



Gallery Guide
Contemporary Art
Museum St. Louis

May 9–
August 10, 2014



Van McElwee

Sarah Paulsen and Cameron Fuller

Audible Interruptions is a series of site-specific sound installations that investigate the sonic identity of the museum's architecture. First presented in fall 2013 and continuing through summer 2014, the three-part series features works that occupy museum areas—the restrooms, a hallway, and the elevator—that are not traditionally used for displaying art, removing distinctions between exhibition and common spaces. Such utilitarian environments, having a specific and limited purpose, typically do not promote thoughtful analysis and are used in mechanical and unconscious ways. By re-inventing the aural and conceptual landscapes of these areas, the works in *Audible Interruptions* offer a unique experience, helping us discover new and unexpected ways to interact with architecture and rethink familiar places. This season St. Louis-based artists Van McElwee and Sarah Paulsen and Cameron Fuller present new work in the restrooms and first-floor hallway, respectively.

Audible Interruptions is a yearlong exhibition series organized for the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis by guest curator Kevin Harris, a St. Louis-based artist, musician, and engineer.



Audio Tour

Download the CAM app at camstl.org/app or ask for an iPod at the front desk to hear directly from the artists on the audio tour.

Related Programs

*Free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.
For a complete list of programs, please visit camstl.org.*

Friday Evening Tours

Fridays, May 16–August 8, 6:00 pm

Breakfast with the Curators

Friday, June 6, 8:30 am

Exclusively for CAM members.

Complimentary coffee and baked goods.

Register at camstl.org/breakfast

Before the Museum opens to the public, join us for breakfast and a private tour of the current exhibitions.

First Fridays

Fridays, June 6 and August 1, 5:00–9:00 pm

A complimentary drink for Young Friends members and above. Cash bar.

Enjoy an evening of art, music, and culture the first Friday of every month. Arts organizations throughout Grand Center are free and open the entire evening. For a complete list, visit firstfridaysgrandcenter.org.

Audible Interruptions Performance

Saturday, July 26, 7:30 pm

Experience a live multimedia performance by exhibiting sound artists Cameron Fuller, Sarah Paulsen, and Van McElwee as well as Kevin Harris, guest curator of the *Audible Interruptions* series.

Van McElwee

Tertiary Pastels, 2014

Digital stereophonic audio loops, 6:17 minutes

Dark Green, 2014

Digital stereophonic audio loops, 5:56 minutes

Courtesy the artist

Using sound to evoke specific colors and imagery, Van McElwee's works *Tertiary Pastels* and *Dark Green* explore and challenge conventional notions of gender. Installed in CAM's restrooms, the stereo sound fields reverse the traditional gender associations connected to the colors in their names. *Tertiary Pastels*, located in the men's room, consists of manipulated field recordings McElwee made in Beijing of Chinese schoolgirls reciting lessons in unison. In the women's room, *Dark Green* is made up of bird sounds, evoking a forest at dusk, with plant greens drifting to black. Headphones placed outside of each room will enable listeners to experience both works.

Van McElwee (b. 1948, Meridian, Mississippi) lives and works in St. Louis. His single-channel sound works, installations, and web projects have been exhibited extensively worldwide, and he has received numerous grants and awards, including the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship, the American Film Institute Independent Filmmaker Award, the National Endowment for the Arts Independent Production Fund, and a travel grant from the Government of India. McElwee is represented by The Kitchen in New York, Bruno David Gallery in St. Louis, Heure Exquise! in France, LUX in the UK, the Inter Media Art Institute in Germany, and Trabant Gallery in Austria.

Sarah Paulsen and Cameron Fuller

Echo, 2014

Digital sound, video, and Super 8 film, 4:30 minutes

Courtesy the artists

Located in the first-floor hallway, *Echo*, by Sarah Paulsen and Cameron Fuller, consists of a sound composition and experimental stop-motion animation video that incorporate both found sound and instrumentation in order to examine the way in which different cultures define and relate to space. The artists initially shot footage and created drawings and animations while traveling in Europe. They then determined the tempo, meter, and other musical qualities of the sound composition based on edits to the film, incorporating musical instruments such as electric guitar, organ, saxophone, kazoo, slide whistle, and synthesizer.

Sarah Paulsen (b. 1977, Ames, Iowa) lives and works in St. Louis, where she teaches art and animation at the Saint Louis Art Museum, Marian Middle School, and the St. Louis Community College, Forest Park. An artist, filmmaker, and community organizer, Paulsen has exhibited work widely nationally and locally. A 2010 Regional Arts Commission CAT Institute fellow, Paulsen founded the annual People's Joy Parade on Cherokee Street, which will soon be in its sixth year. Paulsen holds a BA in visual art from the University of Missouri, Columbia, and an MFA from the Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Art at Washington University in St. Louis.

Cameron Fuller (b. 1975, Chehalis, Washington) lives and works in St. Louis. His installations have been shown at Fort Gondo, White Flag Projects, Maps Contemporary Art Space, and Gallery 210 in St. Louis and at La Esquina in Kansas City. Since 2008 Fuller has collaborated on installations with Sarah Paulsen at Laumeier Sculpture Park and Open Lot in St. Louis and the Foundry Art Centre and St. Charles Community College in St. Charles, Missouri. He holds a BA in printmaking from San Francisco State University and an MFA from Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Art at Washington University in St. Louis.



**Contemporary Art
Museum St. Louis**
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