V. Parra

JJ: MAY I OFFER YOU A COMMISSION AMOUNT

OF \$100.00 TOM CONTINUE THE "AGNES VARDA

FOREVER" PROJECT? THE ONLY STRING ATTACHED

TO THIS OFFER IS THAT YOU ALLOW ME TO

RECORD AN INTERVIEW WITH YOU THIS SPRING

FOR PUBLICATION IN THE SOCIAL FORMS OF

ART JOURNAL. PLEASE LET ME KNOW YOUR

ANSWER AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE; IF

"YES" YOU WILL RECEIVE THE \$ ASAP.



One Sings the Other Doesn't Cléo from 5 to 7

Lions Love (...and Lies)

The Gleaners and I

FOR END

August 19 - 31, 2021
Clinton Street Theater

Lions Love (...and Lies) The Gleaners and I Clinton Street Theater August 19 - 31, 2021

A PROJECT BY LAURA GLAZER AND JENNIFER "JJ" JONES IN COLLABORATION WITH THE CLINTON STREET THEATER



#### AGNÈS VARDA FOREVER: A \$100 PROJECT

As part of an assignment from artist Harrell Fletcher for the Portland State University Art and Social Practice MFA Program, Laura Glazer commissioned Jennifer "JJ" Jones to continue her "Agnès Varda Forever" project. The project began in the summer of 2020 after JJ and her son watched a marathon of movies directed by Agnès Varda during the Covid-19 stay-at-home order. As a result, they wanted more people to know about Varda. JJ acted on this desire in October by painting "AGNÈS VARDA FOREVER" in eight-inch high letters on the utility pole at the end of her block.

Around that time, Laura drove past this bold message and was delighted by its spirit, not realizing that it was JJ's neighborhood or her handiwork. She was so excited about the sign and its striking letterforms that she emailed JJ about it later that night. (Laura knew JJ was a fan of Varda's movies because a few years ago they saw each other at a Hollywood Theatre showing of Varda's film, Faces Places.)

JJ replied to Laura's email: "One night, when I couldn't sleep, I went down to the corner of MY STREET and painted that pole!!!!! What is incredible is that YOU saw it! I thought about sending you a picture of it, but then thought that a better thing to do would be to someday go and paint it on something near your apartment, so you could accidentally stumble upon it! This is SO magical, that it worked out this way. My heart and my mind are blown!!!"

As part of her class assignment in April 2021, Laura received \$100 to commission someone to do anything.¹ She offered it to JJ and together they designed a poster with the "AGNÈS VARDA FOREVER" message and removable tabs listing movies directed by Varda and a short description of each movie.

JJ bought colored paper to print the poster and perforated the lower portion of the poster, making tab removal easier. Then she cut each tab by hand and anonymously hung over 500 of them on poles in Portland and beyond. JJ's hope was that people would take a tab from the poster and use it as a reminder to find out more about Varda and then watch the film.

Early this summer, the Clinton Street Theater invited Laura and JJ to collaborate on a film festival inspired by their project which became the Agnès Varda Forever Festival, during which five of Varda's films will be shown. Festival-related souvenirs will be available to purchase, further extending the reach of the project's message and magic. Proceeds from the stamp sales will benefit POWGirls, which offers workshops in video production, cinematography, audio recording, set lighting, digital editing, and media literacy for girls and non-binary youth ages 15–19.

During the festival, Laura and JJ will be artists-in-residence at the Clinton Street Theater, creating their own Varda-inspired artwork in response to the theater and neighborhood people and places.

............

#### **Project Credits**

Artists: Laura Glazer and Jennifer "JJ" Jones

Original commission: Harrell Fletcher, Portland State University Art and Social Practice MFA program

Artist talk host: Tara Johnson-Medinger, POW Film Fest and POWGirls

Stamp illustrator: Shelbie Loomis

Special thank you to The Clinton Street Theater, Martine Arenella, Rebekah Bellingham of Vein of Gold, Christopher Branson, Kristen Gayle Castagna, Aaron Colter, Niko Courtelis, John Cox, Harrell Fletcher, Mykle Hansen, Polly Hatfield, Hollywood Theatre, I-5 Cinemabound Podcast with Rob Patrick and Megan Hattie Stahl, Independent Publishing Resource Center, Tara Johnson-Medinger, Ethan Kroll, Claudia Meza, Shelbie Loomis, Outlet, The Portland Stamp Company, Portland State University Art and Social Practice MFA Program, Conner Reed, Jordan Rosenblum, Seizure Palace Screen Printing, Emma Swartz, Mark Swartz, Nico Swartz, James Webb, and Agnès Varda and family.

PICTURES, LINKS, AND MORE ON OUR WEBSITE: www.agnesvardaforever.com

FOLLOW THE PROJECT ON INSTAGRAM: @helloprettycity #agnesvardaforever

<sup>1</sup> Other projects by students in the MFA program included: buying candy for an entire elementary school; retroactively compensating for a minute of building Black excellence; taking a nostalgic driving tour around Bed Stuy, Brooklyn; and paying an anonymous woman surfer to go surfing for a week. To read more about the assignment, visit: psusocialpractice.org/journal.

#### **FESTIVAL TEASERS**



Two real hours with Cléo as she worries, celebrates, sings, gets dressed, buys hats, and walks with a wonderful stranger. (1962)

Thursday, August 19 7:00 PM

# LIONS LOVES)

When Agnès came to New York, Andy Warhol introduced her to his muse, Viva. Who better to star in this ménage à trois set during the 1968 summer of love and turmoil? (1970)

Sunday, August 22 7:00 PM

# One sings, doesn't

Birth control, abortion, motherhood, love, freedom. Tough subjects. Let's sing it out! (1977)

Tuesday, August 24 7:00 PM



# VACABONS

"We all have inside ourselves a woman who walks alone on the road. In all women there is something in revolt that is not expressed."
(Quote from Agnès while shooting this movie in 1985.)

Saturday, August 28 7:00 PM

.......



Agnès' signature documentary style focused on what society throws away and those who save it. (2000)

Tuesday, August 31 7:00 PM



**AGNÈS VARDA FOREVER WORD SEEK** 

Ε S S Ε Ε Ε Ε 0 R Ε C G S М R Α R Ι S М 0 0 R В N S 0 Ι Ι Ι R 0 Ε Υ Т S R Т Ε S N 0 L Α Ι 0 S Ε Н C Ε В R Н Ε S C S Ρ U R Ρ Т 0 L Ε Α т Ε Ι Ε U Ι М Ε 0 E М Α Т н Ιl М Т Ε Ι C Ι R Α Ι N Α L 0 Т Α Т 0 Ε S J G G т R Ε 0 0 C В E D Ι R E C Т 0 Α 0 S Ε L R Ι Ε D U 0 C J S 0

BEACHES
BROOM
CATS
CINECRITURE
CINE TAMARIS
CLEO
CLINTON STREET
DIRECTOR
DOCUMENTARY
FACES PLACES
FEMINIST
FOREVER
GLEANERS

JACQUES DEMY
LIONS LOVE
MATHIEU
NOUVELLE VAGUE
ONE SINGS
PARIS
PHOTOGRAPHER
PORTLAND
POTATOES
PURPLE
ROSALIE
RUE DAGUERRE
VAGABOND

#### WHERE WE STREAM FILMS BY AGNÈS VARDA:

Kanopy

Via Multnomah County library account. Free!

Criterion Collection

Free 14-day trial, \$10.99/mo after that.

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Tote Bag \$19.99



Order shirts and bags online! Scan the above code or go to: www.etsy.com/shop/helloprettycity



Youth T-Shirt

\$15.99

Screenprinted Poster (11" x 17") \$15.00

Available through the Clinton Street Theater

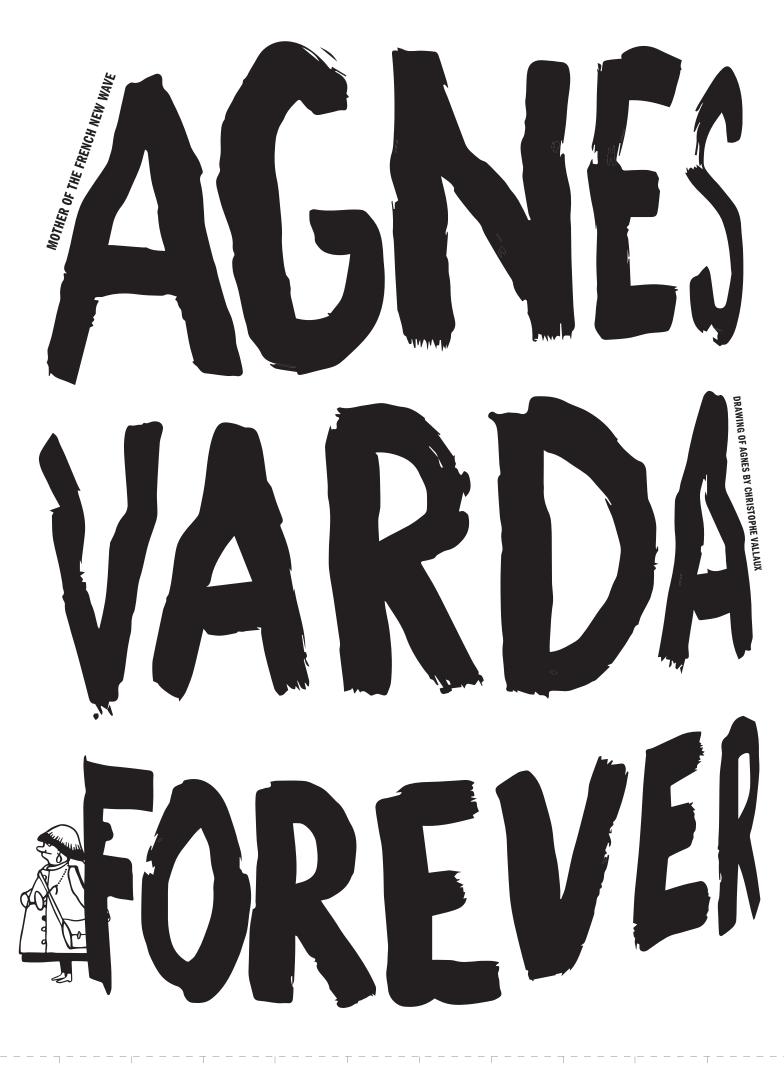




Poster Stamp Sheet With Artwork by Shelbie Loomis (5.5" x 8.5") \$10.00 Proceeds benefit POWGirls

Order online! Scan the above code or go to: www.buyolympia.com





**AGNES VARDA'S** (SINGIN' HIPPIES)

THE OTHER DOESN'T

**AGNES VARDA'S** 

OF AGNES THE BEACHES

(HAPPY 80TH BDAY AGNES!)

**AGNES VARDA'S JACQUOT DE NANTES** 

(HOW A KID BECOMES A FILMMAKER)

**AGNES VARDA'S** 

(SEE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD WITH FRESH EYES) DAGUERRÉOTYPES

**AGNES VARDA'S** (YOU'LL WISH HE WAS YOUR UNCLE) **UNCLE YANCO** 

**AGNES VARDA'S** THE GLEANERS & I

(LET'S NOT WASTE FOOD OR HEART-SHAPED POTATOES!)

**AGNES VARDA'S** FACES PLACES

(OSCAR NOMINATED)

AGNES VARDA'S CLÉO FROM 5 TO 7 (LET'S WALK AND TALK)

**AGNES VARDA'S** 

(HEAVY BUT POIGNANT) VAGABOND

**AGNES VARDA'S** (FLY ON THE WALL DOC) BLACK PANTHERS

**AGNES VARDA'S** 

LA POINTE COURTE

(FIRST FILM OF THE FRENCH NEW WAVE!)





In The News

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Washingto

**CULTURE** 

### Admiring Agnes Varda forever through the beauty of street art









By Claudia Meza (OPB) Aug. 19, 2021 6 a.m.

Two Portland artists use street art to celebrate the work of an iconic French filmmaker.



Laura Glazer and Jennifer "J.J" Jones stand next to their poster for the Agnes Varda Forever Festival being held at the Clinton



#### "If we opened people up, we'd find landscapes." - Agnes Vardas

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Jennifer "JJ" Jones welcomed me into the sprawling backyard that she shares with a neighbor, "We moved in here in '98, and then our good friends bought the house next door to us. So we tore out the fence right away. There hasn't been a fence here since 1999," Jones says through a grin.

She offers me herbal iced tea while shooing away the clucking chickens gathering near my microphone. As a multimedia artist, Jones is used to dividing her attention. She was in the middle of explaining what inspired her latest project, "Agnes Varda Forever," before trailing off and running after the birds. "You guys, get out," she shouts. "Go somewhere else! Go take a dirt bath!" Jones returns huffing. "That's one of my many pastimes, chasing chickens."

Another one of her pastimes is sharing her admiration for the iconic late French filmmaker, <u>Agnes Varda</u>.

"What I love about Agnes is that she didn't follow any rules," Jones says. "She didn't go to film school. She watched some movies and thought: 'I can do it better than that.' Agnes is the only woman director from the French New Wave. She mixes fiction and documentary. So her films are unlike other people's films."

Varda is known for capturing the quiet beauty of ordinary life.

She was only 25 years old when she helped kickstart a mid-century movement that broke all the rules of conventional filmmaking and cleared the way for our modern-day cinema. The French New Wave haphazardly strapped cameras to cars, preferred character studies to plots, favored non-actors for the leads and embraced mistakes through the final edit.

Agnès Varda: The Life, The Art, The Legend



Never officially part of the boys club, Varda's first film, "La Pointe Courte," came fully formed in the same ethos and style that the mold-breaking group adopted, nearly five

years before any of their most famous (Truffaut, Godard) debuted a film.

Film scholars widely credit Varda as "the mother of the French New Wave." At only 30 years old, Varda already had film publications crowning her the "grandmother of the French New Wave." Varda has firmly pointed out she is only four years older than its youngest member. Mother, it became.

During the pandemic lockdown, Jennifer JJ Jones watched a different movie every day with her son, "We watched some Agnes movies and just talked all day about how great she was."

A filmmaker's filmmaker, directors like <u>Martin Scorcese consider Varda "one of the gods of cinema"</u> but she never found commercial success. "I didn't have a career," she's been known to say, "I made films. It's very different."

"And we said, 'We should just plaster her name all over town and make everybody know who she is!' My son said, 'We should say Agnes f—g Varda. We should paint it on a wall.' And I said, 'You know, maybe we could make it a little more friendly."

Switching out one F-word for another, Jones walked down the block and painted the words "Agnes Varda Forever" on a telephone pole.









The original pole Jennifer "JJ" Jones painted the now eponymous name of the street art project and film festival, Agnes Varda Forever.

Laura Glazer

A few days later Laura Glazer, a friend of Jones, drove by and spotted the message.

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"I turned the car around and photographed it," Glazer says. "Later in the evening, I emailed JJ, 'Hey, someone loves Agnes Varda as much as you and I do!' And then she wrote back, 'Oh my gosh, I painted that!' And my head just exploded at the serendipity."

#### "Chance has always been my best assistant." - Agnes Varda

Glazer is a graduate student studying Art and Social Practice at Portland State University. This past spring for a class assignment, she was given \$100 by her professor and told to commission someone to do something.

"So I commissioned JJ to continue the project," Glazer says.

500 copies later, brightly colored posters with the message "Agnes Varda Forever" popped up all over Portland. At the bottom were pull tabs with titles from their favorite Varda films.

"We all see things on posters and think, 'Oh, that's great. I'm going to do that." Jones says. "And then by the time you get home, you've forgotten all about it."







A pull-tab from an Agnes Varda Forever poster that includes the name and a short description of the film. Laura Glazer

These public love notes for Varda quickly became an <u>Instagram hashtag</u>. Meanwhile, Laura kept a close eye on her class assignment.

"As the project was growing we were tracking the number of Google searches for the term 'Agnes Varda,' and we could see that increasing in this region for that period of time," Glazer says.

Glazer also made Jones' poster a downloadable PDF on <u>agnesvardaforever.com</u>. Replicas soon began popping up in Los Angeles, Chicago, NYC, Washington DC — even Laredo, Texas. Word of the posters eventually reached France where Agnes' daughter, Rosalie, received the news enthusiastically.

"Rosalie comments on our Instagram stories and posts. And recently we had a few messages back and forth with her in which she gave us her mailing address, so we can mail some posters to her," Glazer says.





An Agnes Varda Forever poster attached to a utility pole in downtown Portland, Oregon. Agnes Varda Forever is an ongoing street art project by Jennifer "JJ" Jones and Laura Glazer that celebrates the cinematic works of the late French filmmaker. Laura Glazer

"In my films, I always wanted to make people see deeply. I don't want to show things, but to give people the desire to see" - Agnes Varda

But Varda's kin isn't the only enthusiastic poster supporters.

"One day we got an email from one of the programmers at the Clinton Street [Theatre], who said, 'Inspired by your project, we'd like to do a film festival and we'd like to collaborate with you on it. We are over the moon, so excited!" Jones says.

Each time she puts up a poster, Jones sees it as a tiny performance. A chance interaction between her environment and anybody watching.

"At first, I tried to be really sneaky because a lot of people consider it garbage or graffiti and they don't want it," Jones says. "Then as I did it, I got bolder and I just walked right up in front of the line at "Salt & Straw" and put that poster right up there. I don't want to be so bold as to say it's something that Agnes would do, but it is certainly in the vein of what she's all about. Finding delight in everyday mundanity on the street, on a phone pole, being surprised, advocating for art everywhere. I think it's all something that she would appreciate."





Jennifer "JJ" Jones stands in the background of diorama she made in celebration of the Agnes Varda Forever film festival being held at the Clinton Street Theater in Portland, Ore.

Claudia Meza / OPB

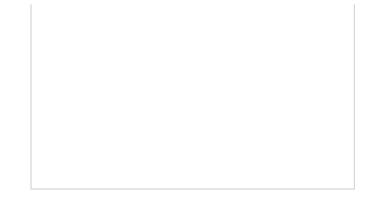
# The "Agnes Varda Forever" festival runs from <u>Aug 19th - 31st at the Clinton</u> <u>Street Theater</u>.

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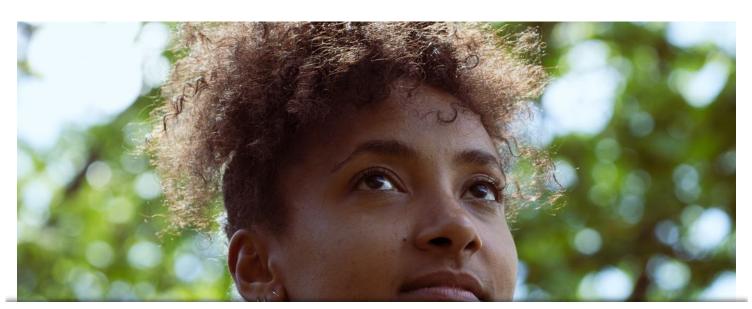




#### Portland's first gay rights march

With all the fun and celebration surrounding Gay Pride events, it might be less common for most people to think about the decades of struggle. One of Oregon's leading civil rights speaks with us about the wins and losses she sees throughout her years of fighting for LGBTQ+ rights.

June 12, 2021







## Esperanza Spalding's newest project: a sanctuary for artists of color

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A \$100 PROJECT BY LAURA GLAZER AND JENNIFER "JJ" JONES COMMISSIONED BY HARRELL FLETCHER AS PART OF THE ART AND SOCIAL PRACTICE MFA PROGRAM AT PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY



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Stamp illustrator: Shelbie Loomis

Picture Show writing and performance: Brandi Haile Special thank you to The Clinton Street Theater, Martine Arenella, Rebekah Bellingham of Vein of Gold, Christopher Branson, Kristen Gayle Castagna, Aaron Colter, Niko Courtelis, John Cox, Harrell Fletcher, Mykle Hansen, Polly Hatfield, Hollywood Theatre, I-5 Cinemabound Podcast with Rob Patrick and Megan Hattie Stahl, Independent Publishing Resource Center, Tara Johnson-Medinger, Ethan Kroll, Claudia Meza, Shelbie Loomis, Outlet, The Portland Stamp Company, Portland State University Art and Social Practice MFA Program, Conner Reed, Jordan Rosenblum, Seizure Palace Screen Printing, Emma Swartz, Mark Swartz, Nico Swartz, James Webb, and Agnès Varda's family.

PICTURES, LINKS, AND MORE ON OUR WEBSITE: www.agnesvardaforever.com

FOLLOW THE PROJECT ON INSTAGRAM: @helloprettyc<u>ity</u> #agne<u>svardaforever</u>

WRITE TO US! PO Box 11442, Portland, OR 97211



#### PICTURE SHOW

#### Lyrics and song by Brandi Haile

A few times our eyes have met. No words have been exchanged yet. You've got a face I can't forget & I want a life with no regrets.

So many people come and go.
Do you mind if I hang a sign on your shop window?
I want the whole world to know
'bout the movie playing the picture show
the movie playing the picture show
the movie playing the picture show
down the road
tonight.

I'm not the type to make a stink or tell nobody what to think. Life goes fast, gone in a blink. I can drag a horse to water but can't make him drink.

This is my second rodeo.
This time I don't wanna go solo.
I want the whole world to know
'bout the movie playing the picture show
the movie playing the picture show
the movie playing the picture show
down the road
tonight.

Some may call it happenstance, a stranger becomes an acquaintance. We fall in step, we share a glance, our cadence may become a dance.

Like a good song playing loud on the radio, like a love letter blasting out your shop window, singing "Hello pretty city, I want you to know 'bout the movie playing the picture show the movie playing the picture show the movie playing the picture show all aglow tonight

...the marquee is bright."

THIS SONG WAS INSPIRED BY THE AGNÈS VARDA FOREVER PROJECT AND THE COLLABORATION BETWEEN LAURA GLAZER AND JENNIFER "JJ" JONES

# THE FOREVER SHOP





SCAN ME



Tote Bag \$19.99



PORTRAITS OF AGNES VARDA BY SHELBIE LOOMIS!



Stamp Sheet \$10.00 (Proceeds benefit POWGirls)

### **WATCH A MOVIE**

### **BY AGNÈS VARDA!**

LIONS LOVE

Two real hours with Cléo as she worries, celebrates, sings, gets dressed, buys hats, and walks with a wonderful stranger. (1962)

When Agnès came to New York, Andy Warhol introduced her to his muse, Viva. Who better to star in this ménage à trois set during the 1968 summer of love and turmoil? (1970)

# The affect doesn't

Birth control, abortion, motherhood, love, freedom. Tough subjects. Let's sing it out! (1977)



STREAM HER FILMS: Kanopy (via Multnomah County library account. Free!)

Criterion Channel (Free 14-day trial, \$10.99/mo after that.)

"We all have inside ourselves a woman who walks alone on the road. In all women there is something in revolt that is not expressed." (Quote from Agnès while shooting this movie in 1985.)

Agnès' signature documentary style focused on what society throws away and those who save it. (2000)

