

# STAR ARTS NEWS

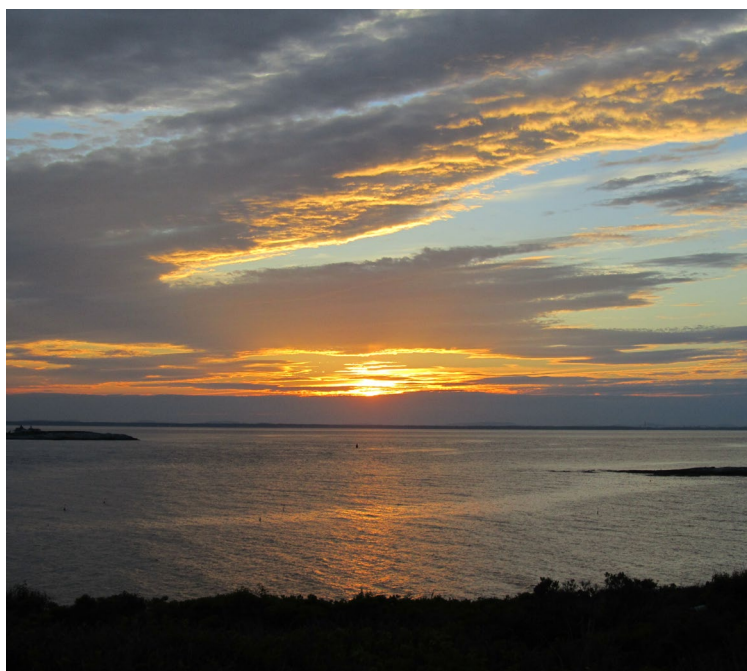
April 2023

## Solstice Celebration

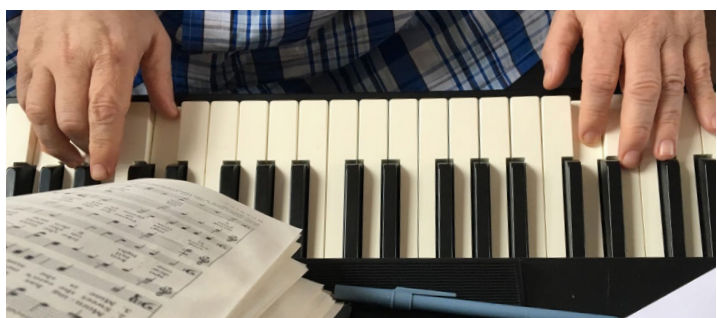
Chris Volpe, artist, teacher, musician, and longtime friend of Star, will be joining us on Star Island on June 21<sup>st</sup> for the Summer Solstice Celebration. The celebration will be shared with all Conferences, Staff and Pels. A generous grant from the ISA/UU (Isle of Shoals Association/Unitarian Universalist) makes this event possible.

Chris recently began recording and performing ambient and experimental music under the name Hyponova, a shifting and often collaborative group project that has included additional players and instruments including cello, electric piano, saxophone, synths, and guitars. Chris uses a few simple electronic musical effects, including a looper and a reverberator-delay, to weave a tapestry of sound conducive to meditative states of uplifting calm. He is eager to work with other groups and individuals, such as the Music Workshop Leader, the Island's Musical Director, Arts' Chapel Coordinator, and other musicians who may be on island, to create multi-instrumental, vocal, and multimedia soundscapes and collaborations.

More about Hyponova visit: <https://hyponova.live>



Celebrate the longest day of the year on Star Island. Photo by Jeff Spoor 2015



Musical Hands. Photo by Richard Waring, 2023.

## Afternoon Music

### *Musical Notes:*

We are delighted to announce that music will once again brighten our afternoons during the Arts Retreat this June! Lynne Wilkinson will resume her leadership of the women's chorus, Persephone's Daughters. And Joe Williams will raise his trident to direct the men, fondly known as Sons of Poseidon. Anyone who loves to sing is welcome to tune in!

## Waitlist

Arts is currently doing a Waitlist!  
If you would like to be added to the list please contact the registrars at [stararts.registrar@gmail.com](mailto:stararts.registrar@gmail.com)

Star Arts Retreat 2023  
Sunday June 18<sup>th</sup> to Sunday June 25<sup>th</sup>



# Featured Workshop Leader: Rachel Benson

## *Visual Arts II: The Art of Felting*

Felting is an extremely versatile and user-friendly medium – it is perfect for all levels! In its simplest form, felting is straight-forward and you only need a few basic supplies to get started. Felting is the process that causes wool fibers to interlock; unable to separate, they shrink, creating a compact version. This can be done with either a special barbed needle or warm water, soap, and friction. Felting has a long history dating back as far as 6,500 BC! These days it is used to make both decorative pieces and functional wearable art. This medium is extremely tactile and meditative to work with. It is both active and calming. It lends itself to both two and three dimensional art and opens a door to unlimited creativity and expression. Felting has something for everyone!

In this workshop you will get to experiment with a wide range of felting techniques. You will learn skills to paint and sculpt with wool. You will be exposed to both needle and wet felting. Our focus will be on experimentation and play. Learn a variety of techniques and be prepared to leave hooked on a new art form! Participants will leave with 3 finished projects plus lots of inspiration and ideas for future projects.

Class size is limited to 15. (Please contact Richard Waring ([rwaring@nejm.org](mailto:rwaring@nejm.org)) to get on the list!) There is a \$35.00 material fee to be paid to Star Arts on the island. Check or cash only. Rachel will bring all needed supplies but participants are welcome to bring any of their own supplies they want to incorporate into their art.

Rachel is a fiber artist working primarily with needle felting and other media to create whimsical images of nature, both realistic and abstract. She studied Fine Arts and Technical Theater in college and is currently a freelance artist and art teacher. She shares her love of art through teaching, commissions, and selling her work at craft fairs and galleries. She is currently represented by Fruitlands Museum Store, Periwinkle Glassworks and the Hollis Art Space. She is passionate about creating and encouraging students to experiment, play, invent, and focus on the journey of art making rather than the final outcome.

To check out some of Rachel's art you can visit

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/thefiberweb/>

Website: <https://www.thefiberweb.com>



Rachel with some of her work at a craft fair. Photos submitted by Richard Waring

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Other Workshops June 2023 are on our website <https://stararts.org>

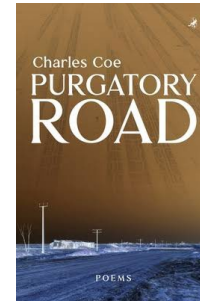
- Movement: Burlesque with Joe Williams
  - Photography: Go to the Limits of Your Longing with Parrish Dobson
  - Theater: Briny Chamber Theatre with Robin Fawcett
  - Visual Arts I: Drawing & Painting with Soft Pastels with Wendy Soliday
  - Writing: Memoir Writing with Tom Daley
- (There should be information about a Music Workshop coming soon!)



## Charles Coe New Book Launch

Charles Coe taught the writing workshop at the 2022 Star Island Arts Weekend. His fourth volume of poetry, *Purgatory Road*, has just been published by Leapfrog Press. His book release event will be Saturday, April 15th at 2pm, at Cambridge Friend's Meeting House off of Brattle Street, right outside Harvard Square. (The venue is fully accessible.)

You can also purchase the book at <https://bookshop.org/p/books/purgatory-road-charles-coe/18322280?ean=9781948585699>



## Auction News



Example of some items that were in the Auction in 2022

We look forward to seeing everyone on Star this year. One of the anticipated events is the Star Arts Auction which helps raise money for the Star Arts Scholarship Fund that helps bring people to the island who otherwise wouldn't financially be able to. If you have something you'd like to donate to the auction please bring it with you. FYI most of us donate things that are handmade - artwork, photographs, jewelry or star related items.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!  
Sharon, Eileen and Bev

Questions? Contact Sharon Lieberman at [sieberman7@yahoo.com](mailto:sieberman7@yahoo.com)

## Financial Aid Due April 15th

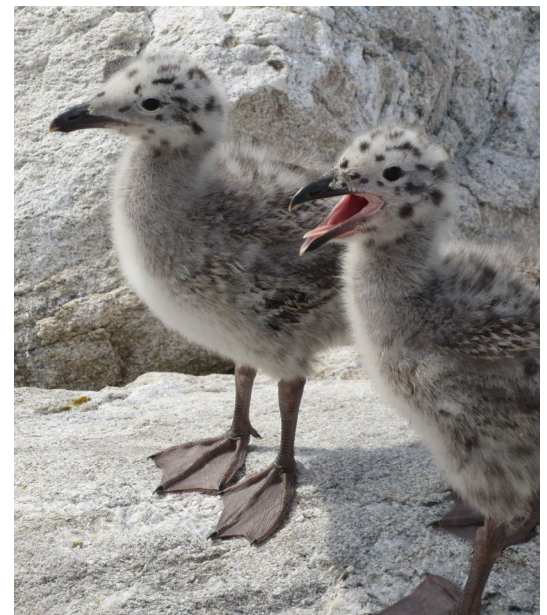
The Deadline for Financial Aid is early this year, April 15<sup>th</sup>! If full room and board would preclude you and your family from attending a conference please consider applying for a financial grant. This application is for both Star Island and Arts.

You can fill out the form here:  
<https://starisland.org/programs/registration/#financial-grants>

## Cancellation Policy Reminder

Star Island and Conferences offer a full refund of program fee and deposit up to 4 weeks prior to the start of the conference, after which time, both the program fee and deposit become non-refundable. There is also a Star Island Length of Stay (Proration) Adjustments Policy, which is also up to 4 weeks prior to the start of the conference. There is a process for exceptions in the case of extenuating circumstances and this is determined by the Island Registrar.

You can read more here:  
<https://starisland.org/faq-category/important-info/#cancellation-policy>



Baby Gulls. Photo by Jeff Spoor 2015

## Deadline for Next Newsletter!

The Deadline for the next Newsletter will be May 1<sup>st</sup>!  
If you would like to include pictures, art, poetry and/or news please submit items to:  
[stararts.registrar@gmail.com](mailto:stararts.registrar@gmail.com) (Mary Ann Young and Anne Nowselski)

(Questions about Star Arts you can email us or call us at 781.520.3786)

