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**ALWAYS FRESH
ALWAYS FREE**

**The Contemporary Arts Museum Houston is pleased to present *Perspectives 176*
*Glen Fogel: With Me... You.***

Perspectives 176
Glen Fogel: With Me... You
October 15 – December 31, 2011

Opening Reception

Friday, October 14, 7-9PM

Artists/Scholars Talk: Glen Fogel and

Lia Gangitano

Saturday, October 15, 2PM



Glen Fogel, *With Me... You*, 2011. Video production still.
Courtesy the artist

HOUSTON, TX (October 3, 2011)—Glen Fogel’s room-filling video installation *With Me... You* is made up of five sequenced projections. Using the photography and display style of the Home Shopping Network as a visual starting point, Fogel embarked on a project to videotape all of the wedding rings in his family’s possession. Going back to his great grandmother’s ring that was stripped of its jewels, to the wedding rings of his parents and siblings, Fogel uses slow-moving two-axis turntables, razor-sharp HD video, and star filters to showcase the jewelry in his tightly edited work.

Fogel meticulously documented the development of the video project, including his requests for permission through email exchanges, recorded phone calls, and records of his travels to Colorado and California to obtain the rings. A key example of the documentation appears in the exhibition in the form of a handout—a letter Fogel sent to the FedEx claims department when his mother’s wedding ring, which he was attempting to return, was lost. “The ring is irreplaceable—the stones and band can be replaced, but the history cannot,” writes Fogel in his to-whom-it-may-concern grievance letter.

The political significance of the wedding ring has undergone major shifts during Fogel’s lifetime. By the date of his birth in 1977, the second wave of the feminist movement had liberated women from the

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either/or choice of a wedding band and, say, a job. During his adulthood, the ring has proven yet again to symbolize rights denied and granted, and for whom, with the intense struggle to end the discriminatory Defense of Marriage Act still being waged.

The ambient colorful space of *With Me... You* is fractured, every three minutes, by the somewhat humorous sound of an iPhone tone announcing a text message. The videos then go dark and the space is brightened by a harsh fluorescent light so that objects symbolizing love are jettisoned into an oversized realm of commodification and display.

The video installation is paired with paintings of enlarged love letters written to the artist. The icon of the ring in all its overwrought sentimentality becomes complicated by the impact of the artist's detailed revelations of his intimate relationships. *With Me... You* continues the artist's career-long inquiry into the intersection of personal drives and social rules—illuminating unstated sites for radical social experimentation in the wake of increasing alienation.

The exhibition is organized by PARTICIPANT INC, New York, where it was on view January 23 – February 27, 2011.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Glen Fogel was born in 1977 in Denver, Colorado, and lives and works in New York. He received an MFA from The Milton Avery School of Art at Bard College in 2010. His works have been exhibited nationally in venues such as The Kitchen, Sikkema Jenkins & Co., and White Columns all in New York, and internationally at Grimm Rosenfeld Gallery, Munich, Germany, and at the Torino GLBT Film Festival, Italy. Fogel's work was featured in the 2002 Whitney Biennial at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

All events are free and open to the public, and take place at the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston unless otherwise noted. For complete listings and current information, please check www.camh.org.

Artists/Scholars Talk: Glen Fogel and Lia Gangitano

Saturday, October 15, 2PM

Join us for a gallery walk-through of *Perspectives 176: Glen Fogel: With Me... You* with artist Glen Fogel and the exhibition's curator Lia Gangitano. Gangitano is the founder of PARTICIPANT INC, a not-for-profit art

space on NYC's Lower East Side. She was previously curator of Thread Waxing Space, NY, associate curator, The ICA, Boston, and curatorial advisor, P.S.1. She is the editor of the forthcoming anthology, *The Alternative to What? Thread Waxing Space and the 90s*.

Artists/Scholars Talk: Bill Arning **Thursday, December 15, 6:30PM**

Learn more about *Perspectives 176: Glen Fogel: With Me... You*. Join us for a gallery walk-through with Bill Arning, CAMH's Director.

PUBLICATION

Perspectives 176: Glen Fogel: With Me... You is accompanied by a catalogue, featuring an essay by guest curator Lia Gangitano, as well as color reproductions of exhibited work, and the artist's biography.

Perspectives catalogues are made possible by a grant from The Brown Foundation, Inc.

EXHIBITION SUPPORT

The *Perspectives* Series is made possible by major grants from Fayez Sarofim and by donors to the Museum's *Perspectives* Fund: Anonymous, Bright Star Productions Inc., Dillon Kyle Architecture, Heidi and David Gerger, Karol Kreymer and Robert J. Card, M.D., Kerry Inman and Denby Auble, Poppi Massey, Lauren Rottet, Leslie and Shannon Sasser in Honor of Lynn Herbert, William F. Stern, and 20K Group, LLC.

EDUCATION SUPPORT

The Museum receives support for its education programs from: Anonymous, Baker Hughes Foundation, Louise D. Jamail, John P. McGovern Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. I.H. Kempner III, Kinder Morgan Foundation, Leticia Loya, Andrew R. McFarland, M.D. Anderson Foundation, Marian and Speros Martel Foundation Endowment, Mrs. Louisa Stude Sarofim, Martha Claire Tompkins, and 20K Group, LLC.

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GENERAL SUPPORT

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United is the official airline of the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston.

CAMH MISSION

The Contemporary Arts Museum Houston is an idea and a place shaped by the present moment. The Museum exemplifies the dynamic relationship between contemporary art and contemporary society through its exhibitions, public and educational programs, and publications. The CAMH provides the physical and intellectual framework essential to the presentation, interpretation, and advancement of contemporary art; it is a vibrant forum for artists and all audiences, and for critical, scholarly, and public discourse.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

The Contemporary Arts Museum Houston is located at 5216 Montrose Boulevard, at the corner of Montrose and Bissonnet, in the heart of Houston's Museum District. Hours are Wednesday 11AM-7PM, Thursday 11AM-9PM, Friday 11AM-7PM, Saturday and Sunday 11AM-6PM. Admission is always free. For more information, visit www.camh.org or call 713 284 8250.