

## ARTIVISM ZINE

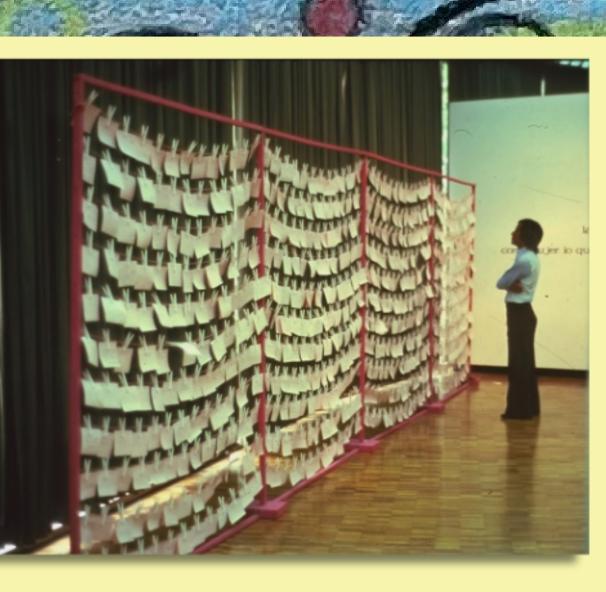
## VOL.2 ISSUE 5 MAY 2023

A monthly newsletter highlighting and connecting initiatives/projects that transform society through the power of art

## EL TENDEDERO

## THE SONIC BIOGRAPHY

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In 1978, Monica Mayer presented The Clothesline installation in

Micah Oelze is professor of Latin American history at Adelphi University, while simultaneously operating as musicologist and seven-string guitarist. He will use the Artivist Award sponsored by Sing for Hope to develop a unique concertconversation to perform across greater New York over the next three years. This award will pay for Oelze to undertake a weeklong intensive at Smith College in June 2023 working with respected musicologist and Brazilian guitarist luri Bittar. That experience will allow Oelze to build on his own seven years of playing the historic genre of Brazilian popular music known as choro. Once further funds are secured, Oelze will then take a research trip to Rio de Janeiro for archival

the Museo de Arte Moderno, Mexico. The womens' answers from all over Mexico were hung clothesline-style. These responses were gathered after Mayer invited women to write on small pink slips of paper what they disliked the most of their city. Most women shared their sexual harassment experiences. Over the past 16 years Monica Mayer has activated the piece over 50 times around the world: Mexico, Spain, Italy, Ireland, India, Japan, Colombia, Chile and the United States. In addition to these installations, she also conducted a workshop for local artists/activists to determine the questions for their own Clothesline, always relating to violence against women. For several years, some of these participants continued their Clothesline in their localities. Others have used the answers to change laws and protocols. The piece has also spread far beyond her reach, and is used in schools as a pedagogical tool and for activism, particularly among young women students

who use it to denounce aggressors. She donated the piece to five museums, including the National Museum of Women in the Arts and Newfields in the United States.

Thanks to the Artivist Award sponsored by Sing for Hope, over the next few months Mayer will be able to translate some of the blog texts on the different versions of The Clothesline. The intention is that the piece becomes known in more countries and can be used by more women around the world. This project is an example of a very early feminist art piece that has managed to keep alive, continue to grow and transform for over is an exam

https://www.el-tendedero.pintomiraya.com/



information on the great Afro-Brazilian choro composer Alfredo da Rocha "Pixinguinha" Viana, who pioneered the technique of popular Brazilian counterpoint.



The final result will be a presentation that blends biographical vignettes with music performance close-ups, helping audience members first enjoy the music but then zoom in and recognize how certain melodies and chord progressions can help fill in gaps in the written historical record. In this case, those melodies testify to forgotten and ignored portions of one of the most resonant among Brazil's marginalized voices.

