

Related Programs

Artist Talk
Saturday, September 17, 11:00 am

Critical Conversations: Art and the Black Body
Thursday, September 22, 7:00 pm

Lunch with the Curators
Friday, September 30, 12:00 pm
\$10; free for members.
Register at camstl.org/learn

Contemporary Class: From Warhol to Walker
Thursday, October 27, 6:00 pm
\$10; free for members
Register at camstl.org/learn

Sunday Studio: Digital Media
Sunday, November 6, 1:00 pm
\$10; free for members.
Register at camstl.org/learn

Film Screening: Style Wars
Thursday, November 10, 7:00 pm

Feast Your Eyes: Olive & Oak
Tuesday, November 15, 6:30 pm
\$75; \$50 for members.
Register at camstl.org/feast

Perspective: Artist on Artist
Saturday, November 19, 1:00 pm
\$10; free for members
Register at camstl.org/learn

RE: Mass Media
Saturday, December 3, 1:00 pm

Book Club: The Trip
Sunday, December 11, 1:00 pm
\$10; free for members
Register at camstl.org/learn



Untitled, 2015. Laser cut steel and gold leaf, 58 inches in diameter x 1/8 inch.



Bug_113A/S, 2014. Four-color process silkscreen on aluminum, 10 1/2 x 11 1/4 x 13 inches.



Contemporary Art
Museum St. Louis
3750 Washington Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63108
314.535.4660

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Kelley Walker: Direct Drive

Since the early 2000s, Kelley Walker has developed a body of work that examines and indicts some of our nation’s most pervasive cultural, political, and social signifiers. In his multidisciplinary work, using striking combinations of disparate visual language, Walker modifies and reinterprets existing imagery to challenge the fixed social constructs that underpin American culture.

Direct Drive is Walker’s first solo American museum exhibition and the largest comprehensive examination of the artist’s work to date, presenting examples from his major bodies of work, including *Black Star Press*, *schema*, *Recycling*, *Disasters*, *Bricks*, and *Volkswagen Bug*, alongside several new site-specific installations. In an era of digital reproduction, the work draws attention to popular culture’s perpetual consumption and reuse of images. Walker brings to the fore a sustained inquiry into ways in which consumer culture exploits history, authenticity, and authorship. He manipulates imagery, encouraging slippage—even in reproductions of his own artworks.

This is a flagship event for CAM as the exhibition encompasses every space in the Museum—galleries, Project Wall, and mezzanine, as well as the facade of the building. Among the brand-new work Walker presented is a “mimic wall” sculpture—an exact replica of a Museum wall—that manifests in the physical world the digital concept of copying and pasting; a forty-foot long brick painting based on the gray concrete of the Museum; a four-foot-wide chocolate disco ball that continually turns at six rotations per minute; and an exterior projection for CAM’s *Street Views* series.

Gallery Guide
Contemporary Art
Museum St. Louis

September 16–
December 31, 2016



Untitled, 2013. Four-color process silkscreen with acrylic ink and magazine collage on canvas, *Dornus* May 2012, 100 x 58 inches.



Audio Tour
Visit camstlaudio.org or ask for an iPod at the front desk to hear directly from the artist and curator on the audio tour.

With nods to artistic influences ranging from Andy Warhol to Jackson Pollock and Sigmar Polke, Walker’s work interrogates the ways a single image can migrate into a number of cultural contexts. He often uses 3-D modeling software and laser cutting in tandem with a variety of media—including painting, sculpture, and photography—to explore the manipulation and repurposing of images in order to destabilize issues of identity, race, class, sexuality, and politics.

On the cutting edge of both contemporary art and technology, Walker’s work is both sphinx and chimera: he holds a mirror up to our current cultural imaginary, elucidating our present day and recent past in radical and unexpected ways.

This exhibition is generously supported by Anonymous; Suzi and Andrew B. Cohen; Maurice Marciano Family Foundation; Paula Cooper Gallery, New York; Thomas Dane Gallery, London; and Galerie Gisela Capitain, Cologne.

Kelley Walker: Direct Drive is organized for the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis by Jeffrey Uslip, Deputy Director for Exhibitions and Programs / Chief Curator.

Kelley Walker (b. 1969, Columbus, Georgia) lives and works in New York City. He has exhibited widely at institutions including the Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao; Le Magasin – Centre National d’Art Contemporain, Grenoble; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Museum of Modern Art, New York; Museum for Modern Art, Oslo; Museum Moderner Kunst, Vienna; National Museum of China, Beijing; New Museum, New York; The Power Plant, Toronto; Shanghai Museum of Contemporary Art, Shanghai; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; and Wiels – Centre d’Art Contemporain, Brussels. Walker’s work is in such prestigious public and private collections as Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo; CAPC Musée d’Art Contemporain, Bordeaux; Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh; de la Cruz Collection, Miami; Museum of Modern Art, New York; Rubell Collection, Miami; Saatchi Gallery, London; Sammlung Goetz, Munich; Tate Britain, London; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; and Zabłudowicz Collection, London.



Untitled, 2006. Lightbox with duratrans print, 61 1/4 × 105 1/4 × 4 inches. Marieluise Hessel Collection, Hessel Museum of Art, Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College, Annandale-on- Hudson, New York.



Black Star Press (rotated 180 degrees); Press Star, Press Black, 2006. Digital print and chocolate on canvas. Two panels, each: 83 × 104 inches. Carlos and Rosa de la Cruz Collection, Miami.



Pioneer PL-518 12 Inch Series [full title abridged], 2015. Pantone and four-color process silkscreen on MDF. 28 panels, each: 24 × 24 inches. Collection Van Tuyckom-Taets, Netherlands.