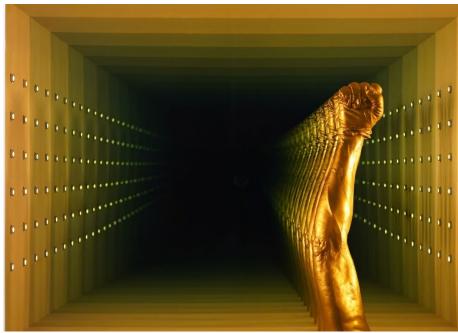
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Stories of Resistance explores forms of resistance across the world



Glenn Kaino, *Salute (Lineage)*, 2019. Wood, glass, fabric, urethane, lights, gold paint. $51 \frac{1}{2} \times 38 \frac{1}{2} \times 8$ inches. Courtesy the artist.

March 1, 2021 (St. Louis, MO) - The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) announces the opening of *Stories of Resistance*, a major group exhibition that explores artistic forms of resistance from across the world. With twenty-two artists and forty-two works of art, the entirety of the museum space is activated, inside and out, by a variety of media including video, photography, drawing, sculpture, painting, and installation. The artists present figurative, symbolic, representational, and abstract narratives from many social, political, and geographical spaces. Through visual narratives, the artists amplify and bring to focus the multitude of conditions that ignite and inspire people to resist. *Stories of Resistance* will be on view from March 12 through August 15, 2021.

The exhibition is organized into three thematic sections. Language as Resistance demonstrates how speech and storytelling empower individuals and resonate in many contexts and across geographies. Existence as Resistance presents various themes around making visible that which has been hidden while asserting the presence of lesser-known histories. Movement as Resistance focuses on the mobilization of people—whether through migration or marching in the streets—as a revolutionary form of action and self-determination.

Stories of Resistance features a dynamic assemblage of artists and art collectives: Bani Abidi, Andrea Bowers, Banu Cennetoğlu, Torkwase Dyson, Emily Jacir, Glenn Kaino, Bouchra Khalili, Candice Lin, Jen Liu, Guadalupe Maravilla, Tuán Andrew Nguyễn, Trevor Paglen, PSA:, Wendy Red Star, Dread Scott, Kemang Wa Lehulere, and Wide Awakes (Maryam Parwana, Combo, Otherward). An accompanying CAM publication is planned for later in the year, with images of works in the exhibition and writings that further explore and expand on the ideas and themes of Stories of Resistance.



Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis

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Hours 10-5 Thu 10-8 Fri 10-5 Sat &Sun

CAM is free. Visit often!

St. Louis serves as an ideal platform for the exhibition. Resistance movements that have arisen here—especially the rise of Black Lives Matter in response to the police killing of Michael Brown—have incited global actions against racism and injustice. By looking through a local lens, the exhibition draws connections worldwide, revealing profound influences that traverse borders and cultures.







A major component of *Stories of Resistance*, <u>Radio Resistance</u>, broadcasts dialogues between local and global agents of change while offering recognition to radio's legacy as a tool of dissent. Each episode features conversations between exhibiting artists and activists, artists, scholars, and others with a deep knowledge and

experience of St. Louis. Their conversations seek to amplify shared struggles, collective dreams, and models of individual and group action. Guests include Congresswoman Cori Bush and artist Hank Willis Thomas on movement building and political action; artist Dread Scott and historian Walter Johnson (*The Broken Heart of America: St. Louis and the Violent History of the United States*) on the history of organizing rebellions; and artist Jen Liu and scholar Candace Borders on labor rights. Selections from Radio Resistance episodes will be heard on <u>St. Louis on the Air</u>, St. Louis Public Radio's noontime talk program hosted by Sarah Fenske. Full-length episodes will be released biweekly and available in a CAM listening gallery, as well as on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and Stitcher.

In conjunction with *Stories of Resistance*, CAM launches <u>Collective Impact</u>, a new partnership with St. Louis-based <u>Creative Reaction Lab</u> (CRXLAB). From March through May, a selection of posters created to raise awareness about voter suppression in the US will be on view. These posters were made by young Black and Latinx designers and artists who participated in CRXLAB's Artwork for Equity program. From May through August, the galleries will be converted into interactive spaces for organizing around issues faced by St. Louis communities. Through a youth-led, Equity-Centered Community™ Design process, co-creators from CRXLAB will craft an evolving space that transforms in response to community participation.

Stories of Resistance is organized for the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis by Wassan Al-Khudhairi, Chief Curator, with Misa Jeffereis, Assistant Curator.

The exhibition and accompanying catalog are generously supported by grants from The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts and the Elizabeth Firestone Graham Foundation. Additional publication support is provided by Furthermore: a program of the J. M. Kaplan Fund.





Radio Resistance is co-produced by Michelle Dezember, Director of Learning and Engagement, Al-Khudhairi, and Jeffereis, with sound design and editing by Sean Pierce. The co-producers thank Sarah Fenske, Lara Hamdan, Aaron Doerr, Honna Veerkamp, Kalena Michele Boller, St. Louis Public Radio, Visitor Assembly, and all the participants who contributed their voices to Radio Resistance.



Collective Impact is organized for the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis by Michelle Dezember, Director of Learning and Engagement, and Miriam Ruiz, School and Community Programs Manager, in partnership with Creative Reaction Lab's Antionette Carroll, Founder, President, and CEO, and Tiana Glass, Program Coordinator.





Related Programs

Exhibition Opening

Fri, Mar 12

Patron Preview 10:00 am-noon Member Preview noon-8:00 pm Public Reception noon-8:00 pm

Film Screening:

Pink Slime Caesar Shift: Gold Loop

(Triad)

Chapter 1: Mar 12–May 11 Chapter 2: May 12–Jun 15 Chapter 3: Jun 16–Aug 15

Workshop: Hostile Terrain 94 Sat, Mar 20, 3:00-5:00 pm

On-site program available to visitors with timed tickets only.

Left Bank Books' Read the Resistance Wed, 7:00–8:00 pm Mar 24

The Broken Heart of America by

Walter Johnson

Apr 28

Black Sun by Rebecca Roanhorse

May 26

The Purpose of Power by Alicia Garza

Jun 23

Washington Black by Esi Edugyan

Jul 28

Daughters of Smoke and Fire

by Ava Homa

Feast Your Eyes: Akar (Takeout

Edition)

Wed, Mar 31, 6:30–7:30 pm

\$85; \$60 CAM members. Purchase tickets at camstl.org/feast

Film Screening With Drawn Arms Wed, Apr 21, 7:00 pm

Curator Tour

Wed, May 12, noon-1:00 pm

Drawing from Observation Wed, Jun 2, noon-1:00 pm

RE: The Work of Resistance Thu, Jul 1, 4:00-5:30 pm

Programs take place online, except where noted, or until safety guidelines change. Timed tickets may be reserved in advance. All programs, dates, and times are subject to change.

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.