Louis Cameron

Louis Cameron’s Front Room exhibition premieres five photographs from his ongoing Clouds series. Adjacent in the lobby, two portfolios are displayed from his online initiative, The Poster Project presents. Cameron’s art practice has always been socially and politically engaged and both exhibitions—the highly crafted Clouds and the internet-accessible posters—belong within the framework of his inquiries into the meaning, creation, and preservation of common space.

Each day, Cameron turns a mobile phone to the sky and takes photographs of the clouds that appear, making chance discovery part of his process. He then layers images one over the other, determining compelling spatial and color relationships for his sky portraits. Exhibiting the photographs in CAM’s Front Room allows natural light to play upon the images, so Clouds may change, transform, and float before the viewer’s gaze.

The Clouds series suggests other Cameron works that focus on his concerns for community space and shared experience at a time of growing government and police surveillance. In such works as Domain Awareness (2013–15) and Times Square Ring of Steel (2013) Cameron examines the surveillance eye and its unrelenting gaze upon and documentation of humanity passing through public spaces. In this respect, Clouds represents the ultimate shared space—the sky—which gives inspiration to a poetic body of work, a glimpse of a commons that is truly free and open.

Audio Tour
Visit camstlaudio.org or ask for an iPod at the front desk to hear directly from the artists and curator on the audio tour.
With *The Poster Project presents*, Louis Cameron makes use of the internet as a virtual public commons for international dialogue on contemporary cultural issues. Cameron recognizes the poster as a uniquely democratic art form, easily obtainable and commonly displayed in a variety of settings. The portfolios on view at CAM, *I Am... and Immigration*, are made available for free at posterprojectpresents.net, which includes instructions on how to best print the artwork.

Cameron’s internet initiative was inspired by frequent visits to New York City’s Zuccotti Park during the Occupy Wall Street protests, where he found a pop-up silkscreen operation creating t-shirts sporting “I am the 99%” and other such slogans. Soon after, Cameron discovered Occuprint, a website that distributes artists’ posters worldwide in the spirit of political and social dialogue and change. He began offering his own poster designs online with his *Times Square Ring of Steel* series in 2013. The portfolio *Immigration* was created not long after, including contributions by artists from Morocco, Mexico, Germany, Israel, the Philippines, and Nigeria. Cameron asked the artists to “address immigration from historical, poetic, humorous, and other perspectives.”

For the *I Am...* portfolio, within a tradition of such protest chants as “I am Somebody,” and “I am Trayvon Martin,” Cameron called for descriptions of self from the points of view of African-American men. Cameron says, “At this moment, when violence against black people is center stage in the current American cultural conversation, presenting a project by black male artists can offer valuable insights on the dialogue.”

**Related Programs**

**Artist Talk: Louis Cameron**  
Tuesday, January 31, 6:30 pm

**Conversation with the Curator**  
Thursday, March 9, 6:00 pm