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**ARTIST HOPE SANDROW TO INAUGURATE *PLATFORM*
AT PARRISH ART MUSEUM**

**New Series Offers Three-Month Residencies to Artists
For Development of Site-Specific Projects**

WATER MILL, NY 10/25/2012 — Conceptual Artist Hope Sandrow inaugurates the Parrish Art Museum's **Platform** program, an experimental series of artist-driven projects, with *Genius Loci* (the prevailing spirit of place). Comprised of multidisciplinary components, from performances and temporary installations to participatory events and screenings, *Genius Loci* will inhabit the Museum from Sunday, November 4 through January 2013. Also on view amongst the Museum's new acquisitions, are two of Sandrow's photographs.

Organized by Curator of Special Projects Andrea Grover, **Platform** involves ongoing projects that consider the entire Museum as a potential canvas for works that transcend disciplinary boundaries. According to Grover, "Every three months a new artist or collective will be invited to respond to and activate the myriad spaces and grounds of the Museum, from the corridors to the café to the covered porches and terraces, encouraging new ways to experience art, architecture, and the landscape."

For *Genius Loci*, Hope Sandrow has created temporary projects and performances that integrate art and cultural objects related to rituals and ceremonies marking a beginning or rite of passage - such as the opening of the new Parrish Museum site. Sandrow, whose practice often involves intensive historical research into site and place, has traced the history of this site and presents works that evoke symbols of the past, new life, and good fortune, corresponding to the many cultures that have enlivened the history of the East End.

The various elements of Sandrow's project will be represented in *Observational Findings: Genius Loci*, a nineteenth-century display case once owned by Samuel Parrish that contains objects symbolizing the origins of the Parrish and the Town installed in the Lobby Gallery. Another component of *Genius Loci* is *(Sky)gaze*, which refers to the ancient practice of seeking information about one's environment (such as planting, timekeeping and navigation) by observing the sky. *(Sky)gaze* will include screenings of Sandrow's videos *Untitled Observations*, created at Mecox Inlet to the Atlantic Ocean in Water Mill; guided telescope viewing of the sun and the night sky by astronomers Sean Tvelia and Dr. Mike Inglis on the Museum's Southwest Terrace; and dark sky photo portraits by Hope Sandrow, also on the Southwest Terrace. Also the audio installation *Sounds of History*: a collage of audio clips representing the evolution and diversity of flora, fauna and human life associated with the Museum's new site at 279 Montauk Highway in Water Mill. *Genius Loci* will also feature related performances by artists Sur Rodney (Sur); Elke Luyten and Kira Alker.

Hope Sandrow's practice is one of total engagement with her surroundings. For example, her *Open Air Studio* is an evolving work of art that encompasses the breadth of her Shinnecock Hills backyard, its past and present, and all living things within. At the same time she connects the microcosmic to the universal through themes of natural history, art, culture, and science. Sandrow has exhibited at MoMA PS1, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the New Museum, the Corcoran Gallery of Art, and the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden. Her work is in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Whitney, and The Museum of Modern Art, Corcoran Gallery of Art among others, and she has received two National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships, a Skowhegan Governors' Award, and an Art Matters Fellowship.

A schedule of Platform events is attached to this release, as well as available online at parrishart.org and at the reception desk of the Museum.

Platform is made possible, in part, by Henry Buhl.

Special thanks to Platform programming partners: Dark Sky Society and Susan Harder, Suffolk Community College, and Montauk Observatory.

The Museum's programs are made possible, in part, by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and the property taxpayers from the Southampton School District and the Tuckahoe Common School District.

About the Parrish Art Museum

The Parrish Art Museum is the oldest cultural institution on the East End of Long Island, uniquely situated within one of the most concentrated creative communities in the United States. The Parrish is dedicated to the collection, preservation, interpretation, and dissemination of art from the nineteenth century to the present, with a particular focus on honoring the rich creative legacy of the East End, celebrating the region's enduring heritage as a vibrant art colony, telling the story of our area, our "sense of place," and its national—even global—impact on the world of art. The Parrish is committed to educational outreach, to serving as a dynamic cultural resource for its diverse community, and to celebrating artistic innovation for generations to come.

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