

2017 Recipients Short Bio

Visual Arts: **Amy Franceschini**

Interdisciplinary artist **Amy Franceschini** describes her work as “situation-specific engagements that challenge ones assumptions about the world both real and imagined.” Often working in collaboration, she employs radio, performance, workshops, events, and sculpture, proposing alternatives to conventional thinking about science, technology, and ecology. Many of her works are multi-part and durational, some lasting for years. Founder of Futurefarmers, a collective of artists, scientists, farmers, designers, architects and engineers working in 4 countries in cross-disciplinary dialogue, she uses art as a way to invite people to reconsider their relationship to nature and to empower them to have agency in their lives. Her projects include conceiving an urban agriculture program for the city of San Francisco based on WW II Victory Gardens, taking part in a year-long journey carrying seeds of ancient grains on a 1895 wooden sailboat traveling from Oslo to Istanbul, working with farmers in 12 villages in Southern Italy in the service of rural regeneration, and creating new social spaces in the redevelopment of Oslo’s former port. Franceschini lives in San Francisco.

She says, “By not having the exact language or title to describe what I do, a space opens up for encounter, questioning, discussion.”