foundation. He wrote *Growl: Life Lessons, Hard Truths, and Bold Strategies from an Animal Advocate* with a Foreword by Brian May (Lantern Books, 2014). He became a vegetarian in 1974 after working in a chicken slaughterhouse. He has been a vegan since 1976. He has dual citizenship with the UK and USA."

Stallwood, as is his norm, has his hands in multiple endeavors. Recently, his two major projects have been finding a home

for his Archives/Collection, and his work on a book on Topsy the elephant. Topsy, of whom very little is known except her tragic death, was a female South Asian elephant born around 1875, captured by hunters in the wild animal trade as a young baby, and brought to the United States to perform in the circus. She was first owned by Adam Forepaugh who falsely claimed she was the first American-born

elephant as the US celebrated its centenary. On May 28th, 1902, she became known as a "bad" elephant, when she killed J. Fielding Blount, a "hanger-on" who followed the circus but didn't work for it. By now, abuse was a way of life for her as many unsavory characters hired off the streets with no experience with animals, had access to Topsy. It is unclear whether the

attack on Blount was provoked or that Topsy had had enough, but in any event she grabbed him with her trunk and threw him to the ground. Blount hit Topsy's trunk when she was sleeping, waking her up, and she defended herself against the assault. Forepaugh Circus washed its hands of her and she was sold to Luna Park in Coney Island. Her trainer there, William "Whitey" Alt, who abused her so much he was brought up on animal cruelty charges, and later fired by Luna Park. The Park then decided to rid themselves of her by executing her and to use her murder for to publicize Luna Park's opening. Three methods for Topsy's death were utilized. She was fed cyanide-laced carrots, her feet were placed in conductive copper sandals so she could be brutally electrocuted with 6,600 volts of electricity (**Topsy Execution Footage**), and then strangled with a noose for ten minutes to

assure she was indeed dead. It is reported she was hung but there's some doubt as to whether it happened. The only historical photos of her are from that day of her horrible and cruel death in Luna Park at Coney Island, New York on January 4, 1903.

Stallwood is now working on what he hopes will be the definitive biography of Topsy. He first became aware of her, and the footage of her execution,

in a film called "The Animals Film" in the mid-80s. Many years later, Jayne Loader, filmmaker and codirector of "The Atomic Café," approached Stallwood with the idea of producing a similar documentary on animals. According to Stallwood, "The Atomic Café" was a documentary that took a rather cynical humorous view of the then atomic age." They worked on this



Topsy chained and roped where she stood her ground. Her death would come in three forms: cyanide laced carrots, 6,600 volts of electricity re-routed from a nearby power station, and strangulation.



On January 4, 1903, Topsy the elephant was electrocuted by the owners of the Coney Island amusement park "Luna Park" in an event to raise publicity about the opening of the new park which was still under construction. The unfinished "Electric Tower" with a sign advertising "OPENING MAY 2ND 1903 LUNA PARK \$1,000,000 EXPOSITION, THE HEART OF CONEY ISLAND" can be seen behind Topsy.

new documentary for a few years, but sadly it never came to fruition. The Topsy footage, all of a minute or so, was included in the documentary's rough cut. As Stallwood remarked, "I remember asking Jayne about the footage of the elephant being electrocuted and it's just incredible to watch when you're seeing it for the first time with no pre-knowledge of what was going on, so she explained to me who Topsy was, and why the film was significant in filmmaking history. I remember thinking at that time I really ought to do something so her life is remembered better than just being the elephant who was electrocuted to death in 1903. Then I got sidetracked and diverted onto other things..."

Some years later, in a conversation with artist Sue Coe, Topsy was again the focus of attention. As Stallwood's website states, "I wrote the narrative that goes with the art by Sue Coe about *Topsy, An Elephant Never Forgets*, which is published in *Blab! Vol. 18* (Fantagraphics Books, 2007) the graphics novel annual featuring cutting-edge comics, illustration and design." After the passage of several more years, Stallwood decided to make Topsy a priority. "I'm continuing to work on lots of other projects which prevent me from making tremendous progress with Topsy. But within

the last few years I've been able to withdraw myself from many of those projects; there's still one or two I'm still involved with. But I made a deliberate conscious effort to focus my time on two primary projects; one is steps to take to preserve the history of the animal rights movement, which is me working with the British Library in London and Tier im Recht (TIR) in Zürich, and then the other primary project is to write a biography of Topsy. So increasingly now I'm shaping my time so that I can work on those two projects."

One of the biggest challenges is the dearth of information about Topsy. Stallwood concluded, "We know more about the last day of her life and more about the last year of her life (less than we know about her last day) than we do about her entire life. I'm researching what happened to elephants like her when she was alive to build a profile of her life. There will be some conjecture and speculation. I'm piecing together, from researching newspaper articles from that time, what happened to Topsy and elephants like alive then, to write her life story."

His primary source for research has been an online database of American newspapers, supplemented with books written about elephants in the 1870s. He added, "I'm also

"We know more about the last day of her life and more about the last year of her life (less than we know about her last day) than we do about her entire life."

reading contemporary academic work which talks about the representation of animals in media, history, colonialism, and anthropomorphism."

He discussed the three voices he is using to write her story. "The first voice belongs to Topsy. I imagine her thoughts, emotions, dreams, behaviour, and how and what she communicates with other elephants. The second is third-person investigative reports to accurately explain what happened to Topsy and describe the world she inhabited. The third is my commentary and analysis as a vegan animal rights advocate. Overall, the book is narrative nonfiction. I use the writing techniques used in fiction to tell a true story. For example, the reader will learn about a particular incident involving Topsy written first from her perspective. Next, the same incident is described as an investigative report. Finally, I comment on what happened. The combination of these three voices will give the reader a full story of Topsy's life."

As a long-time animal advocate, he gave us his take on where the animal rights movement is today. "There is progress to report in that the animal rights movement is larger with a greater presence. It is more impactful than it was 50 years ago when I got involved. People's understanding of what it means to be vegan is greater. The availability of vegan foods and products, and an understanding of the vegan way of life, are much better. One of the most exciting developments is the emergence of the academic study of human-animal studies, animal ethics, and animal law.

"But more animals are abused today than there were 50 years ago. The climate emergency is graver than it was. What is needed is legislation passed by governments protecting animals much more effectively than they do now. Overall, it is a very mixed record. Fifty years is a long time but it is also not that long. Generally, people are selfish. We look after our short-term interests. But a deep understanding of animal rights requires us to think, feel, and act differently. Animal liberation is a far more visionary social justice movement than any other.

"I think the overall mission of the animal rights movement," he continued, "is to elect political parties with clear pro-animal policies to form governments. At the end of the day, it's governments that pass laws about animals. We seek to influence people and change their thinking and behaviour. We can't

compel them to act in particular ways. But laws compel people's behaviour and a failure to do so triggers legal consequences. The animals need more effective laws."

Then he addressed the subject of factory farming. "I do think that factory farming/intensive agriculture will collapse because it cannot economically sustain itself. It just consumes far more in resources than it actually produces, and it's far more economic to produce food to feed directly to people. I do think there's going to be a point when economics, rather than ethics, is going to win and it's going to be the economics that animal agriculture is so utterly unsustainable; it's so cost prohibitive to do."

Regarding his Archive and Collection – a portion of it went to the British Library, where it is known as the Kim Stallwood Archive. The remainder has gone, or will go, to Tier im Recht in Zurich, as the Kim Stallwood Collection. He felt very strongly that his massive library, and associated papers, should be preserved, as it chronicles much of the history of the animal rights movement over the years. He felt the arrangements should be made while he was still alive, not wanting to leave that onerous task to someone after his death.

He concluded his remarks by saying the history of the movement needs to be preserved. "The animal organizations don't really appreciate the importance of preserving the history, knowing the history of understanding where we come from, where we are now, and where the hell are we going to go. Animal organizations are very much focused upon the immediate, the here and now, the ambulance chasing, the fire truck chasing. All that kind of work's got to be done, but I think we need to be far more strategic than what we have been in the past. In many respects what we do today is not that significantly different from what was done 20-30 years ago, and if I had to identify what excites me more than anything is following what's happening in the social sciences and humanities with animal studies and the emergence of animal law. That area of activity - I think that's where the ideas are, that's where the analysis is happening, that's where the understandings are being made as to why we treat animals the way that we do."



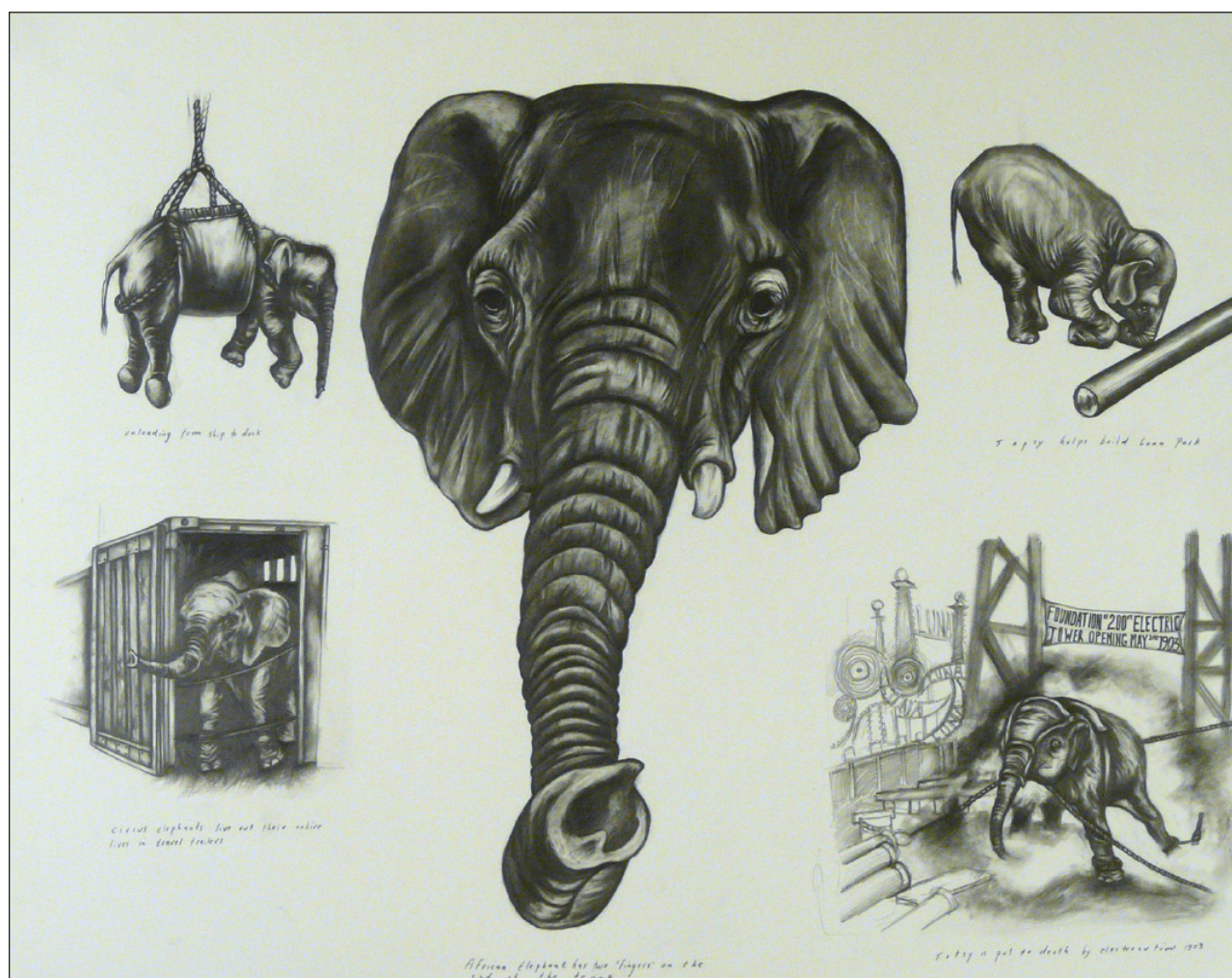
[left] Kim Stallwood Photo: Nick Weekes

The Visual Journalism of Sue Coe

Sue Coe is an animal rights activist and one of the most prolific and important artists of the century. Regarding her life-long work she said, "Some of my work is direct propaganda; some of it is visual journalism. I was an editorial artist for many decades—that's what I'm supposed to be."¹

Like Kim Stallwood, Coe has remained imprinted by Topsy's tragic story and is driven to be sure Topsy is not disregarded; that she stays a part of our history that we all must bear witness to, what man can do to animals and not accept that it should ever be repeated.

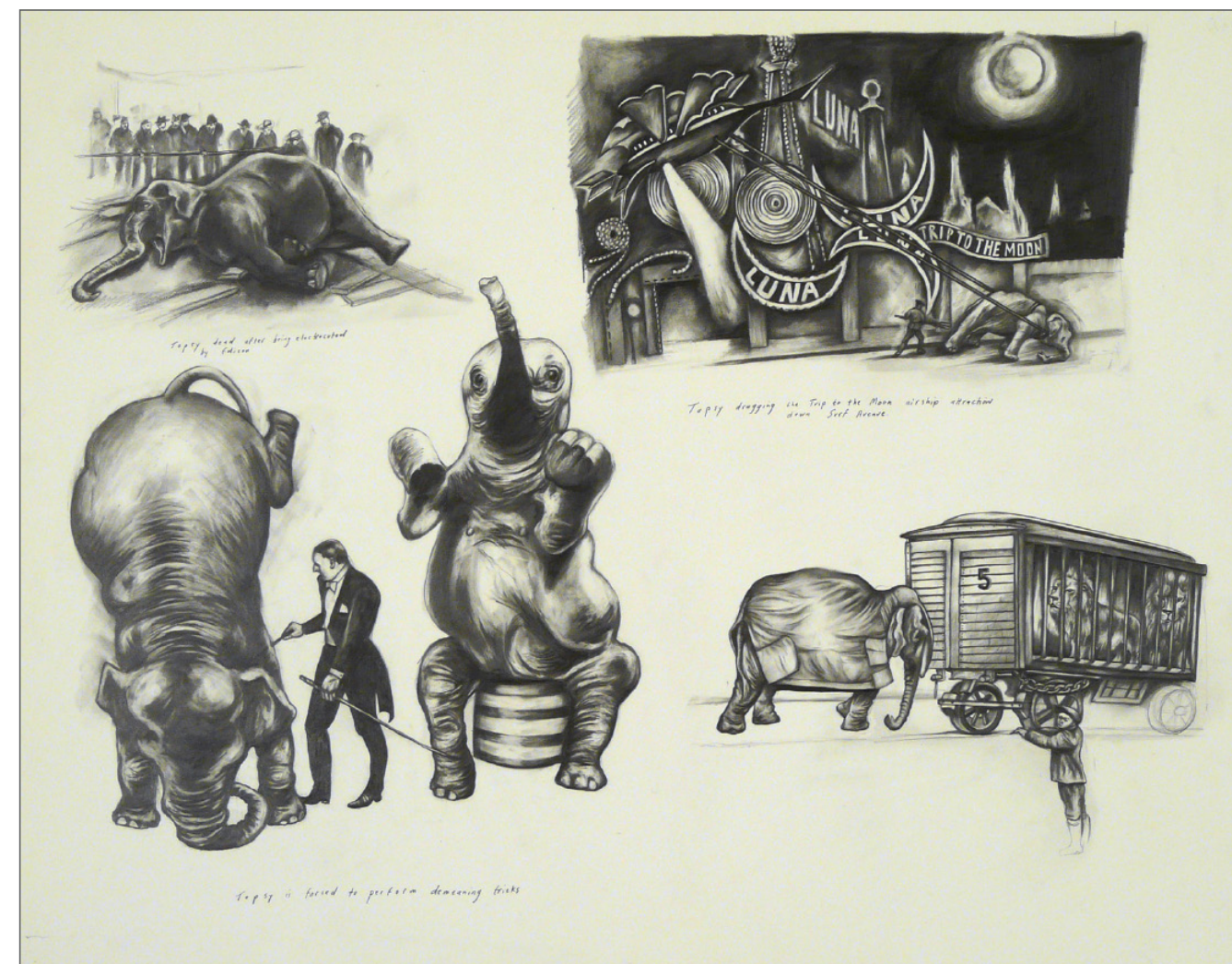
¹O'Neill-Butler, Lauren. (2018, August 21). Interview: Sue Coe. ARTFORUM.



Sue Coe: Five Sketches: Unloading; African Elephant; Topsy with Log, 2007. Graphite on white Strathmore Bristol board, 23" x 29" (58.4 x 73.7 cm). From the series, *An Elephant Never Forgets*.

© 2007 Sue Coe. Courtesy Galerie St. Etienne, New York

The Visual Journalism of Sue Coe



Sue Coe: Four Sketches: Dead Topsy; Airship Attraction; Topsy Forced to Perform, 2007. Graphite on white Strathmore Bristol board, 23" x 29" (58.4 x 73.7 cm). From the series, *An Elephant Never Forgets*.

© 2007 Sue Coe. Courtesy Galerie St. Etienne, New York

The Visual Journalism of Sue Coe



Sue Coe: Topsy Attacks Her Handler, 2007. Graphite and watercolor on white Strathmore Bristol board, 23" x 29" (58.4 x 73.7 cm). Inscribed: "1,500 people witness the execution of Topsy by Edison." From the series, *An Elephant Never Forgets*.

© 2007 Sue Coe. Courtesy Galerie St. Etienne, New York

The Visual Journalism of Sue Coe



Sue Coe: Thomas Edison Kills Topsy, 2007.

© 2007 Sue Coe. Courtesy Galerie St. Etienne, New York

To see Kim Stallwood in conversation at the British Library: blplayer.co.uk/eventlink/533/be6asW8R#video-iframe

To visit the library at Tier im Recht: tierimrecht.org/en/library To visit Kim Stallwood's website: kimstallwood.com

To see Sue Coe's work, visit: suecoe.com

Never forget
Topsy

1875-1903

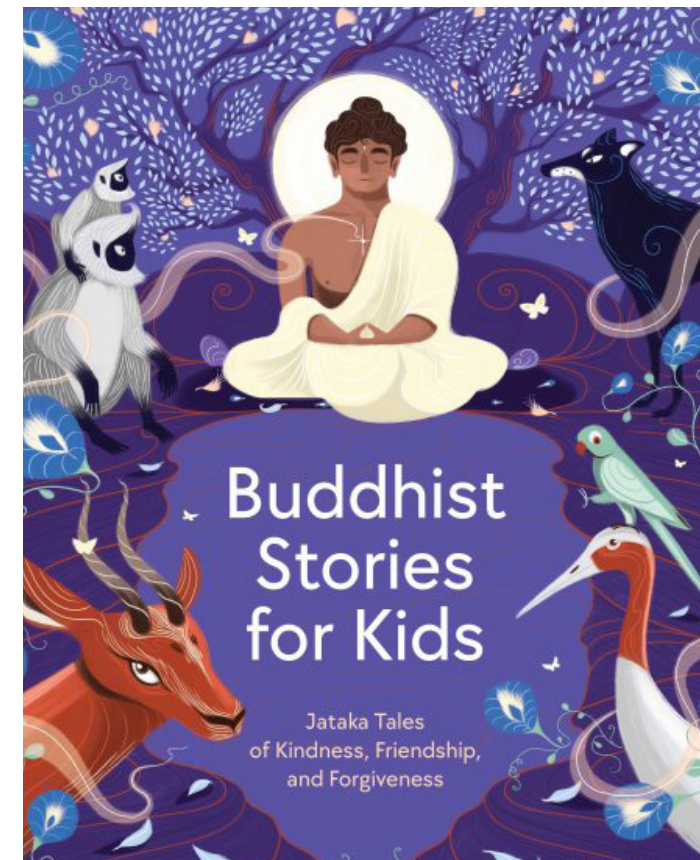


Topsy's electrocution, Luna Park, Coney Island, New York, January 4, 1903. This is a frame from the 1903 short documentary film "Electrocuting an Elephant" produced by Edwin S. Porter or Jacob Blair Smith for the Edison Manufacturing Company. This frame documents the moment when 6,600 volts of electricity was turned on.

Buddhist Stories for Kids

Jataka Tales of Kindness, Friendship, and Forgiveness

Written by Laura Burgess/Illustrated by Sonali Zohra



Wow! This is a real find, and not just for kids. According to the San Francisco Zen Center, author, "Ryuko Laura Burgess, a lay entrusted dharma teacher in the Soto Zen tradition, teaches classes, lectures, and leads retreats in Northern California. A teacher of children for 35 years, she now mentors aspiring teachers. Laura co-founded the Sangha in Recovery Program at the San Francisco Zen Center and is the abiding teacher at Lenox House Meditation Group in Oakland."

In the introduction, the author states, "The person we call the Buddha was born in what is now known as Lumbini, Nepal. His name was Siddhartha Gautama, and even as a child, he was curious about this thing called life. He grew up to be a wonderful teacher who helped people learn how to be happier within themselves and kinder to one another. The Buddha told stories about his many lifetimes before he was born as the Buddha. These are called Jataka Tales, or 'birth stories.' Whether he was born as a wise woman, as a monkey, or as an owlet, he selflessly tried to help others. Though he lived more than 2,500 years ago, the Buddha continues to teach us through his stories."

"The Buddha was born under a tree, he was awakened under a tree, he taught under trees, and he died under a tree. I think he learned a lot from trees, and they are also our great teachers. They grow where they are, taking what they need from the soil, the water, and the air around them. In return they give us shade, beauty, fruit, flowers, medicine, shelter for animals, and most importantly, the oxygen we breathe. Trees take care of one another, feeding one another under the ground. Their roots help to hold one another up and help to hold the earth together. We would probably be happier if we could be more like trees! Perhaps this is why the Buddha taught under the shade of their spreading branches."

No matter your religious beliefs, or lack of them, you will find something to savor in this little treasure that is around nature and animals. Its roots may be Buddhist, but its truths are universal. We live in chaotic, troubling times. Reading this book will provide you with at least a few moments of bliss.

There are more than 500 Jataka tales. The author has chosen ten, in all of which trees play an important part in the story. She has taken the liberty to update them and modernize them slightly. These are ancient fables brought to life by author Burgess and illustrator Zohra. The illustrations are all stunning, and there's a section at the back of the book, "The Animals That Appear in the Stories," that contains illustrations and short bios on said animals. According to illustrator Zohra's website, "I was born and grew up in Bangalore, India. My work is inspired by my love of nature, mythology, philosophy and spirituality, which I combine with my study of Fine art at the College of Fine Arts, Bangalore ; Photography at Light and Life Academy in Ooty and a Masters in Design at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia. Fine art trained my hand, Photography taught me to see colour and composition; Design helped me put everything I have experienced together in a way that I may share it with others. My illustrations evolve and grow as I do, I enjoy this process profoundly."

All the tales do indeed focus on kindness, friendship, and forgiveness. This little book could easily open the hearts and minds of both children and adults, leading them to lead better lives. One tale is especially outstanding – "The Chinkara and the Strange Tree." It's an anti-hunting tale; one could even call it a pro-vegan tale. Like all the stories in the book, this one ends with a short statement – "Anyone can open their heart to others."

Open your heart to this mind-altering book, and share with your friends of all ages.

To purchase this book: [CLICK HERE](#)



Camilla Fox and the Project Coyote Team

Camilla H. Fox is the founder and executive director of Project Coyote – a national non-profit organization based in Mill Valley, California that promotes compassionate conservation and coexistence between people and wildlife through education, science, and advocacy. With 25+ years of experience working on behalf of wildlife and wildlands and a Master's degree in wildlife ecology, policy, and conservation, Camilla's work has been featured in several national and international media outlets. Their representatives, advisory board members and supporters include scientists, conservationists, educators, ranchers and citizen leaders who work together to change laws and policies to protect native carnivores from abuse and mismanagement, advocating coexistence instead of killing. They seek to change negative attitudes toward coyotes, wolves and other misunderstood predators by replacing ignorance and fear with understanding, respect and appreciation.

Camilla and Mokie
PHOTO © FRANK SCHULENBURG

QUALITIES AND VIRTUES WOLVES AND HUMANS SHARE

BY DR. MICHAEL W. FOX

Introduction by Camilla Fox

Despite **President Biden telling his grandchildren he was committed to protecting wolves during an interview with Coyote Peterson**, wolves continue to be under assault across the nation. Idaho recently released a draft wolf management plan which aims to reduce the state's wolf population by 60%, primarily through incentivized trophy hunting and trapping. And earlier this month, U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.) introduced a bill (S.1788) that would force the removal of Great Lakes gray wolves from the Endangered Species Act without scientific or public support. U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) co-sponsored this bill. You can read more about this ill-conceived legislation in an **Op Ed published in the Chicago Sun Times** and co-authored by Project Coyote's Francisco J. Santiago-Ávila and **take action** to encourage your Senator to oppose S.1788.

Having grown up with a father who studied wolf / canine behavior and raised an orphaned wolf who was part of our family for 15 years, I know firsthand the fear- and awe- that wolves can elicit. I had the privilege of experiencing the love and fierce loyalty of a 100+ pound Timber Wolf for much of my childhood and came to understand the emotional depth and intelligence of this beautiful being.* I'm proud to share this piece from my father—Dr. Michael W. Fox—in remembrance of Tiny and all that she did to infuse in us a deep desire and commitment to protect her wild kin. Enjoy! And please be sure to stay engaged with our **Protect America's Wolves** campaign through social media.

For Canis lupus,
Camilla Fox

Note: wolves do not make good pets. "Tiny" was orphaned when she was a small pup and my father - as a canine ethologist - adopted her (the alternative and fate of her siblings was death). As a well known author, speaker, bioethicist and animal advocate, my father has always condemned having wolves - or any wild animal - as a pet - as does Project Coyote. You can learn more about our **Protect America's Wolves campaign that advocates for wolves in the wild- fully protected under the Endangered Species Act.*



Dr. Michael W. Fox and Tiny



Tiny

People in many states with wolves are debating the pros and cons of hunting and trapping, with some states seeking to remove federal protections of the wolf granted by the Endangered Species Act. I believe understanding the nature of wolves may help us reach a societal consensus of unquestioned respect and continued protection for the following reasons. They are based on various in-field reports and my own research of socialized wolves, their behavior, development and communication.

- They care for their young.
- They communicate cooperatively to survive.
- Offspring learn obedience and allegiance; they have devoted parents, older siblings, cousins, aunts and uncles who nurture and educate them to be courageous but cautious, taking no risks.
- Adults bring toys in the form of various objects for the pups to play with.
- Pups learn to decipher scents and interpret sounds, sights, tracks and terrain which they must know to survive.
- Family-pack members share food and defend their own.
- They groom each other, removing burrs in their fur and giving healing licks to wounds.
- They express their intentions and do not conceal emotions.
- They show patience, curiosity, insight and foresight.
- They care for their injured, provide food for their family, and find the lost.
- They are loyal and they mourn.
- They sing in a harmonious chorus and play together.
- They re-affirm and celebrate their social and emotional bonds when they reunite after time apart or howl across their domain.
- Like us they play and roll in fresh snow and chase snowflakes.
- They perfume themselves by rolling in fragrant organic materials they find on the trail.
- They kill to live, but not for sport.
- They have amicable relationships with other species, foxes and ravens, who clean up their kills.
- Wolf pups play with ravens flying over them with sticks, teasing them to jump and grab the sticks.

These essential socio-biologically evolved qualities for survival we humans share with wolves, but we kill them for sport and after invading and developing their territories, we justify their eradication. Unlike us, wolves naturally control their numbers and provide environmental services that sustain biological diversity and ecological health. But like us they will war with and kill members of rival groups when food-resources and territory are limited. They know hunger and starvation;

they suffer hypothermia when afflicted by sarcoptic mange that destroys their winter coats; and they get physical injuries from hunting large prey and suffer various infectious diseases often transmitted by free-roaming and feral dogs.

Our biological kinship, which parallels in convergent evolution with the wolf, reverberates with the spiritual kinship our wolf-derived domesticated dogs bestow on us as devoted companions and which we have yet to fully reciprocate. We thus need to honor the wolf in the process as an ancestral teacher of survival in our gatherer-hunter past that indigenous peoples around the world acknowledge today in myth and legend. As Loren Eiseley famously observed, "One does not meet oneself until one catches the reflection from an eye other than human." Recognition of these similar attributes of wolves and humans is notable in several indigenous traditions, such as the Shinto of Japan. A good and a bad wolf is seen in human nature and acknowledged as being in every child and is embraced with understanding to ensure the good wolf is nurtured for the common good and the good of the Commons. This is also evident in Cherokee tradition (<https://www.awakin.org/v2/read/view.php?tid=927>) in the story Beyond the Conflict of Inner Forces, which addresses how best to treat these two wolves in our own nature.

It is regrettable at this time that Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland has **failed to relist wolves** under the ESA to **protect them** from the slaughter imposed by some western states such as Idaho and Montana.

After millennia of indifference, ignorance and neglect, in recovering our respect for wolves, we will recover those qualities and virtues of our humanity, inherent in the good wolf, as much on the verge of extinction in these times as are the wolves and other endangered species around the world.

*Dr. Michael W. Fox is a world-renowned author, veterinarian, animal behaviorist and animal advocate. He holds advanced degrees in ethology and medicine, and has authored over 40 books, including "The Soul of the Wolf," "Behavior of Wolves, Dogs and Related Canids" and the Christopher Award-winning children's book, "The Wolf." He has also written countless academic and popular articles for adults and children. His writing and work primarily focuses on the promotion of intersections between bioethics, animals and environmental protection. He is a tireless advocate for equal consideration and moral standing for nonhuman animals. **Visit his website** to learn more and to view his "Animal Doctor" syndicated column.*

A Collaboration of Creativity and Compassion:

The Making of a Film About a Dairy Cow

Paula and Aggie

BY PATRICIA DENYS AND MARY HOLMES
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Virtually everyone involved with animals knows Gene Baur, the co-founder of Farm Sanctuary, based in Watkins Glen, NY and Acton, CA. Baur has been called “The conscience of the food movement” by *Time* magazine.

He recently took the time to a) give us an update on Farm Sanctuary and b) talk to us about his involvement with the upcoming film “Miss Liberty.” First, he reviewed the story of how the sanctuary came into being. Farm Sanctuary was started in 1986. “Our original intention was to expose the abuses of factory farming. We started visiting farms, stockyards, and slaughterhouses to document conditions, and we would find living animals, literally thrown in trash cans or left on piles of dead animals. We started rescuing them and that’s how our sanctuary began.” He continued, “We educated people about the cruelty of animal agriculture, and were also able to provide hope in telling the stories of the animals who are now living good lives. It was also clear early on that we could not rescue ourselves out of this factory farming problem, that we needed to change the food system. We have always worked on efforts to prevent some of the worst abuses such as the mistreatment of downed animals who are animals too sick to walk.”

I hope the film reaches many people, and encourages them to think differently about what they eat and hopefully **develop a sensitivity to see other animals as deserving of respect, deserving of lives of dignity.** – Gene Baur

Farm Sanctuary has worked to expose the abuses of the industry, including the production of foie gras, the use of veal crates, gestation crates, and battery cages. In sum, “We’ve also worked to raise awareness among consumers to urge them not to support those cruel industries. Today we are putting more energy into shifting the food system

and moving resources away from animal agriculture towards plant-based agriculture. In addition to working to stop the bad practices, we’re putting more energy now into creating viable alternatives.”

Over the years, Farm Sanctuary’s emphasis has changed somewhat. “Aligning with diverse organizations and individuals, we have enormous opportunities to start building a new food system. This is not exactly food system related, but speaks to resources. In the US, we have over 30 million acres of lawns – that is more land than is being used to produce fruits and vegetables in this country. If we were to shift these lawns towards growing produce, we could have enormous amounts of healthy plant foods available all over the country. And again, that’s sort of a resource-based example of the change we’re trying to create in the food system.”

Sanctuary efforts have always focused on rescue, education, and advocacy. But the balance has shifted. “Over the years, we have had varying emphasis on rescue or education or advocacy. For a number of years, we put a significant number of resources into rescue, and we will continue doing the rescue, but we also are going to be doing more investment in education and advocacy work. That is both external in terms of policy and education of the public, but it’s also internal in terms of walking the talk on the farms. We’re in the process now of building a cafe

at our farm in Watkins Glen, which will allow us to do more education about food, do cooking classes to enable people to learn how to prepare vegan food. Also we’re starting to grow food, which would then be available in the café, so we will do more to walk the talk to educate people and to model the kind of food system we want to see.”

Paula



Roger



A resident of Farm Sanctuary
Photo: ©Jo-Anne McArthur

The ultimate goal is, “to start incrementally shifting the billions of dollars that our government currently spends on factory farming towards a healthy plant-based food system that is good for animals, people, and the planet. I mean, that’s ultimately what we hope to achieve and in doing so, we would put our rescue operations out of business.” This

The screenwriters of the film, “Miss Liberty,” are Victoria Moran and her husband, William Melton.

Moran is a writer, speaker, podcaster, and producer. She is also co-founder of the Compassion Consortium, “a non-

My vision for ‘Miss Liberty’ is that it will do for dairy cows and other farmed animals what ‘Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner?’ did for interracial relationships. – Victoria Moran

leads to the next topic at hand, the development of the “Miss Liberty” film.

“I have known Victoria (Moran) and William (Melton) for many years and they showed me an early draft of the script for ‘Miss Liberty.’ I read it enthusiastically and thought it was excellent. I said that I would love to see this film made. I’ve been a supporter since the beginning, just in terms of emotional support. I shared an early copy of the script with another friend, James Cromwell, who was in the movie ‘Babe;’ he gave some input and I’ve just been providing whatever support I can for the effort. It’s been largely run by William and Victoria, but I am an enthusiastic supporter.”

Baur has high hopes for the film. “I hope the film reaches many people, and encourages them to think differently about what they eat and hopefully develop a sensitivity to see other animals as deserving of respect, deserving of lives of dignity. And that it helps shift our relationships with other animals away from relationships of exploitation to relationships of mutuality and mutual benefit.” He added, “One of the main things I’ve said for years, and I still think is important, is that the farm animals, like all animals have feelings, they have memories, they develop relationships, and they deserve to be treated with respect and compassion. When we treat other animals with kindness, it’s not only good for the other animals; it’s also good for us. Treating animals with cruelty undermines our empathy, and empathy is a very important part of our humanity.”



Aggie

sectarian center. We offer well-being resources, spiritual guidance, support, and community fellowship to Vegans, Vegetarians, animal rights activists, animal lovers, and all humans who care about an advocate for animals and the planet.” An author of multiple books on the vegan lifestyle, she is listed by *VegNews Magazine* as one of the “top ten living vegetarian authors.” Moran said, “I really only know how to do one thing and that is words. From childhood I’ve been able to write and I’ve been able to speak. That’s really everything that I have done.”

The story is as follows, from the promotional material for the movie:

A dairy cow escapes from a slaughterhouse in a Midwestern town, and takes refuge in the yard of Bob Sanders, a computer tech owed money by the plant. He seizes the cow as collateral and calls his lawyer, Mike Johnson. Because the abattoir has a history of sketchy practices, Mike contacts Patricia Levinson (aka Cow Patty), his law school classmate who is now a well-known animal rights lawyer in New York, to lead Bob’s defense. Jason Levinson, Patricia’s ex-husband, also an attorney, shows up to represent “the Association” and undermine the case. Patty is dealing both with facing her ex in court and with pressure from the firm where she works. Bob must contend not only with having a cow on his patio, but with his recent divorce and split custody of the two children who become great friends of the bovine refugee.

William Melton, after a 30-year legal career, enrolled and was ordained as an interfaith minister by One Spirit Interfaith Seminary in New York City, and cofounded the Compassion Consortium. Melton is also an Animal Chaplain ordained by the Compassion Consortium. Melton came up with the storyline but realized he needed to familiarize himself with cows! Moran said, “He went upstate to the Finger Lakes area, to be near Farm Sanctuary for a month, and get to know cows. And that’s when he wrote



Fall at Farm Sanctuary

version one of 'Miss Liberty.' Then he came back and he said, 'You're a writer; I need help.' So that's how we became cowriters. And, now at version 73 of the screen play, we're done until we get a director who will, I'm sure, want rewrites. It's exciting."

Moran is enthusiastic about the film. "My vision for 'Miss Liberty' is that it will do for dairy cows and other farmed animals what 'Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?' did for interracial relationships. I was a teenager when 'Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?' came out. I remember that at that time, virtually all adults opposed interracial relationships. It didn't matter what their political leaning was. It didn't matter if they were religious or not. It didn't matter if they were black or white, you just didn't do that in almost everybody's point of view, when along came this movie, and it just started to melt that particular prejudice. I know it didn't happen overnight, but it almost seemed like it did because the power of story is so strong, and people went to see that movie because they liked those actors and they wanted to be in a good story for a couple of hours and not think about their own life. It ended up also changing their point of view on a social issue."

Moran has known Gene Baur since 1985. "We're thrilled that Gene is part of this. He he's helped us a lot, really top movie people have come through over the time since the original writing of this, who've given us script notes and all kinds of help, and a lot of those connections were through

Gene. He continues to be on board, which is just very valuable and we're really grateful."

Compassion Consortium is also playing a role. According to Moran, "Compassion Consortium is our nonprofit partner. And we've seen over the past several years that so many of the wonderful creative projects that require funding, have had a nonprofit organization of 501(c)(3) as their partner. The donations can go through that partner and the person donating can have it tax write off. And then the Compassion Consortium, is allowed to keep a small percentage of the donation, and thanks to them, and to help further the work of the Compassion Consortium."

There seems to be great synergy here, with Moran, Melton, Baur, Compassion Consortium, and numerous others all contributing greatly to the mix. We're looking forward to seeing "Miss Liberty" on the big screen soon.

For more information on the Farm Sanctuary, please visit: farmsanctuary.org



[from left to right] Gene Baur and Safran Photo: ©Lee Iovino; Victoria Moran; Reverend William Melton at Farm Sanctuary

Lisa Karlan's Plant Based Recipes

Lisa Karlan is Producer/Host of "Hey Doc! What's New in Plant-Based Medicine" appearing on JaneUnchained News Network most Fridays at 10 am PST/ 1 pm EST at: facebook.com/janevelezmitchell, facebook.com/LKarlan YouTube.com/c/janeunchainednews and twitter.com/LKarlan. She is also a Certified Food for Life Instructor with Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine and the recipe author for Animal Culture Magazine.



VEGAN COMFORT FOOD Creamy Wild Mushroom Soup

I've always loved the taste of sautéed mushrooms, especially when there is more than one variety. I picked crimini and shiitake mushrooms for this dish because, when combined, they synergistically take the mushroom flavor to another level.

INGREDIENTS

- 1 small onion (or 1/2 large onion), diced
- 1/4 cup water (for water sauté)
- 1 1/2 cup fresh crimini or baby portobello mushrooms, sliced
- 1 quart Imagine Portobello Mushroom Creamy Soup
- 1 1/2 cup fresh shiitake mushrooms, sliced
- 1/2 small tomato, diced
- 1/4 cup fresh parsley, chopped

DIRECTIONS

1. Heat an empty 4 quart sauce pan on medium high heat, until a few drops of water "sizzle" when dropped into the pan.
2. Add diced onions and water sauté, by adding a tablespoon of water at a time, when the surface of the onions touching

the pan begins to brown. Then using a silicone spatula, scrape the fond, (the brown residue that forms) with a tablespoon or more of water to get the fond to dissolve. Continue this process until the onions are browned, by adding as little water as necessary, allowing the onions to caramelize. This takes approximately 10 minutes.

3. Add the mushrooms with a few tablespoons of water and continue sautéing on medium heat and cover the pan. The mushrooms will begin releasing their liquid, but check every couple of minutes to see that there is enough liquid. If it's dry, then add a tablespoon of water or little more to assure the pan is not dry.
4. Cook the onion/mushroom sauté in covered pan, until the mushrooms have shrunk and are tender, about 5 - 8 minutes on medium heat.
5. Add Imagine Portobello Mushroom Creamy Soup to the onion/mushroom sauté and heat until just before boiling.
6. Serve in soup bowls and garnish with diced tomato and chopped parsley.



THE WRITINGS OF MARC BEKOFF

Marc Bekoff, Ph.D., is professor emeritus of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Colorado, Boulder, and co-founder with Jane Goodall of Ethologists for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. He has won many awards for his scientific research including the Exemplar Award from the Animal Behavior Society and a Guggenheim Fellowship. In 2005 Marc was presented with The Bank One Faculty Community Service Award for the work he has done with children, senior citizens, and prisoners and in 2009 he was presented with the St. Francis of Assisi Award by the New Zealand SPCA. Marc has published more than 1000 essays (popular, scientific, and book chapters), 31 books, and has edited three encyclopedias.



To Raise Happy Puppies, Spare the Rods

Spoil the Dogs: Offer praise and play, tailoring your positivity to each dog.

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Demystifying dogs depends on knowing what makes them tick and what they're feeling. In *Dogs Demystified: An A-to-Z Guide to All Things Canine*, you can read about what puppies and all dogs want and need. This will help you become fluent in dogs and allow you to develop and maintain a long-term, mutually beneficial relationship, in which there's give and take, and you and your dog are able to ask what you and they would like and hopefully agree with one another as much as possible.

Taking a dog of any age into your home and heart is a huge decision. It's truly a life-changer, even if you've lived with a dog or are bringing in a second one. However, it's not necessarily **twice the fun** but an older dog could be a good role model for a newcomer.

PUPPIES BRING JOY

On the other hand, a puppy can bring joy if your daily schedule allows and you can afford to do it, what with added costs for toys, puppy training, food, and veterinary care, along with more demands for spending high-quality time with them and allowing them to meet other puppies, other dogs, and other people on walks—always keeping in mind their walk and playtime is for them, not you—or at dog parks or at other areas where dogs gather, then there's no reason not to bring home a puppy. Just be ready for new “demands” in your life.

Because young dogs are unique individuals, tailor your positivity to match their personalities and freely praise and love, so you can teach them what you would like them to do and be sure **they agree with what you're asking of them**. Of course, there will be

situations where you ask them to do something that they don't want to do. It's unsafe or “human-inappropriate” for them to do something like mounting or humping or sticking their noses into human “private areas.”

An important rule of thumb is that it's always essential to use **positive, do-no-harm force-free methods** to educate them; **science shows these work the best**. The more you try to get their consent and to give them choices with which they agree, the happier they will be. This positive state of mind will have long-term benefits for you and for them as you develop a strong, mutually respectful, ongoing relationship in which there is as much give-and-take as possible.

CHOICE, CONSENT, AND CONTEXT

The importance of **choice (agency), consent, and context** appears all over the place in the daily life of a puppy and in their relationships with humans and other dogs. Giving them room to tell you what they want and need will make it easier for you to coexist with your dog in mutually respectful ways. Puppies also like consistency and calmness. These “5-C's”—choice, consent, context, consistency, and calmness work for all dogs.

Dog-human relationships require give-and-take and constant negotiations that might favor a dog or favor a human, depending on what is happening at any given moment. We must strive for ongoing balanced relationships, as symmetrical as possible. Isn't that what living with a dog should be all about? Mutual respect and trust begin early in puppyhood.



Photo: Tanya Gorelova/Pexels

THE TEN FREEDOMS: ENRICHING A PUPPY'S LIFE

Like all animals, puppies and dogs need the following freedoms. The more freedoms they have, the happier they will be.

1. Freedom from hunger and thirst
2. Freedom from pain
3. Freedom from discomfort
4. Freedom from fear and distress
5. Freedom from avoidable or treatable illness and disability
6. Freedom to be themselves
7. Freedom to express normal behavior
8. Freedom to exercise choice and control
9. Freedom to frolic and have fun
10. Freedom to have privacy and “safe zones”

Granting the freedom to be a fun-loving puppy is critical. Most, but not all puppies love to play; if they do, let them play to their heart's content. If they don't, there's not necessarily something wrong with them, but it might be a good idea to find out why they don't like to play and see if you can teach them to do so with user-friendly dogs and people.

PLAY TO LEARN

Play is important for learning social skills (socialization), physical training (developing joints, muscles, tendons, and bones), cognitive training (how hard they can bite or slam into another dog, how high a rock they can jump onto or jump down from), and learning how to deal with unexpected situations they surely will encounter. Giving puppies **extra socialization** can also be beneficial and it surely won't hurt them.

Play is also lots of fun, and there's no reason why “having fun” isn't one of the main reasons why puppies like to play and why it evolved in the first place. Just watch puppies zooming here

and there as if they're going crazy. **They do so because it's tons of fun.**

Puppies also learn to play fairly and follow the “**golden rules**” of play—asking first, minding their manners, admitting when they're wrong, and being honest—which is critical for making friends and maintaining long-term friendships. Cheaters often have trouble getting other dogs (or humans) to play with them. They're often avoided or ignored. Why play with another dog if they might not play fair?

A CULTURE OF ABUNDANT SHARING AND MUTUAL RESPECT: SPARE THE ROD, SPOIL THE DOG

Living with a puppy can bring a lot of joy to everyone involved. All in all, puppies want and need to feel safe and free to come to you for help, safety, and love. They're not inherently **our best friends or unconditional lovers**, and we need to earn their trust by making them feel safe and loved, displaying empathy by sharing their feelings, and allowing them to be puppies as much as possible. How could you not enjoy and love watching young dogs being young dogs with few if any responsibilities other than being young dogs?

I don't think it's possible to spoil a puppy—we're their lifeline—but if we don't pay careful attention to what they're asking of us because we're not fluent with a dog, or don't pay careful attention to what is happening to them in different situations, it can be all too easy to ignore what they want and need. This can have long-term negative consequences for them and consequently for us.

When we do all we can to give them a great life and they know they can depend on us to offer fun-filled, enriched opportunities to do what they love to do—despite how much it might challenge and bug us from time to time—it's a positive for all, even with all of the ups and downs of trying to live with one another.

References

[How to Raise Puppies So They Have the Best Lives Possible;](#)
[Does Early Puppy Training Lead to Fewer Behavior Problems?](#)
[Words of Wisdom on Raising and Training a Happy Puppy;](#)
[Teach the Puppies Well: Let Them Enjoy Their Childhood;](#)
[Giving Puppies Extra Socialization Is Beneficial for Them; When Dogs Play, They Follow the Golden Rules of Fairness; Dogs Do Zoomies Because It's Fun; If Dogs Are Our Best Friends, Why Are There Puppy Mills?; Do Your Dog and You Agree About What You Want Them to Do?; Are Dogs Really Our Best Friends?;](#)
[Canine Confidential: Why Dogs Do What They Do; Unleashing Your Dog: A Field Guide to Giving Your Canine Companion the Best Life Possible; Dogs Demystified: An A-to-Z Guide to All Things Canine.](#)

Artist as Seductress: The World of Jane O'Hara

BY PATRICIA DENYS AND MARY HOLMES | ALL PHOTOS ©JANE O'HARA UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE
ALL CAPTIONS: JANE O'HARA

Artist Jane O'Hara is the creator of Jane O'Hara Projects. According to her website, "Using transformational curatorial projects, presentations and publications as a platform, Jane O'Hara Projects, founded in 2015 by Jane O'Hara, seeks to expand social awareness of speciesism through the arts, and to cultivate compassion for all life; both human and non-human animals.

"Recent exhibition and curatorial projects include *Jane O'Hara - State of the Union*, New Bedford Art Museum, New Bedford MA, *Beasts of Burden I*, Harvard Educational Portal, Boston, MA, and *Beasts of Burden II*, Urban Foundation Gallery, NY, NY, including a multimedia presentation at Symphony Space.

"JOP has given presentations at Pace University, NY, NY, Worcester Art Museum, Worcester, MA, Brown University, Providence RI and the Boston Veg Fest among others.

"The publication, *Beasts of Burden, Our Complex Relationship with Animals*, is written and published by JOP with the generous support of a Culture & Animals Foundation Grant, 2017."

O'Hara recently spoke to us in some detail about her *State of the Union* exhibition. From her website: "In *State of the Union* artist Jane O'Hara, an advocate for animals, examines the topic of animal rights across the United States. Gathering inspiration from disparate sources, from nostalgic postcard iconography and pop reference, to depicting the animal condition both behind the scenes and in plain sight, O'Hara

has us look at our 50 states from both entertaining and serious perspectives."

Her first painting in the series was Florida, which was completed four years ago. "I started with the State of Florida. I had been getting some information from Jane Velez-Mitchell with "Jane Unchained" about a bear hunt where something like 600 cubs were left without parents for no real reason. It seemed a very political, good old boys' type of decision. I was learning also about the primate breeding facility, primate products in Florida. I was learning about abuses at Larson's Dairy, which of course is above and beyond the abuse that exists at all dairies. And then, the entertainment industry with dolphins. I was very interested in that."

She was in Florida at the time, and was aware of the contrasts between what she discovered and Florida's reputation as a fun vacationland. She was not originally thinking of doing a series of paintings, but when the Florida *State of the Union* painting got her into a residency at Rare Air, in Alamosa, CO, she realized she wanted to paint more, and do all the states. During the residency she completed four other paintings in the series.



"California State of the Union," 2020, acrylic on canvas, 31" x 20"

Hidden animals are depicted in each bubble. In these bubbles I show animal activists trying to save a downed calf and arrested for Grand Larceny, the captive Orcas of SeaWorld, the transport trucks of pigs to the fancifully painted slaughterhouse, the fires of CA, the infant monkey deaths of monkeys used in animal experimentation at UC Davis, and the multiple deaths of racehorses at Santa Anita Raceway. These worlds float over the stylized images of California. Minnie Mouse holds the state flag with the bear as symbol, flag waving over the bear, the state animal, near the Hollywood sign.

O'Hara admits there was no specific strategy involved in how she determined the order of the states painted. She started with states she felt connected with – Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and California. After that it was pretty much a random progression. What was her motivation for such a major undertaking? She had been in a previous exhibition, focused on companion animals, at the New Bedford Art Museum, "Who Rescued Who?" She impulsively contacted Jamie Uretsky, museum director, and showed Uretsky her recent paintings. The director responded enthusiastically, "Let's do a show." Fortunately, the show was booked for three years out, which gave O'Hara time to complete all the paintings.

The response to the exhibit, which remains up until August 20th, has been heartening. "The reaction has been very positive. I think it's been very eye opening to some people. I mean, one goal I realized with this exhibition is to reach out to regular people, not just preaching to the choir or the animal

rights group. So, on that front, I think it's been very satisfying. I'm not at the museum most of the time, but I can recount what happened at the opening, which was a lot of people showed up and a lot of commentary, just amazement of the whole thing but also, some of the issues going on in that each state or a particular state they might be focused on, some of it was very disturbing to them and some of it was, they didn't really want to see it but it was too late." Many visitors were unaware of O'Hara and her work until arriving at the show.

"People came in there not knowing me. The opening was held during what they call AHA! Night, which is the art history and architecture night in New Bedford. There are people roaming the streets that came off the street. I think it has been a surprise to people, some people for sure."

O'Hara hopes to take it on the road, showing it at university galleries and small museums. In the meantime, she's working on a new series. "I just want to do it bit differently

"Texas State of the Union," 2021, acrylic on canvas, 22" x 28"

Against the backdrop of Texas Roadhouse, Cadillac Ranch, Prada Installation, the longhorn state animal and state flag, Yosemite Sam and the long road floats bubbles with targeted animals like dogs in Texas A&M U testing, exposed captive cows in massive feedlots, killing contests and children chasing and bagging- then roasting young pigs, and helicopter shooting families of feral pigs.



"New York State of the Union," 2021, acrylic on canvas, 32" x 16"

In bubbles the animals of New York suffer sometimes in plain sight. The collapsed horse carriage - an accident from being forced to work in heavy traffic, noise, and pollution, the chickens of Kapora, the religious ritual where they are swung until killed, and animals slaughtered in wet markets. Behind the scenes mink captive and killed for fur coats at Saks Fifth Avenue, the force fed ducks of Foie Gras, and the Marshall operation of disease bred dogs and pigs for animal testing. These animals float over New York's well known landscapes with NYC, Niagara Falls, Thousand Islands, the beaver state animal holding the state flag and images of Jones Beach, Rockefeller Center, Statue of Liberty, Fort Ticonderoga, a symbol of Rap, and 42nd Street.



"Florida State of the Union," 2019, acrylic on canvas, 24 x 24"

In the landscape are some of the images Florida wants you to think of; Mickey Mouse holding the state flag, a Florida beach with the iconic alligator, dolphins in the ocean, oranges with blossoms, palm trees, and the state animal- the panther. Bubbles floating nearby contain the exploited captive dolphin, an unnecessary bear hunt orphaning many cubs, the exposed abuse at Larson Dairy, the monkeys raised at Primate Products for experimentation, and manatees and fish as victims of Red Tide.

In my painting, I try to paint in a way that you're enticed into it, and you're almost in it before you realize what you're absorbing.



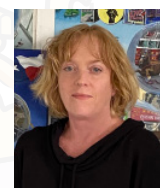
"Kansas State of the Union", 2021, Acrylic on canvas, 20" x 26"

The letters that spell Kansas contain Amelia Earhart, Dodge City, covered wagons, and Mushroom rocks. The wheat fields of Kansas create a perfect place for tornados, as shown in *The Wizard of Oz*, home of Dorothy. The state buffalo stands firm, but the flag bends to the force, and Elvira Gulch - who becomes the wicked witch - flies into the heart of the storm. Bubbles float above the fray with animals caught in other storms, 3 month old pigs in CAFOs marked for slaughter, the cows bred as meat where their processing plants became covid spreaders, killing contests deemed necessary in saving cows trapped in feedlots, the Carden Circus cited for abuse, with tigers forced into submission and the 4H club where children are taught young that animals are prized - but only as commodity.

[right] "Rhode Island State of the Union," 2020, acrylic on canvas, 31" x 14" Each state includes in the background imagery that state would like us to see. Here in Rhode Island ocean and sailing, kite flying on green hills, the state flag and the state Rhode Island Red. In bubbles are things that go on with animals that are troubling. In this RI painting there are victims of the exotic bird trade, Elephants subjected to cruel bullhook training at the zoo, cows captive in the dairy business, and the truth behind the cheery egg company name, Little Rhody, is factory farmed caged chickens- this bubble floating near the iconic happy state bird, the live animal testing on pigs that goes on at Alpert Medical Center at Brown University.

visually, which is, kind of "a stranger in a strange land" concept of putting animals in a strange context to help you view them differently, so you're not numbed out, seeing a typical animal in a certain situation. I put it in an unusual situation, and, hopefully there's a commentary on what goes on with that animal often focusing on a feeling of their vulnerability in life." She talked about how oblivious we can be to things occurring in our immediate environments. "That's another thing that interests me is how, and I use the bubble as a metaphor very often for this, there's just all these different things going on in life and they just float by each other and they're really oblivious to each other. And I'm playing with that theme."

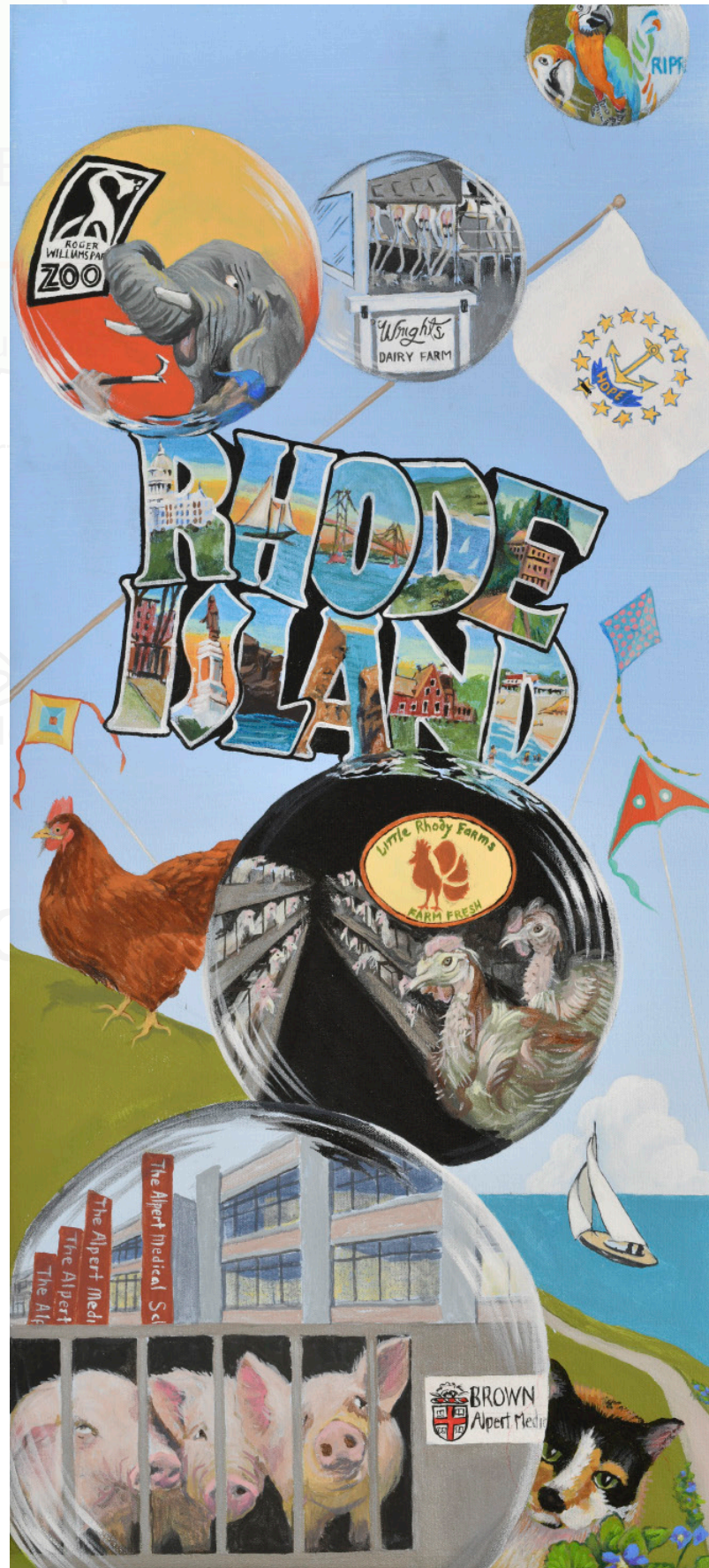
She utilizes her art to, in a sense, sneak up on people's consciousness. "I really believe in the arts, especially painting for me, as a great way to communicate these difficult issues. I feel like, often information as it's put out in a brochure or whatnot about what goes on, it's very easy for people to just say, 'No, I can't, I can't, I can't see that, I can't deal with it.' In my painting, I try to paint in a way that you're enticed into it, and you're almost in it before you realize what you're absorbing. I find that visual art has that ability to subliminally enter before you've had a chance to put up your defenses." Apparently, in State of the Union series, she's succeeded.



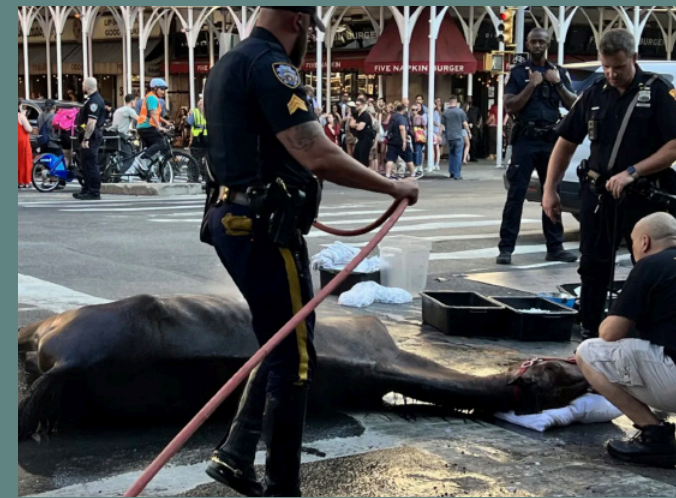
To see more on Jane O'Hara, visit: janeoharaprojects.org

[left] Jane O'Hara

Photo: Gedas Paskauskas



IN THE NEWS



Ryder collapsed on the streets of New York, August 10, 2022.



Tokitae being lifted after she died at the Miami Seaquarium in Miami on Friday, August 18, 2023. This sling resembles the equipment that was planned to use to relocate her to a sea pen in Washington.

RYDER, ONE YEAR LATER

In a press release from **NYCLASS**, "On Thursday, August 10th at 12PM, representatives from NYCLASS, PETA, whistleblowers and Council Member Robert Holden will gather for a vigil and rally commemorating the one-year anniversary of abused carriage horse Ryder's collapse on Ninth Avenue and 45th Street.

"One year ago, Ryder's collapse was captured on video as **carriage owner Ian McKeever mercilessly yanked him, beat him and screamed at the suffering horse to get up in front of horrified onlookers**. Footage of the incident went viral and people around the world demanded that NYC's cruel carriage trade transition to cruelty-free and safer electric carriages, yet a full year later New York City Council and Speaker Adrienne Adams have failed to take action to protect horses from the further exploitation and abuse that NYCLASS and others have been regularly documenting.

"Ryder, who turned out to be sick and elderly, died a few weeks later. Ian and Colm McKeever were found guilty by the NYC Department of Health of falsifying Ryder's veterinary records to unlawfully change Ryder's age from 26 to 13 in order to work the senior horse to death. The Manhattan DA launched a criminal animal abuse investigation, but charges have yet to be filed.

"NYCLASS, PETA, lead bill sponsor Council Member Robert Holden and advocates will call on Speaker Adams and the entire City Council to fast-track passage of Ryder's Law (Intro #573), sponsored by Councilmember Robert Holden, to replace horse carriages with modern electric carriages to end ongoing horse abuse and law-breaking that creates public safety risks for everyone in Midtown."

The rally was held on the 10th, as planned. We are still waiting for Ryder's Law to be enacted.

LOLITA (PRISON NAME)/TOKITAE DIES AT MIAMI SEAQUARIUM

According to CBS News, "Lolita was believed to be at least 57 years old, making her the oldest killer whale living in captivity.

"She was caught on Aug. 8, 1970, in Penn Cove, Puget Sound in Seattle, Washington when she was about 4 years old. She was later sold to the Miami Seaquarium. When she first arrived, she lived alongside another orca named Hugo for about 10 years, but he died in 1980.

"For years, animal rights groups have wanted Lolita moved to "a protected cove sea pen," where she could be transitioned to the ocean.

"In late March, county officials announced a plan to release her from captivity during a news conference."

CNN reported, "Lolita began exhibiting 'serious signs of discomfort' over the past several days, according to an **Instagram post** from the Miami Seaquarium. After being treated 'immediately and aggressively' by a medical team, she died from 'what is believed to be a renal condition' on Friday afternoon, the aquarium said.

Interestingly, the *New York Times*, Tuesday, August 15th, quoted Seaquarium's Facebook page, "Lolita was 'very stable and as good as she can be at 50 years of age.' (Editor's Note: She was 57.) ... A sign of her good health, the Seaquarium said, was that she had a good appetite, eating several pounds of salmon, herring and squid. Lolita was being cared for by a team of veterinarians, who monitored her physical and mental health, the Seaquarium said on Tuesday."

Lastly, the Associated Press said, "The Lummi Nation, a Native American tribe based in Washington state, refers to orcas as 'qwe 'lhol mechen,' which means 'our relations below the waves.' The tribe has spent years working to secure Lolita's release and to return to her home waters.

"Animal rights activists have been fighting for years to have Lolita freed from her tank at the Miami Seaquarium. The park's relatively new owner, The Dolphin Company, and the nonprofit Friends of Toki **announced a plan** in March to possibly move her to a natural sea pen in the Pacific Northwest, with the financial backing of Indianapolis Colts owner Jim Irsay.

"The Lummi Nation is saddened by the news that our beloved Orca relative has passed away at the estimated age of 57 years old," Chairman Tony Hillaire said in a statement. "Our hearts are with all those impacted by this news; our hearts are with her family. We stand in solidarity with our Lummi members whom poured their hearts and souls into bringing Sk'aliCh'elh-tenaut home."

"Lolita **retired from performing** last spring as a condition of the park's new exhibitor's license with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. She's not been publicly displayed since. In recent months, new upgrades had been installed to better filter the pool and regulate her water temperature.

"Federal and state regulators would have had to approve any plan to move Lolita, and that could have taken months or years. The 5,000-pound (2,267-kilogram) had been living for years in a tank that measures 80 feet by 35 feet (24 meters by 11 meters) and is 20 feet (6 meters) deep."



CORAL REEF THREATS

From CNN, "Covering nearly 133,000 square miles (345,000 square kilometers), the Great Barrier Reef is home to more than 1,500 species of fish and 411 species of hard corals. It contributes billions of dollars to the Australian economy each year, and is promoted heavily to foreign tourists as one of the country's – and

the world's – greatest natural wonders." Due to global warming, it has experienced multiple bleaching episodes. Some progress has been made over the last few years, and there has been some reef recovery.

Meanwhile, in Florida, things are looking equally dire. Here's a partial transcript from a recent NPR broadcast:

MARY LOUISE KELLY, HOST: In the Florida Keys, a rescue operation is underway to save endangered species of coral. Abnormally hot ocean temperatures in the Keys related to climate change have led to bleaching and a massive die-off. Marine scientists are scrambling to preserve samples of rare species of coral before, possibly, they're gone forever. NPR's Greg Allen reports from Miami.

GREG ALLEN: An ocean buoy operated by NOAA this week in the Florida Keys recorded a water temperature over 101 degrees Fahrenheit, among the highest reading ever recorded. That's the temperature of many hot tubs and has led to severe problems for Florida's already struggling coral reefs. Phanor Montoya-Maya with the Coral Restoration Foundation saw it firsthand on a dive to Sombrero Reef.

PHANOR MONTOYA-MAYA: When we jumped in the water, we found a lot of these corals - that they were white and brown, mostly white.

ALLEN: Coral bleaching isn't unusual. It's often a temporary condition that happens in hot summer months, and corals soon recover. But Montoya says when he examined the corals up close on Sombrero Reef, he was shocked. All of them were dead.

MONTOYA-MAYA: Which means that the coral have pretty much burned to death.

ALLEN: When corals bleach, they expel the algae that, through photosynthesis, provide their primary food source. If bleaching goes on long enough, corals can starve to death. Jennifer Moore with the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary says that didn't happen in this case. The corals died quickly.

JENNIFER MOORE: We think that the temperature stress was so extreme that not only did the corals bleach, but it killed the tissue. It's not that they starved to death after a week or two or three - in these cases, that they're actually dying from the heat stress itself.

ALLEN: Corals form the basis for reefs that underpin a diverse aquatic ecosystem. Reefs provide storm protection and economic benefits, adding billions of dollars to Florida's tourist economy. This bleaching and mortality event comes as a blow to scientists who've been preserving and restoring Florida's coral reefs.

MAUI DESTRUCTION

The Maui fires have displaced or injured multiple animals. When the fires occurred the Maui Humane Society was already at capacity. They are looking for volunteers to foster animals and donations: pet food, pop-up kennels, litter, and other supplies. Monetary donations can be made to www.mauihumanesociety.org/donate-olx.

An IFAW press release from August 10th stated:

As wildfires continue to ravage parts of Maui, Hawaii, IFAW is directly in touch with our partners on the ground. In the face of these devastating fires, which have led to mass evacuations and a surge in animal rescue efforts, our aim is to alleviate the strain on the ground as teams take on additional animals and expand their resources to ensure the safety and well-being of both pets and wildlife.

The wildfires on Maui have left no community untouched, with numerous families displaced from their homes and the lives of countless animals hanging in the balance.

Courageous staff and volunteers on the ground are working tirelessly to ensure that no animal is left behind. These rescuers are committed to providing shelter, medical attention, and comfort to animals displaced or injured by the wildfires.

We join our partners in a symbol of unity, at a time when climate change and disasters are affecting so

many of us around the world. IFAW's mission is to support organisations that are on the frontlines of disaster response, ensuring that both human and animal lives are safeguarded.

This has been a disheartening period for animals and animal advocates. We hope we can bring more positive news to you in our next issue.



A female dog who was rescued from the wildfires in Lahaina by a firefighter, then brought to the Maui Humane Society. The dog arrived with severe burns on her body, scorched whiskers and blisters covering her paws.

Meet Saucey.



We Believe He Matters.

We are animal rescuers, educators, and advocates.

Why do we do what we do?

Because. They. Matter.





NYCLASS is a New York based non-profit organization founded in 2008 that fights for animal rights both on the streets through activism, and politically, by passing laws to end animal abuse, elect-pro animal rights candidates to office in the NYC Council, the State Legislature, and Congress. Animal rights is a social justice issue, and we work to create a more compassionate world for all beings.

NYCLASS helped enact into law the recent historic package of animal rights legislation in New York City including: our Carriage Horse Heat Relief Bill, the Ban on the sale of cruel foie gras, the creation of the Nation's first Office of Animal Welfare, NY statewide Ban on cat-declawing, banning wild animals in circuses, and much more!

We are committed to winning more victories for animals in New York and beyond, including finally ending carriage horse abuse, banning the retail sale of fur, banning rodeo abuse, shutting down NYC live-animal slaughter markets, making NYC more pet-friendly, and enacting plant-based food options and policies around the nation.

**Join our efforts to make history for animals!
Learn more at: www.NYCLASS.org**

NYCLASS

WE LOVE ANIMALS AND WE VOTE!