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Subject: Projects We Love: Pop Rocks

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DECEMBER 29, 2011

Ring in the new year with a graphic novel that's equal parts history book and classic potboiler, the sweetest fresh fruit pops we've ever seen, and an immersive opera from the Italian countryside.



Top of the pops

It's not just the irresistible flavors, like "Cherry Bomb" and "Raspberry Flash," that make Little Bee Pops so likable — it's also the adorable mother-daughter team who create them. Their honey-sweetened, handmade popsicles use all-local ingredients, so you can eat well and feel good about it. Certified awesome.

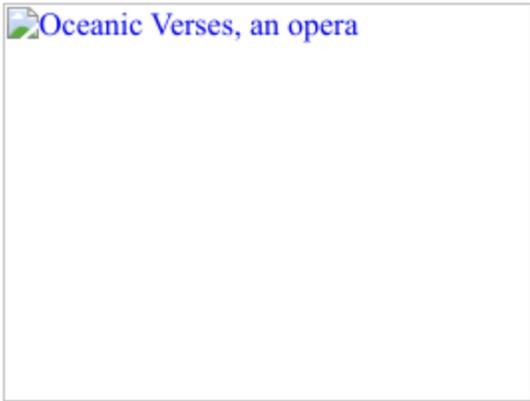
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Little Bee Pops

by Liz Snyder

 Category Food

 Location Mountain View, CA



[Oceanic Verses, an opera](#)

by Paola Prestini

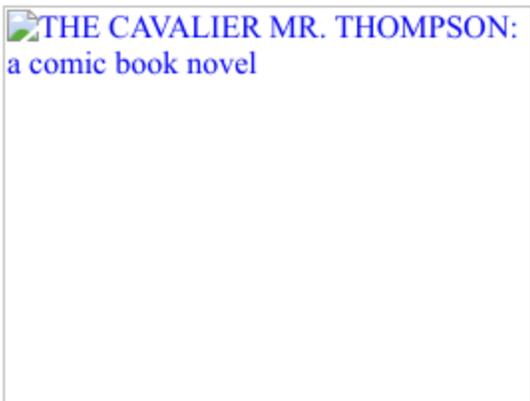
 Category Classical Music

 Location Washington, DC

Lost at sea

Originally commissioned by Carnegie Hall, Paola Prestini's *Oceanic Verses* is a multimedia opera that explores the rich cultural history of rural Italy. Pieced together from ancient songs and found poetry researched by Prestini herself and presented in front of an immersive, ultra-wide screen, the performance offers an inspiring portrait of a complex ethnic heritage.

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[THE CAVALIER MR. THOMPSON: a comic book novel](#)

by Rich Tommaso

 Category Comics

 Location Atlanta, GA

Partners in crime

Although *The Cavalier Mr. Thompson* claims to be loosely based on the life and works of hard-boiled crime writer Jim Thompson, creator Rich Tommaso admits that much of the inspiration for his story came from the people, personality types, and — eek! — questionable motives in his own life. Set in the early 1900s, Tommaso's signature use of one color on black and white brings the old American West to life with understated beauty.

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