

Gallery Guide
Contemporary Art
Museum St. Louis

March 12–
August 15, 2021



RADIO RESISTANCE

A stylized red icon of a radio tower with a circular antenna at the top, positioned to the right of the word 'RADIO' in the main title.

As a major component of the exhibition *Stories of Resistance*, Radio Resistance assembles the voices of intersecting local and global agents of change. Artists featured in the exhibition are paired with figures from the past, present, and future of St. Louis, coming together to transmit messages of dissent. Eleven episodes will be released over the course of the exhibition, amplifying shared struggles, collective dreams, and models of individual and group action. Using a historically rebellious medium, Radio Resistance broadcasts social narratives of defiance and hope.

Selections of Radio Resistance will be broadcast on *St. Louis on the Air*, the noontime talk program hosted by Sarah Fenske on St. Louis Public Radio. Full episodes will be released biweekly in this gallery and on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and Stitcher. A publication celebrating *Stories of Resistance*, featuring episode highlights, will be released later this year.



Radio Resistance is co-produced by Michelle Dezember, Director of Learning and Engagement, Wassan Al-Khudhairi, Chief Curator, and Misa Jeffereis, Assistant Curator. Sound design and editing by Sean Pierce.

The co-producers wish to thank Sarah Fenske, Lara Hamdan, Aaron Doerr, Honna Veerkamp, Kalena Michele Boller, St. Louis Public Radio, and all of the participants who contributed their voices.

Episodes

/ **March 12** Prologue: CAM Staff & Producers

/ **March 25** Organizing Rebellion: Dread Scott and Walter Johnson

/ **April 8** Perseverance and Participation: Wendy Red Star and De Nichols

/ **April 22** Leveling the Field: Glenn Kaino, Tommie Smith, and Dr. Harry Edwards

/ **May 6** Public Platforms: Marina Peng & Shannon Levin (PSA:) and Cleo Barnett

/ **May 20** Insisting on Our Humanity: Hank Willis Thomas (Wide Awakes) and Congresswoman Cori Bush

/ **June 17** Women as Activists: Jen Liu and Candace Borders

/ **July 1** Forms of Liberation: Torkwase Dyson and Geoff Ward

/ **July 29** Defiant Writing: Banu Cennetoğlu and Treasure Shields Redmond

/ **August 12** Afterword: CAM Staff & Producers

Additional episodes to be announced.

Listen and learn more at
camstl.org/radio-resistance.

Contributors

Cleo Barnett is the Executive Director of Amplifier, a nonprofit design lab that builds media experiments to amplify social movements.

Candace Borders is pursuing a joint PhD in American Studies and African American Studies at Yale University. Her research is on the African American women of the Pruitt-Igoe housing project.

Congresswoman Cori Bush is a registered nurse, community activist, organizer, single mother, and ordained pastor for the people of St. Louis. Congresswoman Bush is serving her first term as the representative of Missouri's 1st Congressional District in the US House of Representatives.

Banu Cennetoğlu is a cross-disciplinary artist whose practice incorporates methods of collecting and archiving, and inquires into the politics of the production, classification, and distribution of knowledge. She is the founder of BAS, an artist-run space in Istanbul dedicated to artists' books and printed matter.

Torkwase Dyson is a painter whose compositions are constructed to address the continuity of space, movement, scale, geography, and architecture. For Dyson, these subjects in relationship to each other produce questions of abstraction that point to ideas of autonomy, environmental liberation, and perception.

Dr. Harry Edwards is Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of California, Berkeley. He was born in East St. Louis and moved to California, where he organized the Olympic Project for Human Rights, the movement that encouraged Tommie Smith and John Carlos to raise a fist at the 1968 Olympics.

Walter Johnson is Winthrop Professor of History and Professor of African and African American Studies at Harvard University. He is the author of *The Broken Heart of America: St. Louis and the Violent History of the United States*.

Glenn Kaino is an artist whose works, often functioning as poetic contradictions, aim to reconcile conflicting ideologies, opposing systems, and strict dichotomies in material and experiential ways. He has collaborated on a consciousness-raising body of work with Tommie Smith since 2013.

Shannon Levin is a St. Louis-based, Jersey-born Designstrator (designer/illustrator hybrid creature), and an organizer for PSA:, a collaborative public art project.

Jen Liu is a visual artist based in New York and Vermont, working in video/animation, genetically engineered biomaterial, choreography, and painting to explore national identities, gendered economies, neoliberal industrial labor, and the re-motivating of archival artifacts.

De Nichols is a social impact designer, arts organizer, and community engagement specialist. She is an organizer of the Design as Protest movement and author of the upcoming book *Art of Protest*.

Marina Peng is an artist and curator living in St. Louis. She is an organizer for PSA:, a collaborative public art project.

Treasure Shields Redmond is a poet, performer, and educator. Her work is featured in *Bum Rush the Page: A Def Poetry Jam*, *Breaking Ground: A Reader Celebrating Cane Canem's First Decade*, and in journals that include *Obsidian* and *The African American Review*.

Wendy Red Star was raised on the Apsáalooke reservation in Montana, and her work is informed both by her cultural heritage and her engagement with many forms of creative expression, including photography, sculpture, video, fiber arts, and performance.

Dread Scott is an artist who makes revolutionary art to propel history forward. Dread became part of a landmark Supreme Court case when he and others defied the new Flag Protection Act of 1989 by burning flags on the steps of the US Capitol.

Tommie Smith is an athlete and activist who raised a fist at the 1968 Summer Olympic Games in Mexico City to protest abuse of human rights around the world and in response to the struggle for civil rights in the US.

Hank Willis Thomas is a conceptual artist working primarily with themes related to perspective, identity, commodity, media, and popular culture. His collaborative projects include the artist-run initiative for art and civic engagement For Freedoms, and the collective Wide Awakes.

Geoff Ward is Professor of African and African-American Studies and faculty affiliate in the Department of Sociology and American Culture Studies Program at Washington University in St. Louis.



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