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**ALWAYS FRESH
ALWAYS FREE**

The Contemporary Arts Museum Houston spotlights the Galveston Artist Residency in group exhibition.



Island Time: Galveston Artist Residency – The First Four Years

November 21, 2015 – February 14, 2016

Opening Reception

Friday, November 20, 6:30-9PM

Artist Talk and Performance

Saturday, November 21, 2PM

Nick Barbee, *February, 14, 2012*, 2012. Installation view from *Mapping Galveston* at the Galveston Artist Residency, 2012. Courtesy of the artist and Galveston Artist Residency.

HOUSTON, TX (October 6, 2015)— The Contemporary Arts Museum Houston is pleased to present the group exhibition *Island Time: Galveston Artist Residency – The First Four Years*, featuring works by former residents and artists who have exhibited at the Galveston Artist Residency (GAR). The exhibition includes work by twenty-two artists and features animation, installation, painting, sculpture, video, and performance, representing the breadth of work that has originated and been shown in Houston’s neighboring island city of Galveston. The exhibition is organized by guest curator Eric Schnell, director and co-founder of GAR.

Artists in the exhibition are: Nick Barbee, Josh Bernstein, Jesse Bransford, Bill Davenport and Alex Irvine, Jonah Groeneboer, Eric Heist, John Hodany, Colin Hunt, Autumn Knight, Nsenga Knight, Joe Joe Orangias, Grace Ndiritu, Zahar Vaks, Bill Powhida and Jade Townsend, George Rush, Victoria Sambunaris, Davide Savorani, Dan Schmahl, Kelly Sears, and Hilary Wilder.

Founded in 2011, GAR is an extended-term artist residency that offers artists a unique and supportive environment in which to think, create, and engage with fellow residents and their locale. Each of these artists was given time to experience Galveston in her or his own unique way, and the work in this show is a reflection on that time. In this way, *Island Time* also becomes an exhibition about Galveston as seen through the eyes of participating artists—the town’s idiosyncratic pacing, climate, communities, vibe, and relationship to Houston.

“The Galveston Artist Residency renews my faith in the power of artists to transform a person’s experience of a place. Like many Houstonian art lovers, I read about all the projects GAR does but miss too many of their fine exhibitions and projects. My hope is that this exhibition will inspire all of us to visit our neighboring city and their robust art scene more often,” says Bill Arning, Director of CAMH.

Among the works on view is a site-specific floor painting by Jesse Bransford using various esoteric languages to create an energetic link between GAR and CAMH; a minimalist video and photographs by Jonah Groeneboer that explore our relationship to time; and a sculpture by Houston-based artist Josh Bernstein that is based on his ongoing reimagination of Cabeza de Vaca’s epic travels through Texas. Multi-disciplinary artist Autumn Knight will restage her performance *WALL* (2013), a series of performed sounds, rituals, and actions influenced by both the religious prayer site the Wailing

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Wall in Jerusalem and the Galveston Seawall; both are places visited repeatedly by people making offerings in the hope of receiving something in return.

In addition, viewers to the exhibition will see a small selection from GAR's 2013 exhibition *Best of the Beach*, which celebrated beachcombers, collectors, and the unlimited artistic potential of the Gulf. As part of the programming for the exhibition, CAMH and GAR are organizing a bus tour from Houston to Galveston to include beachcombing with Davenport and Irvine, as well as a visit to *Pink Dolphin Monument* and GAR. *The Pink Dolphin Monument* was created by Orangias, writer Sarah Sloane, and scientist Frank Pega in celebration of gender and sexual minority communities and is the first monument dedicated as such in the southern United States. At CAMH, Orangias expands the conversation with a large-scale sculpture and video installation highlighting monuments to sexual and gender minorities around the globe. For complete programming information, please visit camh.org.

Co-founded by artist Eric Schnell and biologist Bert Geary, GAR was created post-Hurricane Ike as a way to help build community. "The biologist Bert Geary and I had always wanted to collaborate on a project and the idea of making a place where creativity was encouraged for its own sake—where the beautiful was reason enough—seemed to help both of us heal somewhat from our Ike-broken hearts," says Schnell. Besides Schnell, GAR has only one other employee, Sallie Barbee, who has been an important collaborator from the beginning. GAR annually provides three artists with studio space, free housing, and a stipend during the eleven-month residency. Eligible artists can be emerging or established but must be desirous of a period of intense, focused studio time. Since its grand opening in 2012, twenty artists have come through GAR. The artists are from all over the world, including Berlin, Italy, and London, from New York, Kentucky, Virginia, and Florida, and also some closer to home, Houston.

PUBLICATION

Island Time: Galveston Artist Residency – The First Four Years is accompanied by an illustrated color catalogue that includes a foreword by CAMH Director Bill Arning and an essay by Eric Schnell, director and co-founder of GAR, reflecting on the founding of the residency program and its unique location on the island of Galveston. The catalogue includes images of the exhibition installation as well as participating artists' individual work, a checklist of featured works, and artist biographies.

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.

Opening Reception: *Island Time*

Friday, November 20 | 6:30-9PM

Join us for the opening reception of *Island Time*. Reception with cash bar.

Artist Talk and Performance: *Island Time*

Saturday, November 21 | 2PM

Learn more about the exhibition with some of the artists featured in the exhibition. In addition, Autumn Knight will perform *WALL* (2013), a series of performed sound, rituals, and actions used to re-imagine the concept of the Wailing Wall and the Galveston Seawall as psychological, spiritual, and embodied places.

Best of the Beach Bus Tour

Itinerary and ticket information is forthcoming. Please check camh.org.

EXHIBITION SUPPORT

Island Time: Galveston Artist Residency – The First Four Years has been made possible by the patrons, benefactors and donors to the Museum's Friends of Steel Exhibitions: Director's Circle - Chinhui Juhn and Eddie, Allen Fayez Sarofim, Ms. Louisa Stude Sarofim; Curator's Circle - Dillon Kyle Architecture, Inc., Marita and J.B. Fairbanks, Mr. and Mrs. I. H. Kempner III, Michael Zilkha; Major Exhibition Circle - A Fare Extraordinaire, Bergner and Johnson Design, Jereann Chaney, Elizabeth Howard Crowell, Sara Paschall Dodd, Jo and Jim Furr, Barbara and Michael Gamson, Brenda and William Goldberg, Blakely and Trey Griggs, George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation, Jackson and Company, Louise D. Jamail, Anne and David Kirkland, KPMG, LLP, Beverly and Howard Robinson, Lauren Rottet, Robin and Andrew Schirrmeister, Leigh and Reggie Smith, Yellow Cab Houston and Mr. Wallace Wilson

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EDUCATION SUPPORT

Teen Council is supported by Ms. Louisa Stude Sarofim.

The Museum's education and outreach programming has been made possible by the patrons, benefactors and donors to its Families of Steel Programming: Vera and Andy Baker, Mary and Marcel Barone, Louise D. Jamail, Kinder Morgan Foundation, Robert and Pearl Wallis Knox Foundation, Leticia Loya, Marian and Speros Martel Foundation Endowment, M.D. Anderson Foundation, Elisabeth McCabe, Andrew R. McFarland, Nordstrom, Nancy O'Connor, Cabrina and Steven Owsley, Ms. Louisa Stude Sarofim, Texas Commission on the Arts, Kim and Gerard Trevino and Bridget and Patrick Wade.

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 a leading destination to experience innovative art. CAMH actively encourages public engagement with its exhibitions through its educational programs, publications, and online presence.

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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 www.camh.org or call 713 284 8250.