Readykeulous
by Ridykeulous

This is What Liberation Feels Like™

Ridykeulous (Nicole Eisenman and A.L. Steiner),
Ridykeulous Goes on Vacay. 2010. Courtesy Ridykeulous PATRIArchives™

Connect with CAM
Visit camstl.org
Follow @contemporarystl on Twitter
Like contemporaryart on Facebook
Sign up for enews at camstl.org/news
Download the CAM STL app from the App Store or Google Play
Ridykeulous is a curatorial initiative founded in 2005 by Nicole Eisenman and A.L. Steiner to recalibrate the conversation surrounding queer and feminist art, reiterating these movements’ insistence on equality while critiquing their often insular terms. Ridykeulous’s projects take place in commercial galleries, major museums, and alternative art spaces, disseminating a clear message through highly visible public arenas. Intentionally provocative and even aggressive while simultaneously playful and humorous, Ridykeulous’s exhibitions, performances, and publications challenge the status quo and argue for a more multifaceted and inclusive approach to contemporary cultural production.

Ridykeulous presents an expanded version of its 2011 exhibition at Invisible-Exports in New York, Readykeulous: The Hurtful Healer. This presentation features a wide array of emotionally charged contributions by more than forty artists and activists in addition to selections from Ridykeulous’s own PATRIArchives™. Drawing connections across a diverse range of text-based media dating from the 1960s to the present—from artist Nancy Spero’s 1971 letter to Tracey Emin’s rousing neon sculpture and embroidery—the works on view confront a host of perceived injustices. In pairing archival materials and contemporary objects, the exhibition explores some of the most compelling issues of the last half-century—including feminism, the Vietnam War, queer liberation, and labor rights—through the voices of the artists themselves. Beginning March 7, the exhibition further extends into the Front Room gallery downstairs with a number of historically significant works of video art.

Nicole Eisenman (b. 1965, Verdun, France) lives and works in New York City. Eisenman was recently awarded the Carnegie Prize for her work in the 2013 Carnegie International. Recent solo exhibitions include MATRIX 248, Berkeley Art Museum (2013); ‘Tis but a scratch’ 4 scratch??! Your arm’s off!! ‘No, it isn’t.’ Studio Voltaire, London (2012); Nicole Eisenman: The Way We Weren’t, The Tang Museum, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, New York (2009); and Nicole Eisenman, Kunsthalle Zurich (2007). Her work has been featured in numerous group exhibitions such as NYC 1993: Experimental Jet Set, Trash and No Star, New Museum, New York (2013); and the Whitney Biennial, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (2012, 1995); among many others. Eisenman is the recipient of several awards, including a John Simon Guggenheim Grant, The Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant, and The Louis Comfort Tiffany Grant. Her work is in the collections of museums such as the Museum of Modern Art, New York; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; and the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis.

A.L. Steiner (b. 1967, Miami) lives and works in Los Angeles. She is a collective member of Chicks on Speed, co-curator of Ridykeulous, co-founder/organizer of Working Artists and the Greater Economy (W.A.G.E.), and collaborates with numerous visual and performing artists. Steiner is Assistant Professor and Director of University of Southern California Roski School of Art & Design’s Master of Fine Arts Program and Visiting MFA Faculty at Bard College in New York. Her work has been included in solo and group exhibitions at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco; Creative Time Summit, New York; P.S.1/MoMA, New York; Tate Modern, London; among others. Her work is included in such public collections as the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Brooklyn Museum of Art, Brooklyn; and the Marie-Luise Hessel Collection, New York.

This exhibition is generously supported by Lehmann Maupin Gallery, New York and Hong Kong, and Callicoon Fine Arts, New York.

Readykeulous by Ridykeulous: This Is What Liberation Feels Like™ is organized for the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis by Nicole Eisenman and A.L. Steiner.