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Contemporary Art
Museum St. Louis

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Museum premiere of video work by Lili Reynaud-Dewar
On view May 6–August 14, 2016**



Lili Reynaud-Dewar, *I Sing the Body Electric (Corderia, Arsenale, Venice)*, 2016. HD video, color, silent, 6:57 mins. Courtesy the artist and CLEARING, New York and Brussels.

April 28, 2016 (St. Louis, MO) – The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) presents the museum debut of French artist Lili Reynaud-Dewar’s video work, *I Sing the Body Electric*, on view May 6 through August 14, 2016. The two videos, titled after a Walt Whitman poem, feature the artist dancing in the empty galleries of the Arsenale and Central Pavilion following the close of the 56th Venice Biennial in 2015, where her work was featured. Known for her performances and installations that address notions of femininity and how the body moves in space, Reynaud-Dewar gallops and sashays alone through vast spaces, her gestures recalling modern and folk dance as well as yoga poses. Painted red, her nude figure hovers between object and subject. Though appearing lighthearted and playful, the artist alludes to disparate references ranging from the art historical, such as Henri Matisse’s dancers, to the sociopolitical, suggesting a bloodied body.

Reynaud-Dewar’s dancing is interposed with still images of flowers, which evoke themes of beauty, memento mori, and even interior design. The videos also capture quiet interstitial moments in which the artist appears lost in thought or is engaged in everyday activities, including smoking a cigarette and checking her phone. At CAM, the installation of bright red carpet—strewn with silk scarves featuring images of the artist in various performative gestures—throughout the Museum’s mezzanine lends further materiality and texture to the imagery and action featured in the videos. In staging her work in the grand architectural spaces of the Venice Biennial, the oldest and most venerable exhibition of contemporary art in the world—and creating a new environment in which to view it—Reynaud-Dewar literally asserts herself within the larger narrative of the history of art.

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

CAM is free. Visit often!

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Lili Reynaud-Dewar (b. La Rochelle, France, 1975) lives and works in Grenoble, France. Recent solo exhibitions and projects have been presented at Index, Stockholm, Sweden (2014); New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York (2014); Le Consortium, Dijon, France (2013); Le Magasin, Grenoble, France (2012); and Kunsthalle Basel, Switzerland (2010). Reynaud-Dewar's work has also been included in a number of international group exhibitions, including the 56th Venice Biennale (2015); the 12th Lyon Biennial (2013), the Paris Triennial (2012), and the 5th Berlin Biennial (2008), and has been exhibited at institutions such as Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago (2015); Witte de With, Rotterdam, Netherlands (2014); and the Studio Museum in Harlem, New York (2013). Reynaud-Dewar has held a professorship at the Haute Ecole d'Art et de Design, Geneva, since 2010, and she co-founded the feminist journal *Pétunia* in 2011.



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Special thanks to CLEARING, New York and Brussels, and American Turf & Carpet.

Lili Reynaud-Dewar: I Sing the Body Electric is organized for the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis by Kelly Shindler, Associate Curator.

Related Events

Press & Patron Preview: Summer Exhibitions

Friday, May 6, 10:00 am

Join exhibiting artists and CAM curators for an exclusive introduction to the exhibitions. RSVP to Ida McCall at 314.535.0770 x311 or imccall@camstl.org.

Opening Night: Summer Exhibitions

Friday, May 6

Member Preview: 6:00 pm

Public Reception: 7:00–9:00 pm

Also On View this Summer

May 6–August 14, 2016

Great Rivers Biennial

Lyndon Barrois Jr.

Nanette Boileau

Tate Foley

Mark Bradford: Receive Calls on Your Cell Phone from Jail

Nomad Studio: Green Air

*New Art in the Neighborhood
Annual Student Exhibition*

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.