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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAM hosts the 2nd annual Black Friday Marketplace & Ball



The Vixen joins the Black Friday Ball panel discussion. Courtesy the artist.

October 27, 2020 (St. Louis, MO) - The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis announces Qu'art's 2nd annual Black Friday Marketplace & Ball, which will be held onsite at the Museum and online, Friday, November 27, 4:00–8:00 pm. The event includes shopping for the perfect holiday gift among specialty items created by queer Black artists and makers, many of whom will be present to talk about their work with shoppers. A wide selection of objects will be on sale at the Museum, with a limited number available through CAM's <u>Shop</u> website. **Attendance will be limited according to the current safety and health guidelines of the City of St. Louis.**

Later in the evening, everyone is invited to stream the online portion of the event, the Black Friday Ball, 6:00–8:00 pm. The Ball begins with a panel discussion featuring leaders and advocates of the Black LGBTQ community. These include:

- Phillipe M. Cunningham, Minneapolis City Councilmember and the first and currently only out trans man of color elected to office in the U.S. Councilman Cunningham serves as Chair of the Minneapolis City Council's Public Health and Safety committee and is the lead councilmember for the city's transformative community safety work.
- Shigo Ladurée, drag performer. Shigo resides in Paris and is a self-branded "drag villain" and Black Lives Matter advocate.
- Kayla Reed, Co-Founder & Executive Director of Action St. Louis. Kayla is a Black, queer, feminist, organizer and strategist who works to build Black political power in St. Louis.
- The Vixen, drag performer. During her participation on the tenth season of *RuPaul's Drag Race*, she raised a conversation around racial dynamics among her fellow drag queens. She founded BlackGirlMagic, a drag concert, where queens of color can celebrate their unique experiences through storytelling and performance.



Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis

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Hours 10–5 Thu 10–8 Fri 10–5 Sat &Sun To add greater sparkle to the event, the Ball & Vogue competition follows with such drag stars as Majic Dyke and Blanca The Bawdy, along with other extraordinary entertainers. Special commentary will be provided by Meko Lee Burr.

Black Friday Marketplace & Ball Fri, November 27, 2020

Marketplace at CAM, 4:00–8:00 pm On-site visitor capacity will be determined by the current limits set by St. Louis City health officials. Timed-ticketing required. For the Museum's health and safety guidelines visit <u>camstl.org/safety</u>. Ball online at <u>twitch.tv/Quartstl</u>, 6:00–8:00 pm

Qu'art, pronounced like a "Quart" of milk, is a St. Louis based organization focused on using queer art as a platform for social change.

For more information, details, and to reserve timed-tickets visit <u>camstl.org/event/black-friday-ball/</u>

About the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis

The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis works to enrich lives and inspire curiosity, creativity, and learning through experiences with contemporary art. Focused on a dynamic array of changing exhibitions, the Museum reflects and contributes to the global cultural landscape while engaging thousands of visitors through a wide array of public programs. CAM nurtures the creative minds of our city's youth through free, in-depth art education, making a long-lasting impact on the community. We are a site for discovery, a welcoming space, free and open to all.

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