

# AIRIE x PAMM: Getting the Water Right

## *Event Description*

*Join us for an unprecedented discussion about the role culture and arts can play with environmental issues. The talk will include Everglades National Park Superintendent Pedro Ramos, Everglades Foundation biologist Stephen Davis, UCLA anthropologist Jessica Cattelino, and AIRIE artists Adam Nadel and Elisabeth Condon, moderated by Deborah Mitchell. Introduction by journalist Bill Maxwell.*

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### **Adam Nadel, Artist**

Nadel is an internationally known photographer and curator. He has designed, produced and toured his photographic exhibitions domestically and internationally. His last major exhibition, *Malaria: blood, sweat and tears*, was opened at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, NY by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in 2010 and then toured 4 continents with 10 venues such as The Field Museum of Natural History (Chicago) and Hotel de Ville (Paris, FR).

### **Jessica Cattelino, Anthropologist**

Jessica Cattelino is a cultural anthropologist and Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). She co-conceptualized the exhibition with Nadel and collaborates on captions and text panels. Author of the prize-winning ethnography "High Stakes: Florida Seminole Gaming and Sovereignty" (2008, Duke University Press) and numerous scholarly articles about South Florida, Cattelino returned to the

region in 2012 to conduct ethnographic research on the human stories of the Everglades. Research was funded by the National Science Foundation, the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, and a writing grant from the Howard Foundation. Cattelino has worked in web content development for the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian and volunteered in the archives of the Seminole Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum. An educator, Cattelino has given public talks about the Everglades for the Florida Humanities Council, the prestigious Morgan Lecture, the Clewiston Museum, and at numerous universities and conferences.

### **Stephen Davis, Wetland Ecologist**

Stephen E. Davis III, Ph.D., a native of Ohio, earned a PhD from Florida International University in 1999 with research in Florida Bay and the coastal Everglades. In his role as the Everglades Foundation's Ecologist, Davis draws upon his 20+ years of Everglades research experience and 10 years of experience as professor of wetland ecology at Texas A&M University. Among his Foundation duties, Davis leads science efforts focused on Everglades restoration planning, ecological forecasting of restoration scenarios, and impacts of sea-level rise.

### **Pedro Ramos, Everglades National Park Superintendent**

Pedro Ramos began his Federal career as a student trainee with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Rural Development, formerly Farmers Home Administration, in the State of Vermont. He served as a community development manager in the U.S. Virgin Islands until 1997, when he returned to Vermont to serve as the director for administration for the states of Vermont, New Hampshire, and the territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands. In 2001, Ramos transferred to the National Park Service (NPS) as administrative officer at Big Cypress National Preserve. In 2005, he was named deputy superintendent there, and was appointed superintendent in 2009. Throughout the years, Ramos devoted much of his time to establishing strong community relations with the many park partners in south Florida, and working to balance the multi-use Congressional mandate

at the preserve.

### **Bill Maxwell, AIRIE Journalist**

Bill Maxwell was born into a migrant farm working family in Florida. He attended Wiley College, Bethune-Cookman College, then earned a full fellowship to the University of Chicago for his masters. After serving in Vietnam as a U.S. Marine, he taught English, writing and journalism at 15 different college institutions. Currently, he is a Tampa Bay Times correspondent focused on topics such as social injustice, migrant labor, race, environmental abuses, intolerance issues, public education and literacy. His succinct writing and logic lay clear many complex and controversial issues

### **Elisabeth Condon, AIRIE Artist**

Elisabeth Condon is a painter, traveler and Chinese scroll aficionado, whose work re-interprets Chinese principles of balance for an information-saturated world. Condon was selected as the artist for the inaugural Knight Arts Challenge sponsored solo exhibition at the AIRIE Nest, opening on April 30th. She received the 2015 New York Pulse Prize for the body of work she created during a six-month residency at the Swatch Art Peace Hotel Shanghai in 2014.

### **Deborah Mitchell, AIRIE Director/Moderator**

Deborah Mitchell is a Canadian artist and curator based in Miami Beach. Her work has explored man's precarious relationship with nature since 2006. The works seek to expose natural wonders while igniting general curiosity for our cultural resources. As an extension of her art practice, she has taught adjunct in an elementary school science lab, and directs AIRIE, Inc., the Artists in Residence in Everglades, which has resulted in numerous community outreach projects. Her work was published in Dr. Laura Ogden's book "Swamplife," by Minnesota Press in 2011, and will be seen in her forthcoming project entitled "The Everglades Book," 2017.