

## A BLADE OF GRASS ASSEMBLY SPRING 2019 HOSTS

### ABOUT THE FACILITATORS

**Gabrielle Bendiner-Viani** is an urbanist, curator, and artist pioneering public arts and urban research for community engagement, and is author of [Contested City: Art and Public History as Mediation at New York's Seward Park Urban Renewal Area](#). She is principal of the design and research studio [Buscada](#) and teaches urban studies and public art at The New School. Gabrielle was Post-doctoral Fellow in Visual Culture at the International Center of Photography and holds a PhD in environmental psychology from the Graduate Center, CUNY. She regularly consults with arts and culture organizations on community and art engagements and strategic visioning. Her creative practice has been shown at institutions including MIT, the Brooklyn Public Library, the Center for Architecture, the Sheila C. Johnson Design Center, and Tate Britain. Her work on cities, culture and photography has appeared in journals including *Visual Studies*, *Urban Omnibus*, *Space and Culture*, *Society & Space*, and *Buildings & Landscapes*.

**Edwin "Tito" Delgado** is a former site resident of the Seward Park Urban Renewal Area and a long-time tenants' rights activist, inspired by his experiences of displacement and homesteading at SPURA. He is a member of the Seward Park Area Redevelopment Coalition and the Cooper Square Committee.

**Elsa Pereira** is a multidisciplinary real estate development professional with the entrepreneurial spirit of an urban planner and the results-oriented focus of a business strategist. She is the Managing Director of Operations at Grand Street Settlement, one of New York City's oldest settlement houses, where she oversees the capital projects, finance, IT, and facilities departments, and generally ensures the smooth business operations of the organization. Elsa has Master's degrees in Urban Planning and Environmental Policy from the University of Michigan, and a Bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia. She is a dual citizen of the US and the EU, and speaks fluent English, Dutch, and French.

See more about the Spring 2019 Assembly [here](#)