

Mike Durkin

Work Samples

The Mending Quilt (Mural Arts)

*and you'll know its done when the oil stops bubbling (University of Central
Arkansas)*

and you'll know its done when the oil stops bubbling (Philadelphia)

*Yes, We're Ready, We'll Split an Order of Fries for The Table--Does That Work for
You?--Sure, One Check Is Fine*

S-P-O-R-T-S-P-L-A-Y: Aggieland

That Time We Talked About Spaceships...

(Kensington) Streetplay

Animal Farm to Table

The Mending Quilt

A Performative Sewing and Story-Sharing Project

Created by Mike Durkin

As Part of the Color Me Back Program, a program through Mural Arts Philadelphia

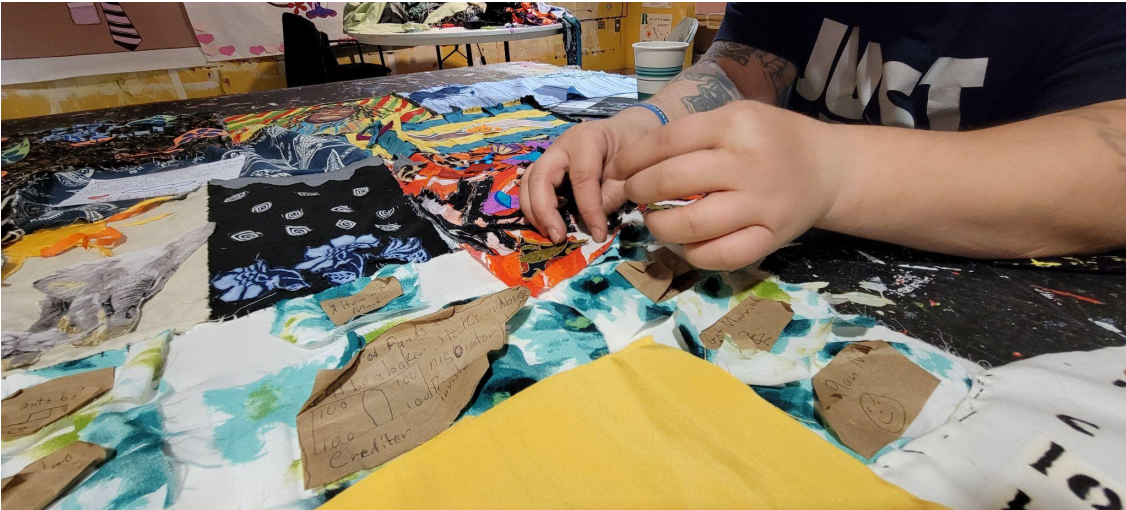
8-week sessions (2x a week)

Dec-Feb

Sharing Session- February 3rd, 2023

Let us mend together. Mike will conduct story-sharing sessions centering around mending, while we mend our clothing or supplies. Participants will gather with torn clothes and items and Mike will teach and help mend those clothing. We will also talk about other areas in our life we need to mend, relationships, habits, and other important issues the participant is engaged in. The focus will be on occupying time, the mending, will be hand-sewn. This action which will take lots of time will help the individual working on focusing, grounding, and being present. In addition to the mending we will be making a quilt. Participants will hand-sew their own designed squares to be part of the larger quilt. This will culminate in sharing sessions where we will show off the quilt as well as participants will share stories around their squares.







And you will know its done when the oil stops bubbling

A Community-Developed Cookbook and Storytelling Presentation

Created by Lead Artist mike durkin

In Partnership with the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at the University of Central Arkansas

6-week Teaching Residency

Public Presentation

Thursday, November 10th, 2022 from 6-8pm

Contributed recipes and installations from the Foundation Studios B students, Food and Culture class students in the Anthropology Department, as well as community members Krystal Booth, Kim Doughty-McCannon, Sharon Mason, Marvin Williams



Roasted Butternut Squash Soup

Contributed by Kim Doughty-McCannon
Owner, Bell Urban Farm

Food as Intention

Ingredients:

- 2.5 lb butternut squash (Heifer Ranch)
- 8 oz carrots (Five Acre Farm)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 7 tablespoons salted butter
- 1 large yellow onion (Five Acre Farms)
- 4 garlic cloves (Happy Horseshoe Farm)
- 4 cups chicken broth (Bradford Valley farms)
- 2 to 3 sprigs fresh thyme (Bell Urban Farm)
- Salt and pepper
- 3/4 cup heavy whipping cream
- 15-20 fresh sage leaves (Bell Urban Farm)
- 1/4 cup sour cream or greek yogurt (we used fromage blanc from white river creamery)
- Warm spices like chili powder, cinnamon and cloves (we used Fennel & Fire's winter seasoning blend)
- Fresh sourdough bread (B&B Creations)



This fall soup recipe was created to use as many locally grown, seasonal ingredients as possible from our farmers in central Arkansas! Please adapt to your needs. Seek out local farmers in your area and make substitutions if necessary. For our seasonings, instead of buying each separate spice, we are using a winter blend from one of our local vendors and instead of using sour cream or yogurt to top our soup, we are using fromage blanc from a local creamery! We will also pair this soup with slices of crunchy-on-the-outside and soft-on-the-inside sourdough bread baked fresh at a local bakery. Do not be afraid to tweak this recipe and make it your own! I challenge you to see how many local ingredients you can add!







and you will know it's done when the oil stops bubbling

A Community-Developed Cookbook and Storytelling Performance

Created by Lead Artist Mike Durkin with participation from Kensington community members

In Partnership with Mural Arts Philadelphia

Performed at the Kensington Corridor Trust Community Garden

3236-56 Kensington Ave

Sept 23rd- Oct 2nd, 2022

Contributed recipes from Christina

Wanda Letícia Cantres, Gloria "Smooches" Cartagena, Shane Claiborne, John F., Oliver Jorgensen, Katarina Love, Noel D. Matthews II, Sunny Phanthavong, and José Rios

For more information:

<https://www.muralarts.org/events/and-you-will-know-its-done-when-the-oil-stops-bubbling/>

Video:







Yes, We're Ready, We'll Split an Order of Fries for The Table--Does That Work for You?--Sure, One Check Is Fine

A table-top show about diners and the people inhabiting those space

Created by Mike Durkin and Nick Schwasman

Philly FringeArts Fest

September 9-17

At the Broad Street Diner, 1135 S. Broad Street

And

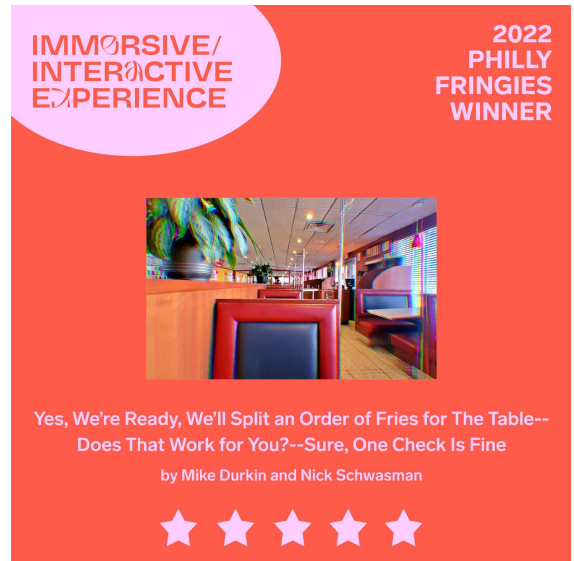
Melrose Diner, 1501 Snyder Avenue

Yes, we're ready, we'll split an order of fries for the table.

Does that work for you? Sure, one check is fine. The

clanking of the spoon against the ceramic mug, embossed with the diner's logo. The flickering of the fluorescents in the kitchen. Berlin's "Take My Breath Away" cuts through the shuffling of feet. Meetings, comings, goings, and reunions. Blue plate specials, no substitutions, and gratuity added on parties over 8 fill the menu. A table top show about diners and the people inhabiting those spaces. Artists, Mike Durkin and Nick Schwasman will lead audiences between 1-3 through a series of conversations, and performances, all while splitting an order of fries either at the Melrose Street Diner or Broad Street Diner in South Philadelphia.

[NY Times Write-up](#)





Sportsplay

A hybrid social practice performance project comprising athletics, story-telling, theatre, installation, dance, and community building.

Created by Mike Durkin
Workshop, November 2021
Residency and Performance, April 2022

Multidisciplinary artist, Mike Durkin creates original performance works that celebrate, challenge, and deconstruct societal concerns of the moment. The performances blend multiple artistic mediums and are unique to the location created. Mike will be developing his new project: *Sportsplay* on campus at Texas A&M University.

Sports bring various peoples, communities, and cities together to cheer on their favorite team. Sports can also separate those very same groups and the nation itself in championship games. Sport is inherently combative: team vs. team, player vs. player. This versus mentality finds its way on and off the field. What do sports symbolize for our society? What can the gestures, moves, routines, and plays unlock in daily life? In a campus rich with sports history, fanaticism runs deep. But can a fanbase go too far, and where do we draw the line regarding celebration versus destruction? How can a sport impact a player, a fan, a neighborhood, a city? Mike, along with students, and departments will present a series of hybrid performance works focused on locating the intersection between community-building, dance, storytelling, and sports. Mike is looking for partnerships and cross-department collaborations.

Mike plans to facilitate workshops and scrimmages bringing together students and staff from different departments. We will be looking at art through an athletic lens and looking at athletics from an artistic lens. We will be sharing ideas and vocabulary between the different departments. The performances will be created with participants to explore our ability to find common ground through teamwork, competition, and spectatorship. The scrimmages will be a blend of community dialogue, sport, improv, and performance creation. This will culminate in a performative installation modeled after a tailgate. We will be working to understand the history of Football at A&M, aspirations for athletes, understanding race dynamics in and around College Station, TX.

Clips of the performance: <https://youtu.be/qYyKAUhDdYM>

For More Information:

<https://academyarts.tamu.edu/Archives/Performances/S-P-O-R-T-S-P-L-A-Y>



That Time We Talked About Spaceships While Recreating Matisse's 'Le Bonheur de vivre'

A participatory live fiber art recreation and performance of Matisse's *Le Bonheur De Vivre (The Joy of Life)*

6-hour durational performance/discussion/recreation

Created by Mike Durkin and Jamie Grace-Duff

Commissioned by the Barnes Foundation, Philadelphia, PA

November 3, 2019





Work Session







Installation/Performance

[Video of the project](#)

(Kensington) Streetplay

Created and performed by The Renegade Company and members of the Kensington area community

Directed by Mike Durkin

A theatrical walking play starting at Kensington Ave and Allegheny Ave

“When you see me, you see one version of me; I’m so much more”.

What does Kensington of the past-present-future look like? What are the individual goals of community members? What is the larger goal of Kensington? How do we work towards achieving these goals while also understanding the obstacles in the way? The Renegade Company will be working with community members of the Kensington neighborhood to present stories, performances, scenes, and activities addressing where the neighborhood has been, where it is at, and where it is heading towards.

Instead of fighting or fearing what does coexistence look like? How do we come together in a neighborhood pulled towards the past, and designing for the future? How do we find common ground and be present with each other no matter what path the individual has taken? How do we take control of the narrative and aid in the rewriting?

(Kensington) Streetplay is a culmination of a two-year period of working with residents in the Kensington neighborhood that have a relationship with substance abuse, addiction, homelessness, and community activism. Through partnerships with Impact Services, The Porchlight Project, St. Francis Inn, and the Department of Behavioral Health (DBHIDS) we aim to extend past this narrative by working with the community towards de-stigmatization of the neighborhood from outside forces.

Renegade has created a walking play that will start at Kensington Ave and Allegheny Ave and will walk approximately 10 blocks to Campbell Square Park. Please wear appropriate walking shoes.

September 6-16





[Clips](#) of performance
[Clips](#) of Rehearsal Process
More information can be found [here](#)