



Types and Shadows

Journal of the Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts

Issue # 68

Summer 2016



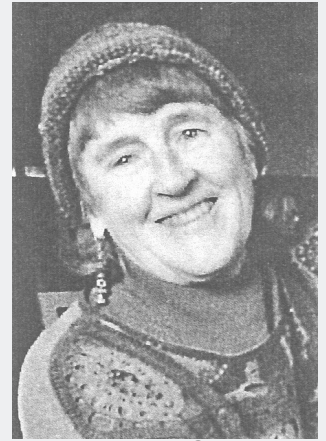
Sustainable art, "Abajo," handmade banana tree papers, Healing House, Cusco, Peru and Mey Hasbrooke

In this Issue...

Mixed media collage art by Healing House and Mey Hasbrooke, Cusco, Peru; Photographs by Elke Muller, Philadelphia; Music, story and community building with Laura Dungan and Aaron Fowler, Wichita, KS; new book, *Meetings*, by Chuck Fager, Durham, NC



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Maria Cattell © Seitz

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Our clerk speaks...

Dear Friends,

The FGC Gathering art show is an opportunity to display your work and enjoy the work of Friendly artists from around the nation. This year's art show was a great success. Let's make it even better at the 2017 Gathering, July 2-8, at Niagara University, Niagara NY. The 2017 Gathering theme is *Ripples start where spirit moves*. That should inspire some artwork!

Quaker Arts Center at FGC 2016 Gathering

Phil Furnas felt this was the most successful show in his four years of coordinating FGC's Quaker Arts Center, cosponsored by FQA. Visitors to the show praised it with remarks such as "love that we have art," "great show," "fantastic," "intriguing and beautiful."

Among the art on display:

- *Judy Ballinger: Painting on silk with artist's sketch book
- *Phil Furnas: Penns Creek at Dawn (color pencil on dark paper)
- *Mey Hasbrook: Community montage from Peru (mixed media)
- *Jamie Hamm: The Evil of War (vibrant watercolors)
- *Bill Hendricks: Minneapolis Homeless portraits (photos)
- *Kathy Ossman: pastels with images from dreams
- *Blair Seitz: photos
- *Art from Gathering workshops on Boxes and Books, Kites, Zentangle, Quilting,

and Photography

About 150 Friends attended the Friday Arts Reception. Workshop leaders made brief presentations on art as a meditative and spiritual exercise of self-discovery and folksingers-social activists Laura Dungan and Aaron Fowler gave a concert.

Phil Furnas gives heartfelt thanks to FQA members who helped out during the weeklong event.

And your Clerk gives heartfelt thanks to Phil, Blair and all those who made this a great event.

Coming Up: New Jersey Tri-Quarter Retreat

FQA is again sponsoring an art show at this retreat in Camp Ockanickon, Medford NJ, September 30-October 2. There is no entry fee for the show and you may sell your work. You needn't be a member of FQA, although we would love you to join us. For details and an Intent to Show form, contact Doris Pulone <dpulone@comcast.net>. Also let Doris know if you would like to perform (music, reading from your work or ???) during the Artists' Reception on Sunday.

FQA Website Fundraising Campaign

Donations may be made to FQA Treasurer, Doris Pulone, 305 Red Lion Road, Southampton NJ 08088. Contributions to FQA are tax deductible.

Yours for the arts,

Maria Cattell

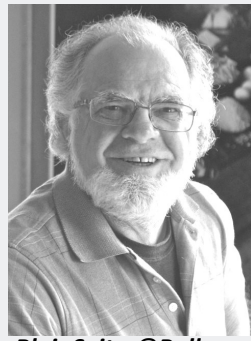
Types and Shadows is published quarterly by the Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts (FQA), c/o Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, 1515 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102. FQA Membership is \$30 annually.

Submission deadlines are: Sept. 15, Dec. 15, March 15 and June 15.

FQA is an arts ministry for Quakers and others under the care of Trenton MM.

From the editor. . .

I spent hours of my time at the Quaker Art Center at Friends General Conference where some twenty of us had displayed our art. I enjoyed **Jamie**



Blair Seitz ©Ballinger

Hamm's expressive abstracts. My imagination was pinged by the installation collages done at **Mey Hasbrook's** Peru workshops and I wanted to learn more. I had been "rocked" many times by **Laura Dungan** and **Aaron Fowler's** music, so sitting down with them to learn their life story, reported pp.4-6, was a huge pleasure for me. You will like **Elke Muller's** recent Martha's Vineyard photos. Enjoy! Blair

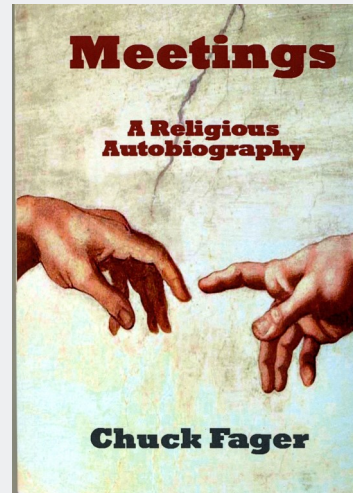
On our cover. . .

FQA member, Mey Hasbrooke, a member of Kalamazoo (MI) Friends Meeting and a women's group organizer with ten years experience, has embarked on an adventure named *La Puente* (Bridge). The effort enables women from the US and Peru to share sustainable art and inner experience. The five foot square mixed media installation art on the cover, the work of women at the Healing House, Cusco, Peru and Mey was displayed in July at the Quaker Arts Center at Friends General Conference, the College of St Benedict, St. Joseph, MN. The art is the result of Mey's Cusco workshop as a resident artist for five months this year. The art includes handmade papers and strands of alpaca wool. In the next issue of *T&S* we will follow Mey's exciting women and sustainable art work in villages of Peru and her home area of Lansing and Kalamazoo Michigan. Contact Mey at: meymdh@gmail.com

A religious autobiography by Chuck Fager. . .

Longtime FQA stalwart as clerk, board member, advisor and art advocate, **Chuck Fager**, has released a new book, *Meetings, a religious autobiography*. The book takes the reader through the storm of growing up conservative, pro-military Catholic, transitioning to a peace seeking Quaker in the years of war, social unrest, protest. The book, using words on

the book's jacket, is "an intense personal quest for meaning, transcendence, and a useful life." Get this moving account from Amazon.com.



Chuck Fager as a boy with four generations of Fagers. The photo was made in St. Paul, KS, where Chuck was born. His father was a bomber pilot.

San Francisco art show by William David Reese. . .

David's surreal art, which has previously appeared in *T&S*, is being shown and sold at Pier 5 Law Offices, Liberation Prison Project, 506 Broadway, San Francisco, CA 94133. During October, 2016, ten of his most recent works will be displayed. As an inmate, David says, "sale of my work would make me more financially stable as a person trying to better his life." His art will be displayed on the law office website www.pier5.com

Where music and social action never stop

Photos and essay by the Editor

“**M**usic never stops...it’s the thread,” summarized Aaron Fowler for himself and Laura Dungan, as he tied their artistic and community life together. A couple since high school, Laura and Aaron now have three boys, all musicians, the eldest, 31 years old.

I sat with Laura and Aaron in the Quaker Arts Center, FGC, in July. Speaking of the social justice side of her work Laura quipped “For the long haul...” The realization seems to keep her enthusiastic for her community organizing which has extended across the country from her start with Sunflower

Community Action in their primarily African-American Wichita neighborhood.

She facilitated trips to National People’s Action conferences for nearly 20 years and in 2008 prior to the election, she served as the primary organizer on an action at Homeland Security in Washington, D.C., where they confronted officials about the huge immigrant citizenship backlog. In negotiations, after 1,000 people demonstrated, the primary request was a meeting with Citizenship officials. The meeting was granted and, as a result, hundreds of thousands of immigrants were put through their final step of the process, the swearing-in ceremony.

In 1990 Laura and Aaron made a decision with other couples in their Friends of Jesus Intentional Community. They wanted to live out Jesus’ teachings and life

with the people of a different race and economic status instead of just discussing inequities. With their friends (and loans from supporters) they bought a 12-unit apartment building near northeast Wichita, which was 97% African-American and the lowest income area at that time. Soon after they moved into their 850 sq. ft. apartment in the complex, their third son, Scott, was born.

“Oh you are missionaries to an African American community,” some said. “No,” Laura replied,

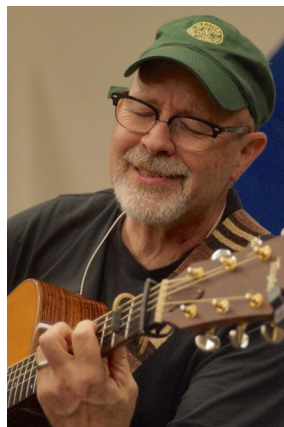
“We want to see the world through a different lens.” Both Laura and Aaron were raised in the United Methodist church. Laura says she was a “college



brat,” because her father was a “prof.” They didn’t miss going to church and music was integral to their family. Aaron, however, grew up in a blue-collar family—his father a retail salesman and mother a secretary.

Aaron said, “We want to raise our own awareness of racism and our own privilege.” They were evangelical Friends making an intentional community with Friends from other Quaker affiliations. The group created a non-profit corporation and community members who were African-American rented apartments. The residents all provided the upkeep labor of the apartments themselves in order to keep the rent cost low. The non-profit paid back supporters and after maintenance costs, was able to invest in other neighborhood projects.

At that time, Aaron taught music at Wilbur Middle a suburban school 20 miles away where his new neighbors were bused. Aaron began hanging out with the young men who attended the school where he taught. They called themselves the “guys group” and talked about issues that were important to them. “All the young people were affected by gangs at that time. In the early years of moving to the neighborhood there were nightly shootings. Crack cocaine ravaged the neighborhood at that time,” Aaron said. He and Laura learned how drugs devastated families, sending fathers and mothers to prison, and became aware of racism and discrimination in the context of enforced poverty.



Not content to be observers only, both Laura and Aaron worked with neighborhood people to initiate two organizations: Sunflower Community Action and Hope Street Youth Development. Sunflower started its work focused on overgrown lots, slumlords, and other neighborhood infrastructure issues. “The first

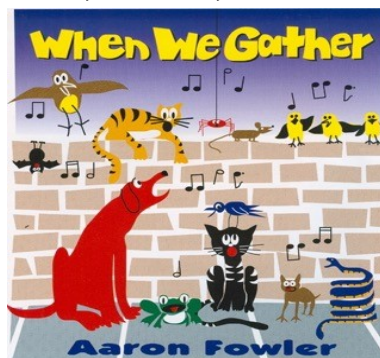
[lot] was filled with hypodermic needles,” Laura says, “and we were able to get the health department to clean it up.” The group grew and developed, moving also into the Latino communities of Wichita and eventually into the state of Kansas. Besides running campaigns, the organization saw its role as supporting and developing indigenous leadership.

Residents also wanted tutoring and a youth development program. So, Aaron worked with the neighborhood to found what grew from the “guys group” to a grade 7 – 12, male, female, and LGBTQ youth program called Hope Street Youth Development. They worked for 18 years providing leadership development to young people that resulted in anti-discrimination policies in the school district as well as reducing the suspension rate.



Album cover for CD by Aaron and Laura.

In 1995 Aaron resigned from his teaching position at Wilbur Middle School so that he could pursue his music in a different context than teaching. Both Aaron and Laura toured, entertaining, inspiring, and challenging groups with lyrics that “name the times we are living in.” They note that writing lyrics “comes from a spiritual place, conditions of the heart.” Laura and Aaron have two recorded albums titled, “When We Gather” and “Awaken.” When pressed to name a favorite song, Aaron leaned back in his chair, deliberating for a time, then said, “Old Devil Time.”



Album cover for CD by Aaron.

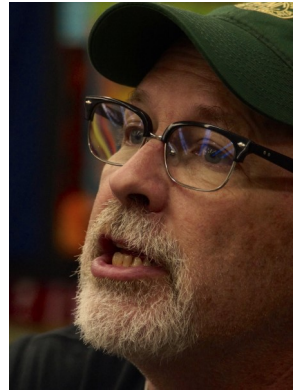
“On the ‘Awaken’ album, the tune called ‘Walls’ is also a favorite. A few of the words are, ‘Some walls are built of stone, sometimes we build our own; Some walls stand for years and some wash away with tears. If there’s any hope for love at all, some walls must fall.’”

In 2012, while working nationally with National People’s Action, Laura began to understand that a lot of the driving force of anti-immigrant policy around the country originated in Kansas, her home state. The Koch brothers and Kris Kobach, for example, resided in Kansas. It was time to focus her energies back on home turf.

For inspiration and research, Laura visited Highlander Research and Education Center (formerly Highlander Folk School), which serves as a catalyst for grassroots organizing and movement building. Highlander is located in Appalachia and that’s where she picked up the phrase, “the long haul.” Back in Wichita she co-founded the Seed House (Casa de la Semilla) along with two others, Armando Minjarez and Emira Palacios. Both are long time leaders and organizers in the immigrant rights movement of Kansas and beyond. One activity of the organization, which provides leadership and human development training for neighborhood empowerment, was the creation of a public art piece, a mural in the Barrio of Wichita. The New York Times included the art titled “Immigration is Beautiful” in their series following immigrants from Mexico north through the America’s heartland.

Laura and Aaron are multi-talented and express themselves in multiple ways. In addition to their music “gigs,” Aaron currently works by contract with schools to tie music and storytelling to core learning subjects. For example, Aaron explains, “the science word ‘frequency’ is like ‘pitch’ in music. We make instruments out of recyclables. Students find that they have different decibels and frequencies.” He also does song-writing lessons. “They supply the story—the lyrics—and I write the music.”

“Music,” Aaron says, “does something for the collective ‘us’ in social change.” The two phrases from Aaron and Laura respectively are apt for their “follow your heart” life journey in music and social change — “the music never stops” and “the long haul” for social justice never ends.



Barrio of Wichita wall mural painted by Seed House participants.

Learn a lot more about Laura and Aaron at their websites:

[Singitout.org,](http://Singitout.org)

[FowlerDungan.com,](http://FowlerDungan.com)

AaronFowler.org

[and Seedhouse.org.](http://and Seedhouse.org)

The couple who have performed at many Quaker functions seeks opportunities to share in music workshops— “to weave story and music together to encourage positive movement.” Contact them at:

aaron@aaronfowler.org or lauradungan@gmail.com



New Types and Shadows feature:

With permission from author Gary Sandman, each T&S will present a vignette of an historic Quaker artist from Gary's book, *Quaker Artists*. Check out www.garysandmanartist.com.

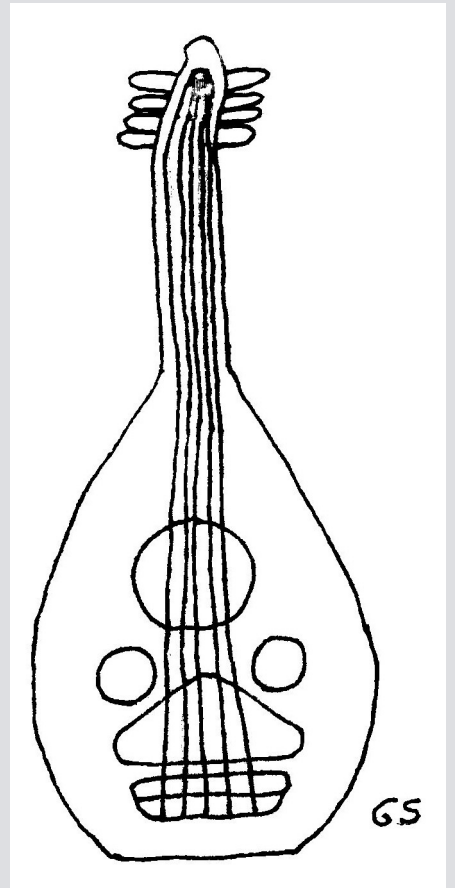
GULIELMA PENN (excerpt from book *Quaker Artists* by Gary Sandman)

A favorite image of mine: Gulielma Penn, William Penn's first wife, carrying her lute across the meadows to play for John Milton, the blind poet.

Early Friends rejected music. They felt it led to passion. But before the testimony against art became explicit, some Quakers did play and sing.

Gulielma Penn (1644-94) or Guli, as she was known to family and friends, was the stepdaughter of Isaac and Mary Penington. A beautiful and gentle spirit, she was always a private person, not a Public Friend spreading the Quaker message. In 1672 she married William Penn, with whom she had seven children.

Gulielma, like other young gentlewomen of her day, had been taught to play the lute. Chalfont Grange, her childhood home in Hertfordshire, lay near Milton's. And so we are left with the memory of her journey.



*Join the Tri-Quarter
Gathering of Friends and
FQA art gallery*

**Theme: Cross the bridge to
Health—of mind, body, spir-
it and our earth. Camp Ock-
anickon, Medford, NJ.**

Sept 30-Oct 2, 2016

FQA artists and kindred spirits: Tri-Quarter has an FQA art show during the retreat. Bring your art or make arrangements with someone else to transport it. Or come to perform music or drama. It's a great chance to share and the art is usually for sale. Contact Doris Polone at dpulone@comcast.net for more info.



Quaker Arts Center FGC 2016 St Joseph, MN



Top: Collage by Healing House , Cusco , Peru artists; Art Center group look at Peter West Nutting's workshop photographs; Zentangle art by Sadelle Wiltshire; Mey Hasbrooke talks with gallery director Phil Furnas; Glee Love tells about NW Friends; Judy Ballinger shows painted silk; Jamie Hamm explains his painting; Laura and Aaron entertain at reception. African-American dance print is viewed. Chuck Jones talks of meditation and kites.



Photographer Elke Muller finds eye-catching secrets of Martha's Vineyard



Elke Hildegard Muller

Elke remarks about her recent Martha's Vineyard visit: "I was very fortunate to go to Martha's Vineyard. I find it to be a photographers paradise. Not only have you the ocean on all sides, with fishing piers, fish houses, and boats, but there are very many interesting sites within the five towns. Old buildings, dilapidated buildings, beautiful gingerbread houses, etc. The Vineyard also has a large arts community and everyone is very friendly and willing to help in any way. I met a couple of artists while I was there and was fascinated with their work."

FQA's past editor of *Types and Shadows* and member of *Central Philadelphia Friends Meeting*, Elke Muller, is a self-taught photographer. She is a member of the Da Vinci Alliance and has recently had a photograph juried into a show at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital. She shows her work at galleries throughout Philadelphia.



"Martha's Vineyard, Old Building," sepia-toned photograph © Elke Muller



Above: "Martha's Vineyard, Driftwood," photograph: Below: "Martha's Vineyard: Vincent Beach Black Rocks," photograph, Both © Elke Muller



Words and art, a new venture by Richard Grossman,



"Overpopulation," conceptual art © Richard Grossman

Editor: Richard tells me that he has embarked on a new way of speaking about population—art. Above is his first work. We would like to see more. Here is what he says about his leading:

"As a senior at Germantown Friends School I resolved to work for peace. Not liking or understanding politics, I have followed another path, as a population activist—since overpopulation is one of the causes of armed conflict. I have written a newspaper column, "Population Matters!" for over 20 years, but recently realized that the written word doesn't reach everyone. Although I have neither artistic skill nor training, I resolved to try my hand at art. When I first heard of the genre "Conceptual Art", the name for this genre, "Contraceptual Art" popped into mind. Enjoy!"

An appeal from T&S editor:

Send your art—prose, poetry, fabric art, paintings, photography, sculpture, mixed media, any art—to me at blairseitzphotos@gmail.com. Your art is needed so that other FQA members can share in your inspirations. We may include your works on the FQA Facebook page as well as printing the art in T&S.

Also, send your notes about recent accomplishments and exhibits that you are preparing. Let's share as Quaker artists so that inspirations and spirit may be expanded among us. Again, send to the T&S editor at blairseitzphotos@gmail.com



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Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting
1515 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102

FQA Statement of Purpose

To nurture and showcase the literary, visual, musical and performing arts within the Religious Society of Friends, for purposes of Quaker expression, ministry, witness and outreach. To these ends we will offer spiritual, practical and financial support as way opens.

Inside: Music, Social Action: Laura Dungan & Aaron Fowler; Photography: Elke Muller



“Red House, Martha’s Vineyard,” photograph, © Elke Muller