

Press contact: Eddie Silva
314.535.0770 x313
esilva@camstl.org



Contemporary Art
Museum St. Louis

3750 Washington Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63108
314.535.4660 camstl.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Tool Shed*, a project co-produced by Eric Ellingsen, involves “walkshops,” field recordings, and community participation to create sound portraits of CAM’s surrounding neighborhoods**



Perceiving Academy © Eric Ellingsen, ARTECITYA & ARTbox & Municipality, Thessaloniki, Greece, 2016. Photo: Giorgos Kogias.

April 11, 2019 (St. Louis, MO) - The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) presents *Tool Shed*, a multi-phase work by Eric Ellingsen and project partners. *Tool Shed* aligns with the investigative nature of Ellingsen’s art, involving process-oriented work, alternative ways of perceiving, and the use of public space for action-based research. In June and July, Ellingsen and CAM staff members will guide “walkshops” along the public streets and neighborhoods surrounding the museum. Washington Boulevard residents take part, including volunteers from the Samaritan United Methodist Church and the Third Baptist Church, as well as musicians, poets, field scientists, and landscape architects. The range of volunteers, which includes any visitors to the museum who wish to join, fulfills the artist’s goal to enlist many fields of knowledge through which multiple spatial narratives are formed. Walkshop participants gather field recordings of the local neighborhoods, which are then collected, archived, and mixed into soundscapes. An acoustically designed tool shed, installed in CAM’s courtyard, serves as a kiosk in which the sound portraits may be experienced throughout the summer. Visitors may encounter and participate in the multiple elements of the project, May 17 through August 18, 2019.

Ellingsen seeks to engage communities in the design and determination of their own spaces, stories, and lives. In *Tool Shed*, the individual and collective imaginations of the participants are encouraged through the acts of investigating local sites and collecting sonic data. The field recordings serve to define and retain the local culture, and offer a more complete understanding of the existing communities—their past, present, and possible futures.

Facebook
[contemporaryartmuseumstl](https://www.facebook.com/contemporaryartmuseumstl)

Twitter
[ContemporarySTL](https://twitter.com/ContemporarySTL)

Instagram
[camstl](https://www.instagram.com/camstl)

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

CAM is free. Visit often!

Eric Ellingsen (b. 1972, Lexington, Kentucky; lives and works in St. Louis) is an assistant professor in the Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts at Washington University in St. Louis. From 2009 to 2014, Ellingsen co-directed and taught at the Institute for Spatial Experiments, a five-year education project started by artist Olafur Eliasson and affiliated with the Berlin University of the Arts. During his time at the institute, Ellingsen worked to cultivate new critical spatial modes, methods, and models for teaching and practice. Ellingsen works and exhibits internationally, including at the Palais de Tokyo in Paris, Hamburger Bahnhof in Berlin, and the Sullivan Galleries in Chicago, and has been involved in a long-term collaboration with Ethiopian poets, musicians, and artists. He received an ARTECITYA artist residency (Thessaloniki, Greece) in 2016, a Library of Water residency in Iceland in 2014, and two Graham Foundation grants to individuals, in 2012 and 2014. He has served as the assistant director of the Master of Landscape Architecture program and visiting assistant professor at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago. Recent publications include *Twisted* (Broken Dimanche Press, 2017), *GAM. 13: Spatial Expeditions* (Graz Architecture Press, 2016), *Some Pigeons Are More Equal than Others* (Lars Muller Publishers, 2015), *BOMB* online, *The Chicago Review*, *World Literature Today*, and *Forty-Five*, a journal of outside research.



Contemporary Art
Museum St. Louis

The project is generously supported by the Divided City, an urban humanities initiative funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, a joint project of the Center for the Humanities and the Sam Fox School, College of Architecture and Urban Design at Washington University in St. Louis. Special thanks to project partners John Baugh, Neo Muyanga, and Casey O'Callaghan, and to KDHX.

Eric Ellingsen: Tool Shed is organized for the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis by Wassan Al-Khudhairi, Chief Curator; Alex Elmestad, Director of Learning and Engagement; and Misa Jeffereis, Assistant Curator.

Related Events

Press & Patron Preview

Friday, May 17, 10:00–11:00 am
Join artists and curators for an exclusive introduction to the exhibitions. RSVP to Eddie Silva at 314.535.0770 x313 or esilva@camstl.org

Opening Night

Friday, May 17
Member Preview 6:00–7:00 pm
Public Reception 7:00–9:00 pm

Walkshops

Friday, June 7 6:30–8:00 pm
Saturday, July 13 10:00 am–noon
Saturday, July 20 11:00 am–12:30 pm

All programs, dates, and times are subject to change.

About the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis

The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis 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 the Grand Center Arts District.

###