

What's Out There – October 23, 2020: Mushroom event, Fort Worden Words

Hello, this is Diane Urbani de la Paz with What's Out There, ways to connect with art and culture while staying close to home, for the week going forward from Oct. 23, 2020.

Mushrooms will be the main dish during Centrum's next Communiversity event. This Monday evening at 5:30, it'll be a kind of online happy hour presentation as Marian Maxwell, of the Puget Sound Mycological Society, delves into the dirt on where to go mushroom hunting, the permits required, the types of fungi to look for, cooking with mushrooms and yes, the dangers involved. Mushrooms are a vast Northwest resource, as the Centrum invitation puts it. The place to find out about tickets to the Communiversity program, to be delivered on Zoom, is Centrum.org.

Speaking of Centrum, we're coming into the final days of the Fort Words installation by artist in residence Aaron Asis. This public art project, stenciled onto the batteries and bunkers at Fort Worden State Park, uses quotations from people who lived at the fort during various times in the 20th century, including the 1918 flu pandemic. The Friends of Fort Worden gathered lots of oral histories from those years. Then Aaron listened to them and selected evocative excerpts, which he then painted onto the walls up there on the bluff. There's now an enticing website, FortWords.com, that shows you each quote, its source, and where you can find it at the Fort. These are the words of young people, marveling at the place, and remembering the major historical events they lived through, as well as what they did for fun. The installation of all this is scheduled to end Oct. 31st — and the quotes will be painted over after that. So these next few days are ideal for your walk through time, among the Fort Words.

Next Thursday, October 29th, you can attend an author talk without leaving your house. Christine Hemp, the Port Townsend writer and horsewoman, will chat about her new book, "Wild Ride Home: Love, Loss, and a Little White Horse." It is her memoir, and it's about the relationship and language between people and horses. You may have seen Hemp on social media, or even in real life, on a white horse named Buddy, when the two of them went to drop off Hemp's ballot outside the Jefferson County Courthouse earlier this week. She's also a poet, essayist and art critic who received the Washington State Artist Trust Fellowship for Literature. The link to her online talk is found on the Port Townsend Library website, ptpubliclibrary.org. This will be an hourlong presentation to start at 7 o'clock next Thursday evening.

And that is the story for What's Out There. I'm Diane Urbani de la Paz, here for you on KPTZ. Thanks for listening.