

Press Release

Exhibition

Cheryl Donegan: GRLZ + VEILS

January 19–March 31, 2019



Cheryl Donegan, *untitled_track_resist_double_different_reds* (detail), 2017. Hand-dyed, digitally printed cotton fabric. 74 x 40 inches. Image and work courtesy the artist and David Shelton Gallery, Houston, Texas.

#CherylDonegan
#atCAMH
@camhouston

Media Contact

For high-resolution images or media inquiries please contact:
Kent Michael Smith, Director of Communications and Marketing
ksmith@camh.org | 713.284.8255

HOUSTON, TX (November 28, 2018)—The Contemporary Arts Museum Houston (CAMH) is pleased to announce the upcoming exhibition *Cheryl Donegan: GRLZ + VEILS*. Organized in collaboration with Aspen Art Museum, Colorado, the exhibition marks the artist's first solo exhibition devoted predominantly to her paintings. CAMH will host a public opening reception on the evening of Friday, January 18, 2019 from 6:30–9PM, with the exhibition remaining on view through Sunday, March 31, 2019. As always, admission to CAMH is free.

Contemporary Arts Museum Houston

5216 Montrose Boulevard
Houston, Texas 77006
CAMH.ORG | #atCAMH

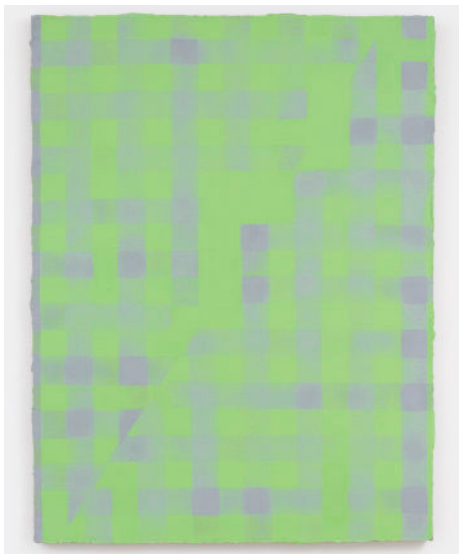
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Cheryl Donegan
Raster_Star_QTip, 2016
Hand-dyed cotton fabric
27 3/4 x 44 inches
Image and work courtesy the artist

Over the last decade, Cheryl Donegan has made paintings that are as irreverent and subversive as her widely-acclaimed political, feminist approaches to video. Similar in content to the performative work she created in the 1990s—which, today, is included in standard art history textbooks—her painterly practice is infused with an ironic eroticism, often time-based, and pointedly references the male-dominated history of Abstract Expressionism and action painting. Donegan’s newest highly conceptual painted and printed works continue her investigations into mark-making, beauty, seduction, fashion, and the nature of art.

Magnifying her process, Donegan’s abstract paintings highlight the studio as a space for discovery and experimentation as well as its relationship to the vivid streets of New York City. Her recent paintings—gleaned from debased images of consumer objects, shopping spaces, and humble patterns—employ digital appropriation and reveal her playful yet deceptively serious manner. For instance, Donegan has taken cell phone snapshots of the ubiquitous graffiti made by individuals that have scratched their tags into the collapsible grills of air-conditioner units. The resulting motif, both cosmic and quotidian, forms the basis of a new collection of garments, which will be on display in the exhibition. These images, when printed on fabric and animated by movements of the body, bring out both the street beauty and art-historical resonances of this mark-making practice.



Cheryl Donegan
Untitled (spring green and blue grey on pink), 2014
Acrylic on jute
40 x 30 inches
Image and work courtesy the artist and David Shelton Gallery, Houston, Texas

Contemporary Arts Museum Houston’s presentation of *Cheryl Donegan: GRLZ + VEILS*, features roughly 80 works, including mannequins featuring a sampling of the artist’s new collection of clothing as well as six of the artist’s videos from the last decade.

The exhibition is accompanied by a full-color, fully-illustrated catalogue with contributions by Bill Arning, Daniel Baumann, Robert Buck, Johanna Burton, Anja Aronowsky Cronberg, Wade Guyton, Rem Koolhaas, and Heidi Zuckerman. The catalogue is published by Aspen Art Press, Colorado; Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, Texas; and Kunsthalle Zürich, Switzerland.

Cheryl Donegan: GRLZ + VEILS was co-organized by Contemporary Arts Museum Houston and the Aspen Art Museum, and curated by Bill Arning and Heidi Zuckerman.

About the Artist

Donegan received her MFA from Hunter College, New York, New York, and BFA in Painting from the Rhode Island School of Design, Providence. Her work has been exhibited internationally including the 1995 Whitney Biennial, New York, New York; The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York; the Tang Teaching Museum at Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, New York; New York

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Cheryl Donegan
Untitled (dots_purple_blue), 2015
Hand-dyed cotton fabric
50 x 36 inches
Image and work courtesy the artist



Cheryl Donegan
Blood Sugar, 2013
Dress form with vintage ski jacket: video: color,
sound, 5:28 minutes
Image and work courtesy the artist

Film and Video Festival, New York; 1993 Venice Biennale, Italy; Biennale d'Art Contemporain de Lyon, France; Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, Texas; New Museum, New York, New York; Galerie Vidal Cuglietta, Brussels, Belgium; and White Flag Library, St. Louis, Missouri. She has been a frequent seminar leader and guest critic at Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut; a faculty member at Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Maine; and a visiting artist/lecturer at numerous art programs across the United States.

Public Programs

These events are free, open to the public, and take place at the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston. Seating is limited. Please check camh.org for a complete list of Museum programs relating to this exhibition.

Opening Reception | Cheryl Donegan: GRLZ + VEILS

Friday, January 18, 2019 | 6:30–9PM

Join us to celebrate *Cheryl Donegan: GRLZ + VEILS* an exhibition organized jointly by CAMH and the Aspen Art Museum, which marks the artist's first United States museum presentation solely devoted to her paintings. The show features a highly curated selection of Donegan's work including paintings, videos, unstretched hanging printed fabrics, and a new collection of clothing by the artist.

In Conversation | Cheryl Donegan and Heidi Zuckerman

Saturday, January 19, 2019 | 2–3PM

Learn more about the exhibition *Cheryl Donegan: GRLZ + VEILS* with artist Cheryl Donegan and Heidi Zuckerman, the Nancy and Bob Magoon CEO and Director at the Aspen Art Museum. Explore Donegan's work and learn more about her inspiration. *This program is made possible due to the generous support of Bank of Texas.*

Talk | *The Undoing of Painting* with Raphael Rubinstein

Thursday, January 31, 2019 | 6:30–7:30PM

Join University of Houston School of Art Professor Raphael Rubinstein in a discussion around the exhibition *Cheryl Donegan: GRLZ + VEILS*. Donegan's work embraces everyday materials, welcomes errors and glitches, and her approach to painting is deeply connected to international avant-garde practices and theories that began in the 1960s. This talk will situate Donegan's work in relation to artists such as German artist Sigmar Polke and the French Supports/Surface group, as well as to corresponding philosophical discourse.

Open Studio | Patterns + Prints

Saturday, February 2, 2019 | 2–4PM

Print with found objects like vegetables, wire, or even your hand to explore artist Cheryl Donegan's use of color, pattern, and repetition.

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Cheryl Donegan
GRLZ Tall Tee Racerback Macrame in Matz, from
GRLZ Upcycle, 2018
Cotton polyester and thread
Image and work courtesy the artist
Photo by Steven Probert

Performance | Musiqa

Thursday, February 7, 2019 | 6:30–7:30PM

In conjunction with the exhibition *Cheryl Donegan: GRLZ + VEILS*, Musiqa presents a special concert inspired by her work.

Performance | *Abstractions in the Key of Yellow* with the Transitory Sound and Movement Collective

Thursday, February 14, 2018 | 6:30–7:30PM

Transitory Sound and Movement Collective (TSMC) will return to CAMH with a new interdisciplinary and experiential work uniquely structured yet spontaneous in composition that will conceptually connect to the exhibition.

Art at Noon | Sarah Whiting

Friday, February 15, 2019 | 12–1PM

Join Sarah Whiting, Dean and William Ward Watkin Professor of Architecture at Rice University, as she places *Cheryl Donegan: GRLZ + VEILS* within the broader context of “Junkspace,” a contemporary condition commonly found in the built environment, as coined and diagnosed by Dutch architect and theorist Rem Koolhaas.

Spring Break Family Day and Fashion Show curated by CAMH’s Teen Council

Saturday, March 16, 2019 | 1–4PM

Come participate in hands-on activities inspired by current exhibitions.

CAMH’s Teen Council will also present a runway-style fashion show featuring cutting-edge designs from Houston-based teens.

CAMH Mission

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

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 Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 10AM–7PM, Thursday 10AM–9PM, Saturday 10AM–6PM, and Sunday 12PM–6PM. Admission is always free. For more information, visit camh.org or call 713.284.8250.