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Touchstone Center's April Newsletter

April 2014

Greetings,

As part of the exhibition, [*Art Inspires Art: How Does a Bird Imagine? What Does a Tree Know?*](#) at the Brooklyn Children's Museum, I am pleased to share a conversation with Marcos Stafne about the exhibit and the history of the Touchstone Center. You can view the video [here](#). The exhibition continues until August 31st as part of the Center's 45th Anniversary.

Another exhibition, *The Making of Worlds: View from Within* at the Abrons Art Center of the Henry Street Settlement, which took place during the Touchstone Center's 25th Anniversary, was also the impetus for one of the Center's first original videos, [*To Make A World*](#). Based on my poem, and filmed and edited by Betsy Newman, the video uses children's original artwork to convey both the spirit and intent of the Center's arts and education residency in 1994. Within three classrooms at PS 97 (Manhattan), children explored, through a variety of art forms, the varied and evolving worlds of the sea, sky and earth. Betsy Newman was a teaching artist with the Center for a number of years and is now a documentary film producer for South Carolina ETV. Her most recent documentary is [*Roots in the River: The Story of Congaree National Park*](#).

And since it is spring, we thought you might enjoy the ever-creative world of a tree, through the video [*A Tree Lives*](#). Made by Geoffrey Jones, with art by Noah Baen and music by Harry Mann. *A Tree Lives* was especially written for children in 2006 as part of the Center's *Tree of Knowing Project*, an arts and education residency at the East Village Community School, in order to bring us closer to the knowing – and perhaps imagining, that is a tree.

Best,

Richard

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