

PROFESSIONAL artist

Go for the Gold: The Artist as Athlete

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Why Artists Need Psychotherapy

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Learn From the Masters

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*Deco in the City, by
Maryanne Pollock.*

headlines & DETAILS

EXHIBITION

VIRGINIA MOCA EXHIBIT TRAVELS THE SOUTH



Take a trip through the American South this summer, at the Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art. *Southern Routes* features ten photographers in a show curated by Heather Hakimzadeh. The exhibit explores the South's complex history, traditions, myths and stereotypes.

Each contemporary photographer featured offers a glimpse of the people, history, land and culture of the region. Photographers include: Kelly Berry, Eliot Dudik, Grant Ellis, Kate Medley, Tammy Mercure, Brian Palmer, Tamara Reynolds, Kathleen Robbins, Jerry Siegel and Aaron Turner.

The show runs May 12 - August 13, 2017. For details, visit virginiamoca.org/southern-routes.

BOOK

40 ARTISTS WRITE ABOUT HOW THEY CONTRIBUTE TO CULTURE

Artists "are just normal, hardworking individuals who are devoted to making the most of our creativity during our short time on this planet," writes artist and educator Sharon Louden in the preface to her new book *The Artist as Culture Producer: Living and Sustaining a Creative Life*, a collection of essays by 40 visual artists.

Artists "provide a service to society like every other profession, creating economic value and contributing to the well-being of others on a daily basis," Louden writes. It's this contribution that Louden highlights in this book, a sequel to her first book published in 2013 of 40 essays by working artists about how they've succeeded in the world of contemporary art. This latest includes essays by 22 women and 18 men, 36 of whom live in the United

States, two in the United Kingdom, one in the Philippines and one in Australia.

"This book not only demystifies the illusion of what it means to be an artist but also positions the artist as a catalyst for productive change in our contemporary society. Insightful and inspiring, these artists align their talents with ideals of citizenship, rejecting isolationism in favor of engagement," said Valleria Cassel Oliver, Senior Curator, Contemporary Arts Museum Houston.

The essays go beyond each artist's practice into the story of how they became "change agents in their communities." Louden exposes the misconception that artists are invisible and hidden, as the essays tell stories of the ways artists make a measurable



and innovative economic impact in the non-profit sector, in education and in corporate environments.

"The essays steer clear of literary flourishes and artspeak, offering

straightforward descriptions of each individual's struggles as they navigated life and career paths. Recommended for students and aspiring artists who hunger for this kind of real-life experience, advice, and wisdom, and for those in organizations that work with them," according to the review in *Library Journal*.

The 404-page book, published by Intellect Books, has 40 color illustrations and sells for \$42. For details and tour dates visit livesustain.org.