

LEAP Middle School Initiative En Masse



LEAP Middle School Initiative student working in the classroom. Photo: Abby Gillardi.

The young artists of LEAP are given the building blocks of contemporary art practice. They become involved in a process-based, intensive exploration of materials, gaining experience in the artistic act of transformation, moving from sketchbook to final form, and developing their art vocabulary. In the fall and spring LEAP sessions, the students worked with local artists Sage Dawson and Meghan Grubb in printmaking and sculpture, respectively. Because LEAP meets in the CAM education studio adjacent to the galleries, students took advantage of direct access to exhibitions featuring the works of Jean-Michel Basquiat, to study his unique line quality, and the sculptures of Christine Corday, to consider the

relationship between form and content. The results of their inquiries, both as individuals and as a collective, are seen in *En Masse*.



Audio Tour

Visit camstl.org/audio on a mobile device to hear directly from the teaching artists-in-residence.

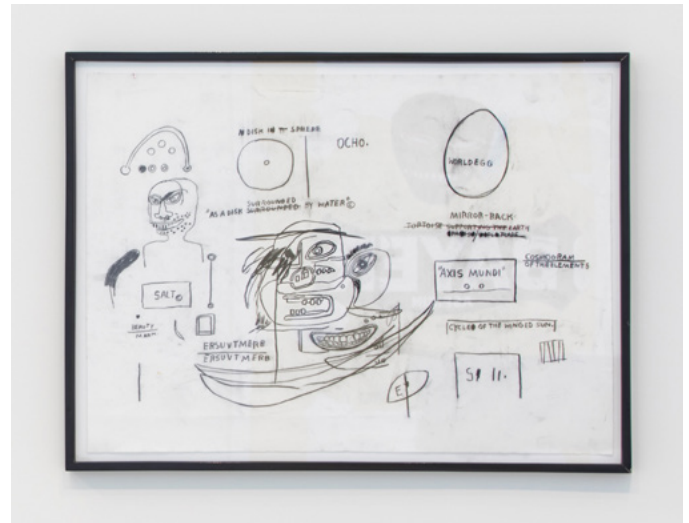
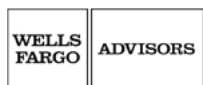
Sage Dawson is a St. Louis-based artist, curator, and educator. Her work examines dwelling rights, land use, and the identity of spaces. She teaches at Washington University in St. Louis and is a founding member of the artist-owned cooperative Monaco. She is the director of STNDRD, a gallery project examining the power and potentiality of flags. Dawson has exhibited nationally and internationally, and has appeared in *Art in America*, *Elephant Magazine*, *Art in Print*, and *Hyperallergic*, among other publications.

Meghan Grubb is a St. Louis-based artist working in sculpture and installation. Her practice explores relationships between humans and the spaces we inhabit, drawing on architecture, research into literature, perceptual psychology, optics, and the natural environment. She has exhibited nationally and internationally, and has received awards and grants including the RAC Artists Fellowship, American Scandinavian Foundation Fellowship, and nominations to the Joan Mitchell Emerging Artist Grant. Grubb is also a founding member of Monaco.

2019 LEAP participating artists: Penelope Andrews, Liza Baumstark, Alexa Bishop, Keteyian Cade, Emma Deaton, Saskia Dentman, Samiah Elmore, Jesse Heater, Amora Jones, Finn Kanak, Ivy Kanak, Fern Kanak, Montana Limper, Cozette Mothershead, Sanai Todd, Katherine Welch, and Angela Worthlin.

LEAP Middle School Initiative: En Masse is organized for the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis by José Garza, Museum Educator, and Sage Dawson and Meghan Grubb, LEAP teaching artists-in-residence.

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Basquiat Before Basquiat: East 12th Street, 1979-1980, installation view, Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, September 7-December 30, 2018. Photo: Dusty Kessler.



Christine Corday: RELATIVE POINTS, installation view, Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, January 18-April 21, 2019. Photo: Dusty Kessler.



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