

# Contemporary Arts Museum Houston

5216 Montrose Boulevard  
Houston, Texas 77006  
CAMH.ORG | @camhouston

Press Release

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Exhibition

## *Six Scenes From Our Future*

October 27, 2023–March 17, 2024



Mel Chin, *Convo Pool*, 2016/2023. Wood, upholstery fabric, hardware, vinyl, lights, and plants. Installation view of *TOTAL PROOF: The GALA Committee 1995-1997* at Red Bull Arts New York, 2016. Photo by Lance Brewer. Image and work courtesy the artist.

HOUSTON, TX (August 30, 2023) – Contemporary Arts Museum Houston (CAMH) is excited to announce its newest exhibition, *Six Scenes From Our Future*, which will be staged in celebration of the Museum’s 75th anniversary. *Six Scenes From Our Future* features the work of six artists responding to CAMH’s inaugural exhibition, *This Is Contemporary Art* (1948). The exhibition will include new commissions alongside existing works from Mel Chin, JooYoung Choi, Leslie Hewitt, Lisa Lapinski, Jill Magid, and Leslie Martinez.

CAMH’s first show proposed a radically interdisciplinary approach to the presentation of art within a Museum. Displaying over 150 functional household objects alongside artworks—like a Jacob Lawrence painting alongside a cheese slicer, or an Alexander Calder *Mobile* with Eames screens and a Sunbeam coffeemaker—the exhibition challenged hierarchies between fine art and everyday design while merging museum and domestic contexts. *This Is Contemporary Art* set the stage for CAMH’s ever-unfolding ethos as a place for experimentation and play, while announcing the Museum as a forward-thinking space centered around a belief in the transformational power of art and

#SixScenes  
#ThisIsContemporaryArt  
#TrustArtists

### Press Contact

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Jill Magid, *The Proposal*, 2016. 2.02 carat, blue, uncut diamond with the micro-laser inscription “i am whole heartedly yours,” silver ring set, ring box, and documents. Image and work courtesy the artist and Labor.

artists. So, too, did the inaugural exhibition position artists as uniquely capable of addressing and reflecting upon a constantly changing world, asserting art and life as inseparable.

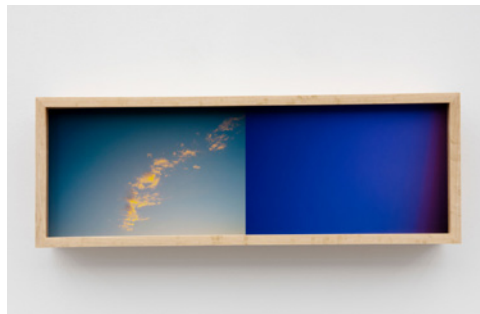
Several artists included in this exhibition turned to abstraction as a conceptual strategy to contend with history—abstraction of the body in the case of Leslie Martinez’s light fixtures and rethinking architecture in the case of Leslie Hewitt’s leaning wall fragment. Artists Mel Chin and JooYoung Choi each add playfulness through theatrical vignettes. Systems of display are central to Jill Magid’s multipart exploration of artistic legacy and Lisa Lapinski’s iconic department store scene. Each of these artists mine the curatorial framework from *This Is Contemporary Art*, looking at art in everyday life and extrapolating the different ways contemporary life and arts collide.

*Six Scenes From Our Future* extends CAMH’s longstanding trust in the visions and voices of living artists. Working across sculpture, photography, video, and painting, the six artists in this exhibition investigate CAMH’s history to inspire their work.

“It is thrilling that even in CAMH’s retrospective mode of reflecting on our upcoming anniversary milestone, we are harnessing a future-oriented methodology,” says CAMH Curator Patricia Restrepo. “We are entrusting our history, and in turn our future, in the hands of a group of wildly-inventive, materially-diverse, and inimitable artists who welcomed this invitation as an opportunity to stretch their practices. *Six Scenes From Our Future* honors our inaugural show’s demonstration that contemporary art and design are integral to living.”

The opening of *Six Scenes for Our Future* will also serve as the kickoff celebration for the diamond anniversary year, with a birthday party planned for Thursday, October 26, 2023.

“CAMH was founded by six artists and architects from Houston and we are proud to maintain their community-centric and boundary-pushing ethos 75 years later,” says CAMH Executive Director Hesse McGraw. “*Six Scenes From Our Future* invites local and innovative artists to once again envision the possibilities of contemporary art. This is only the beginning of what will be a landmark year for the Museum, where we continue to invent the future.”



Leslie Hewitt, *Daylight/Daylong 010*, 2022. Digital chromogenic print, 1/3 edition. 7 1/2 x 20 3/8 x 3 inches. Image courtesy Guillaume Ziccarelli. Artwork courtesy the Artist and Perrotin.

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Installation view of *This Is Contemporary Art* organized by Contemporary Arts Museum Houston (then Contemporary Arts Association) at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston, 1948. Photo: Frank Dolejska. Image courtesy Woodson Research Center Special Collections & Archives, Fondren Library at Rice University.

### **CAMH Mission**

Contemporary Arts Museum Houston presents extraordinary, thought-provoking arts programming and exhibitions to educate and inspire audiences nationally and internationally.

### **General Information**

Contemporary Arts Museum Houston is located at 5216 Montrose Boulevard, in the heart of Houston's Museum District.

### **Hours**

Wed 11AM-6PM  
Thu 11AM-9PM  
Fri 11AM-6PM  
Sat 11AM-6PM  
Sun 11AM-6PM

Admission is always free. For more information, visit CAMH.ORG or call 713.284.8250.

*Six Scenes From Our Future* provides an opportunity to honor CAMH's past while emphasizing the central role that artists play in envisioning its future.

*Six Scenes From Our Future* is organized by Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, and co-curated by Rebecca Matalon, Senior Curator, and Patricia Restrepo, Curator, with Ginevra Bria, 2022-23 Rice University Curatorial Fellow.

### **About Contemporary Arts Museum Houston**

Established in 1948 initially as the Contemporary Arts Association (CAA) by a group of six artists and architects, CAMH is one of the oldest non-collecting contemporary art museums in the country, and is internationally known for presenting pivotal and landmark work by artists recognized as the most important of the 20th and 21st centuries. CAMH's mandate is to be present, to connect artists and audiences through the urgent issues of our time, and to adventurously promote the catalytic possibilities of contemporary art. CAMH's programming, both in and beyond the Museum, is presented free to the public, and advocates for artists' essential role in society.

### **Support**

*Six Scenes From Our Future* has been made possible by the patrons, benefactors and donors to CAMH's Major Exhibition Fund: Chinhui Juhn and Eddie Allen, Louise Jamail, Sissy and Denny Kempner, Dillon Kyle and Sam Lesseter, MD Anderson Foundation, Rea Charitable Trust, The Sarofim Foundation, The Stolbun Family, Louisa Stude Sarofim, and Texas Commission on the Arts.

Contemporary Arts Museum Houston is funded in part by the City of Houston through Houston Arts Alliance.

