

Exhibition Checklist:

South Wall

Punk Funk, 2005, Acrylic, Envirotex, and varnish on wood mount attached to wall, 14 x 42 feet. Courtesy of the artist, Monique Meloche Gallery, Chicago, SCAI the Bathhouse/Shiraishi Contemporary Art Inc., Tokyo, and realized with the assistance of Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis.

North Wall

Love Junkee, 2005, Acrylic and glass beads on canvas on wood mount (fabricated in collaboration with Maya Romanoff), 45 inches x 20 feet. Courtesy of the artist, Monique Meloche Gallery, Chicago, SCAI the Bathhouse/Shiraishi Contemporary Art Inc., Tokyo, and realized with the assistance of Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis.

East Wall

To be Continued, 2005, Acrylic and Envirotex on canvas on wood mount, 70 x 70 inches. Courtesy of the artist, Monique Meloche Gallery, Chicago, and SCAI the Bathhouse/Shiraishi Contemporary Art Inc., Tokyo.

Friends and Enemies, 2005, Acrylic and Envirotex on canvas on wood mount, 70 x 70 inches. Courtesy of the artist, Monique Meloche Gallery, Chicago, and SCAI the Bathhouse/Shiraishi Contemporary Art Inc. Toyko.

West Wall

Untitled from the Optick Interlude Series, 2005, Acrylic and Envirotex on wood mount, 12 x 12 inches. Courtesy of the artist, Monique Meloche Gallery, Chicago, and SCAI the Bathhouse/Shiraishi Contemporary Art Inc., Tokyo.

Untitled from the Optick Interlude Series, 2005, Acrylic and Glass Beads on wood mount, 12 x 12 inches. Courtesy of the artist, Monique Meloche Gallery, Chicago, and SCAI the Bathhouse/Shiraishi Contemporary Art Inc., Tokyo.

Untitled from the Optick Interlude Series, 2004, Acrylic and Envirotex on wood mount, 12 x 12 inches. Courtesy of the artist, Monique Meloche Gallery, Chicago, and SCAI the Bathhouse/Shiraishi Contemporary Art Inc., Tokyo.

Untitled from the Optick Interlude Series, 2004, Acrylic and glass beads on wood mount (fabricated in collaboration with Maya Romanoff), 12 x 12 inches. Courtesy of the artist, Monique Meloche Gallery, Chicago, and SCAI the Bathhouse/Shiraishi Contemporary Art Inc., Tokyo.

Untitled from the Optick Interlude Series, 2005, Acrylic and glass beads on wood mount, (fabricated in collaboration with Maya Romanoff), 12 x 12 inches. Courtesy of the artist, Monique Meloche Gallery, Chicago, and SCAI the Bathhouse/Shiraishi Contemporary Art Inc., Tokyo.

Untitled from the Optick Interlude Series, 2004, Acrylic and glass beads on wood mount, (fabricated in collaboration with Maya Romanoff), 12 x 12 inches. Collection of Sara Szold, Chicago.

DJ CAM spins at the Contemporary following a talk by artist Dzine April 22, 2005
Reception with artists 6 pm – talk 7 pm – spinning with CAM 7 :45 pm

DJ Cam has composed a new CD titled Punk Funk: The Lost Kingdom specifically for the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis. The new CD is arranged and compiled by Dzine and accompanies the exhibition. A limited edition artist book and CD featuring 16 new tracks and 2 bonus tracks and was produced by the Contemporary.

Image: Dzine, Love Junkee, (detail), 2005, Acrylic and glass beads on canvas on wood mount (fabricated in collaboration with Maya Romanoff), 45 inches x 21 feet. Courtesy of the artist, Monique Meloche Gallery, Chicago, SCAI the Bathhouse/Shiraishi Contemporary Art Inc., Tokyo, and realized with the assistance of Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis.



CONTEMPORARYARTMUSEUMSTLOUIS

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Dzine: PUNK FUNK

March 18 - June 12, 2005

CONTEMPORARYARTMUSEUMSTLOUIS



Dzine: Punk Funk

Chicago-based artist Dzine (born Carlos Rolon) is a painter and the owner of an experimental record label that works with world renowned DJs and producers such as DJ Cam, Gotan Project, and Guidance Recordings. Straddling the very thin boundary between art and music, Dzine creates abstract, biological, morphing forms that vibrate with intense color. In a series of new paintings, Dzine explores visualizing energy to unleash a unique rhythm and lyricism. Dzine applies a layer of Envirotex (a thick, clear plastic coating) to complete his slick, abstract paintings. Recently, he's incorporated tiny glass beads (made in collaboration with designer Maya Romanoff) to give the work a layered, vibrant, jewel-like effect. The addition of these reflective (and decorative) surface materials to otherwise super-flat surfaces creates an alluring depth.

The artist will create new work for his solo exhibition at the Contemporary including a 14 x 42 foot site-specific mural, his largest work to date. Dzine's multi-layered paintings tease traditional notions of perspective and the picture plane to express visual sound bubbles and music as lingering sensations. Interested in sensory fusion, particularly between sound and vision, Dzine creates visually stunning and evocative paintings that are accompanied by a soundtrack. Ambient sounds composed by Paris-based DJ Cam in response to Dzine's work fill the gallery space. Created specifically for this exhibition, Cam's track emphasizes the transformative attributes of music and painting, as the melding of the two produces a visualization of color and sound, a new Synesthesia. Additionally, as the exhibition title suggests, Punk Funk investigates the languages of two expressive subculture movements and fuses aspects of each—syncopated rhythms, repetitive bass lines, and notions of social alienation. Interested in the visceral experience of both Punk and Funk, Dzine incorporates the energy of each to create a visual mélange that suggests an evolution of expression and experience. Dzine's youthful expression presents a dialogue that is harmonious and sensual, as opposed to the hard-edge, hard-core expressions he references.

Shannon Fitzgerald
Chief Curator

Dzine's recent solo exhibitions include Gangster Boogie Black Block, Palais de Tokyo, Paris; Staring into the Sun, Monique Meloche Gallery, Chicago; More Beautiful Things, Equal Gallery, Osaka, Japan; Beautiful Things, SCAI the Bathhouse/Shiraishi Contemporary Art Inc., Tokyo; Beautiful Otherness, Monique Meloche Gallery; ARCO 04 Project (all 2004); Alley Oop, INOVA, Milwaukee (2003); and Sampler, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago (2002); He has been included in the group exhibitions Lost in Music, JCCC Gallery, Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, Kansas (2005); None of the Above: Contemporary Work by Puerto Rican Artists, Real Art Ways, Hartford (2004) and Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico (2005); Stop & Stor, LUXE Gallery, New York (2004); Bossa Tres Jazz 2: Step Into the Gallery, Galerie Valerie Cueto, Paris (2002); and Chicago NASCAR Project, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago (2001) among others. Dzine has received artist grants from the Andy Warhol Foundation, Artist in Residency, the City of Chicago Sister Cities Program (Artist in Residency, Nairobi, Kenya), and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Dzine: Punk Funk is organized by Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis and curated by Shannon Fitzgerald.

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The Contemporary extends thanks and appreciation to the lenders of the exhibition; Monique Meloche and Stacie Johnson from Monique Meloche Gallery, Chicago; Maho Kubota and Mr. Shiraishi at SCAI the Bathhouse/Shiraishi Contemporary Art Inc., Tokyo; and the Maya Romanoff Corporation, Chicago.

Additionally, the Contemporary and Dzine extend a warm thanks to the talented team of artist assistants who worked on the exhibition: Brandon Anshultz, Sharon Cox, Sandra Marchewa, Jason Miller, Andrew Millner, Cole Root, Paul Shank, Erik Spehn, Kiersten Torrez, and Sarah Ursini (St. Louis) and Marissa Baker, Louis Barak, Bill Dougherty, Dominique Maciejka, and Jeff Zimmerman (Chicago).