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Contemporary Art
Museum St. Louis

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***KAWS: FAR FAR DOWN* features new work by the internationally renowned, multifaceted artist**

On view May 5–August 13, 2017



KAWS, *FAR FAR DOWN*, 2016. Acrylic on canvas, 72 x 120 inches. Courtesy the artist.

March 21, 2017 (St. Louis, MO) - The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) presents *KAWS: FAR FAR DOWN*, an exhibition of new works by the multifaceted artist. KAWS will create a unique painting on the museum's Project Wall to serve as a specially designed background for a series of large-scale paintings. The unveiling of a new bronze sculpture in CAM's courtyard will complete the exhibition. *FAR FAR DOWN* will be on view May 5 through August 13, 2017.

KAWS's signature imagery emerged in the early 1990s, when the artist painted over existing advertisements in metropolises around the world. His embrace of pop-culture icons has defined his distinct visual language and has facilitated an engagement with a global audience. Encompassing realms of both art and design, KAWS's practice has extended into international collaborations with such brands as Comme des Garçons, Nike, Supreme, and Uniqlo.

The sensibility of his artwork is imbued with unexpected emotional power. KAWS's characters—with X's for eyes and often presented in moments of emotional exposure—draw profound links between popular culture, commercialization, and the human condition. Rather than pose a critique of mass culture, however, KAWS makes associations with a wide audience through his identifiable imagery. KAWS incorporates a playful style with a serious formal aesthetic, an artist for whom a dedication to craft, a respect for the handmade, and a lightness of spirit, all conjoin.

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Hours
10–5 Wed
10–8 Thu & Fri
10–5 Sat & Sun

CAM is free. Visit often!

The life-size bronze sculpture *TOGETHER*, to be first shown in CAM's courtyard, is immediately endearing, and at the same time evokes real pathos and contemplation. The paintings on view on the Project Wall deliver a sustained visual experience out of distinctive patterns and vibrant colors, with barely recognizable popular figures inlaid within the scene as deceptively as camouflage. In the painting *FAR FAR DOWN*, the title implies physical or emotional descent, although the concealed forms within the work are open to conjecture.



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KAWS (b. 1974, Jersey City, New Jersey; lives and works in Brooklyn), has exhibited internationally in major museums and galleries. His most recent solo exhibitions include *KAWS: WHERE THE END STARTS* at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth and Yuz Museum, Shanghai; *KAWS: GISWIL* at More Gallery, Giswil, Switzerland; Galerie Perotin, Seoul, Korea; and Yorkshire Sculpture Park and Longside Gallery (2016). His work has also been the subject of solo exhibitions at the Brooklyn Museum, Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, and the High Art Museum. KAWS received his BFA from the School of Visual Arts.

Related Events

Press & Patron Preview

Summer Exhibitions

Friday, May 5, 10:00 am

Join exhibiting artists and curators for an exclusive introduction to the exhibitions. RSVP to Eddie Silva at 314.535.0770 x311 or esilva@camstl.org

Opening Night:

Summer Exhibitions

Friday, May 5

Member Preview: 6:00 pm

Public Reception: 7:00–9:00 pm

About the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis

The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) presents, supports, and celebrates the art of our time. It is the premier museum in St. Louis dedicated to contemporary art. Focused on a dynamic array of changing exhibitions, CAM provides a thought-provoking program that reflects and contributes to the global cultural landscape. Through the diverse perspectives offered in its exhibitions, public programs, and educational initiatives, CAM actively engages a range of audiences to challenge their perceptions. It is a site for discovery, a gathering place in which to experience and enjoy contemporary visual culture. CAM is located in Grand Center, a world-class arts and entertainment district in the heart of St. Louis.

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