



THERE IS HOPE WHILE THERE IS...

Eamon Durkan | 22 Aug 2020

Scott Hannan and Marisa Manriquez, co-creators of this decentralized endeavor, gather each week outside, beneath their hand-sewn banner depicting three waving lines rising up from a simple bowl. Beside them, a wooden sign hangs. It reads, "SOUP." The gathering is a community event celebrating the delights of simple living, a gift or at least a gift economy, from the warm hearts and hands of these two long time cooks. It is most aptly described as, "Some. Ordinary. Unconventional. People."

COMMUNITY BUILDING

SOUP comes at a time when venues all around are closing, people are polarizing and certainty is nowhere to be found. It comes as a weekly convening; a small communion offered to those who regularly attend and a surprise delight the unexpected passer-by. As well, it is a glimpse into the world that Scott and Mari are visioning for: one that is explicated by the free-exchange of ideas, kindly exchanges between old friends, and a fair dose of poetry (that often veers into the visionary).

SOUP

This community offering is a simple time of connection every Thursday between the evening hours of 5-7pm. It is a chance to co-create a world I think we'd all like to see a bit more of these days.





COMMUNITY BUILDING

All that and I haven't even gotten to the entrée: soup's on the menu! For this fresh-and-ready offering, "soup" is perhaps not the right word. What Scott and Mari cook is an artful mélange, a delightful feat of culinary sensitivity crafted from organic veggies, legumes and herbs sourced from local farms in Marin County. These ingredients are entreated (so it seems to me) into a wonderful panoply of different soups: *Iberian Summer*, *California Kitchari* and *Light Summer Stew*, to name a few. Until very recently Scott and Mari were Core Cooks at Spirit Rock Meditation Center, a venue currently closed for the foreseeable future.

THE FUTURE

Though the future is uncertain, unsteady and un-fortellable, there is reason to keep heart, reason to keep our heads above water. There is hope while there is....SOUP.

