

SALEM ART ASSOCIATION

# COMBAT GRASS

CLOSING CEREMONY

**BUSH BARN ART CENTER**  
**FEBRUARY 15, 2018 | 5:30 - 7:00 PM**

[www.salemart.org/combat-grass](http://www.salemart.org/combat-grass)

## ABOUT THE EXHIBIT

### ARTIST STATEMENT

On January 9, 2002, Marine Sergeant Jeannette L. Winters was killed when her plane struck a mountain in southwestern Pakistan. She was 25 years old – and the first U.S. servicewoman to die in the war on terror.

For the first time in the history of our nation's wars, women are serving, and dying, with combat units in front line positions. To most of us, these women were soldiers serving our nation. To their families and friends, they were something more: real people. They were daughters, wives, mothers, sisters, friends, co-workers, and neighbors. Some died young, just 18 or 19; others were in their 40s or 50s when they were killed.

This installation – called *Combat Grass* – is inspired by Carl Sandburg's poem, *Grass*, and is meant to honor the sacrifices of our fallen servicewomen: the combat boot represents the soldier who was killed overseas; the shoe represents the woman who lived and loved as a wife or a mother or a sister or a daughter.

Each boot/shoe pair represents a real soldier: in the thirteen years since Sergeant Winters' death, a total of 160 female soldiers have died from gunshot wounds, suicide bombers, roadside bombs, helicopter crashes and the other attacks, accidents, and illnesses that kill soldiers serving in combat zones.

As in Sandburg's poem, the growth of the grass represents the passage of time, and the tension that exists between healing and forgetting. In other words, does the passage of time allow our wounds to heal, or simply make it easier to forget?

### BIOGRAPHY

Matthew Boulay (b. 1970, Arizona) lives and works in Salem, Oregon. Boulay's work is typified by his exploration of issues such as collective memory and the experience of war, and his use of materials that are tactile and complicated. He works in multiple media, including painting and large-scale installations, and frequently engages in inter-textuality with other works from the visual arts, literature, and history. Boulay has studied in Baltimore, New York and Madrid, and his work is greatly informed by his experiences as a Marine in Iraq. He holds a PhD from Columbia University's Teachers College, led the Campaign for a New G.I. Bill, and is the founder of the non-profit National Summer Learning Association.

## PROGRAM

### WELCOME

Sandra Burnett,  
Executive Director,  
Salem Art Association

### ARTIST REMARKS

Matthew Boulay

### SINGING OF "HALLELUJAH"

Maddie Gertenrich

### NAME READING

Matthew Boulay  
Liz Estabrooks  
Rosy Macias  
Jaqueline Caputi  
Christina McCarty  
Melanie Bjerks

### SINGING OF "AMAZING GRACE"

Eva Cooper

# THE NAMES

Yeshabel Villot-Carrasco  
Daniela Rojas  
Jennifer Moreno  
Caryn Nouv  
Hilda Clayton  
Ember Alt  
Jaimie Leonard  
Pinckney Victoria  
Sara Knutson  
Brittany Gordon  
Camella Steedley  
Donna Johnson  
Thalia Ramirez  
Jessica Wing  
Patricia Horne  
Krystal Fitts  
Erica Aleksen  
Mikayla Bragg  
Sarina Butcher  
Ashley White  
Devin Snyder  
Tara Brown  
Cynthia Taylor  
Linda Pierre  
Amy Sinkler  
Dominique Cruz  
Zainah Creamer  
Gwendolyn Locht  
Aracely Gonzalez O'Malley  
Barbara Vieyra  
Faith Hinkley  
Morganne McBeth  
Erin McLyman  
Lakeshia Bailey  
Billie Grinder  
Adriana Alvarez  
Amy Tirador  
Eduviges Wolf  
Tara Smith  
Ashton Goodman  
Roslyn Schulte  
Florence Choe  
Jessica Sarandrea  
Simone Robinson  
Stacy Dryden  
Janelle King  
Jennifer Cole  
Seteria Brown  
Jackie Larsen  
Jessica Ellis  
Mary Jaenichen  
Cherie Morton

Keisha Morgan  
Tracy Birkman  
Ashley Sietsema  
Christine Ndururi  
Carletta Davis  
Tracy Lynn Alger  
Anamarie Sannicolas Camacho  
Genesis Gresham  
Lillian Clamens  
Rachael Hugo  
Shayna Ann Schnell  
Ciara Durkin  
Roselle Hoffmaster  
Marisol Heredia  
Kamisha Block  
Princess Samuels  
Zandra Walker  
Alicia Birchett  
Maria Ortiz  
Michelle Ring  
Trista Moretti  
Karen Clifton  
Katie Soenksen  
Ashly Moyer  
Laquita James  
Jennifer Parcell  
Jennifer Harris  
Carla Stewart  
Marilyn Gabbard  
Jennifer Valdivia  
Elizabeth Loncki  
Gloria Davis  
Megan McClung  
Jeanette Dunn  
Denise Lannaman  
Jane Lanham  
Ashley Henderson Huff  
Jennifer Hartman  
Emily Perez  
Meredith Howard  
Hannah Gunterman McKinney  
Wakkuna Jackson  
Jaime Jaenke  
Juana Navarro  
Amanda Pinson  
Amy Duerksen  
Tina Priest  
Alecia Good  
Jaime Campbell  
Myla Maravillosa  
Regina Reali  
Julia Atkins  
Debra Banaszak  
Elizabeth Jacobson

Laura Walker  
Toccara Green  
Lavena Johnson  
Tricia Jameson  
Holly Charette  
Ramona Valdez  
Regina Clark  
Carrie French  
Linda Villar  
Sam Huff  
Aleina Ramirez Gonzalez  
Chrystal Stout  
Barbaralien Banks  
Adriana Salem  
Lizbeth Robles  
Katrina Johnson Bell  
Jessica Housby  
Barbara Heald  
Tina Time  
Cari Gasiewicz  
Pamela Osbourne  
Jessica Cawvey  
Gina Sparks  
Shawna Morrison  
Tatjana Reed  
Linda Ann Tarango-Griess  
Julie Hickey  
Melissa Hobart  
Leslie Jackson  
Isela Rubalcava  
Michelle Witmer  
Tyanna Avery-Felder  
Fern Holland  
Gussie Jones  
Nichole Frye  
Holly McGeogh  
Keicia Hines  
Kimberly Hampton  
Kimberly Voelz  
Linda Jimenez  
Sharon Swartworth  
Frances Vega  
Karina Lau  
Rachel Bosveld  
Jakia Sheree Cannon  
Analaura Gutierrez  
Tamarra Ramos  
Allyssa Peterson  
Melissa Valles  
Tamara Archuleta  
Lori Piestewa  
Anissa Shero  
Katrina Grady  
Jeanette Winters