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**The American Repertory Theater  
Partners with Local Artists to Explore  
“Submerged: Boston Underwater”  
Lobby Experience to Feature PastPort Interactive**

*Cambridge, Mass.* — The **American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.)** is pleased to partner with local artists on its upcoming lobby exhibit inspired by the work on stage. Curated by Gretjen Helene and co-designed by Johnathan Carr, the Lobby Experience for *The Last Two People On Earth: An Apocalyptic Vaudeville* features an interactive installation created by new media artists Cindy Sherman Bishop and Martha Bourne that imagines the future of Boston as sea levels rise. The work will be on display during the run of the production in the A.R.T.’s West Lobby from May 12 – May 31.

PastPort Interactive functions as a virtual time-traveling device, leveraging digital media and livestreaming video to set viewers in places both past, present and future. Originally exhibited at AMP Gallery in Provincetown and MassArt, PastPort Interactive featured curated historical images. Inspired by the themes of *The Last Two People On Earth: An Apocalyptic Vaudeville* and the work of artist and researcher Nickolay Lamm, curator Gretjen Helene and filmmaker Johnathan Carr approached Bourne and Bishop to adapt their piece to explore iconic locations in Boston that would be affected by rising sea levels as predicted for the coming centuries.

Functioning as a futuristic photo booth, PastPort uses an Xbox Kinect 3D camera to place participants’ likenesses into a digitally manipulated image of submerged popular locales. Once the image is set, the viewer can publish the image on Flickr where it can be viewed alongside pictures taken in previous installations. More information about PastPort Interactive can be found at [www.pastportinteractive.com](http://www.pastportinteractive.com)

The exhibit will be open on May 17 from 4 PM – 6 PM for the general public. On all other dates, a ticket to *The Last Two People on Earth: An Apocalyptic Vaudeville* is required for entrance. For more information, visit [AmericanRepertoryTheater.org](http://AmericanRepertoryTheater.org).

**About the Artists**

**Cindy Sherman Bishop** is a visual artist, filmmaker, and interactive developer. Her work ranges from creating new tools for artistic expression to immersive, interactive environments with full-body interaction. She is an eager time-traveler and seeks to bring the past into the present in a tangible, immersive way. [www.cindyshermanbishop.com](http://www.cindyshermanbishop.com)

**Martha Bourne** is a singer/songwriter and Berklee-trained film composer whose work has been on television and in independent film for over a decade. She is also a sound recordist for film, video and radio and loves all things audio. She is currently expanding her horizons by designing interactive sound and music. [www.marthabournemusic.com](http://www.marthabournemusic.com)

**Johnathan Carr** is a filmmaker, media designer, and native of Greater Boston. In addition to his work with the A.R.T., Johnathan works with numerous performing arts organizations and other institutions throughout the area. He also organizes the Boston chapter of StoryCode, a movement to connect creators of immersive and interactive storytelling.

**Gretjen Helene** is a fine art photographer and artist who collaborates with new media artists and mixed media sculpture work. A regular photographer for the A.R.T., this is Gretjen’s first curatorial collaboration at the theater, harnessing the work of several artists and crafting complimentary mixed media works to form an informative and interactive experience based on the A.R.T.’s current production. [www.GretjenHelene.com](http://www.GretjenHelene.com)

## ABOUT THE A.R.T.

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The **American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.)** at Harvard University is a leading force in the American theater, producing groundbreaking work in Cambridge and beyond. The A.R.T. was founded in 1980 by Robert Brustein, who served as Artistic Director until 2002, when Robert Woodruff succeeded him. Diane Paulus began her tenure as Artistic Director in 2008. Under her leadership, the A.R.T. seeks to expand the boundaries of theater by programming events that immerse audiences in transformative theatrical experiences.

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Throughout its history, the A.R.T. has been honored with many distinguished awards, including the Tony Award for Best New Play for *All the Way* (2014); consecutive Tony Awards for Best Revival of a Musical for *Pippin* (2013) and *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess* (2012), both of which Paulus directed; a Pulitzer Prize; a Jujamcyn Prize for outstanding contribution to the development of creative talent; the Tony Award for Best Regional Theater; and numerous Elliot Norton and IRNE Awards.

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The A.R.T. collaborates with artists around the world to develop and create work in new ways. It is currently engaged in a number of multi-year projects, including the Civil War Project, an initiative that culminated in the staging of new work in the 2014/15 Season. Under Paulus's leadership, the A.R.T.'s club theater, OBERON, has been an incubator for local and emerging artists and has attracted national attention for its innovative programming and business models.

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As the professional theater on the campus of Harvard University, the A.R.T. catalyzes discourse, interdisciplinary collaboration, and creative exchange among a wide range of academic departments, institutions, students, and faculty members, acting as a conduit between its community of artists and the university. A.R.T. artists also teach undergraduate courses in directing, dramatic literature, acting, voice, design, and dramaturgy. The A.R.T. Institute for Advanced Theater Training offers graduate-level training in acting, dramaturgy, and voice.

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Dedicated to making great theater accessible, the A.R.T. actively engages community members and local students annually in project-based partnerships, workshops, conversations with artists, and other enrichment activities both at the theater and across the Greater Boston area.

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Through all of these initiatives, the A.R.T. is dedicated to producing world-class performances in which the audience is central to the theatrical experience. For further information and tickets to *The Last Two People on Earth: An Apocalyptic Vaudeville*, visit [AmericanRepertoryTheater.org](http://AmericanRepertoryTheater.org)

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