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Contemporary Art
Museum St. Louis

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAM's Dada Ball is a Silver Linings Virtual Celebration, April 30, 2021



March 31, 2021 (St. Louis, MO) - The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) presents the ninth edition of its notorious Dada Ball, a Silver Linings Virtual Celebration, Friday, April 30, 2021. An evening of irreverence that arrives every other year, this Dada Ball maintains its outlandish cred in virtual mode, inspired by a 2020 quote from *The New Yorker*: *The silver lining of this year is the reassurance that art is unstoppable*. The Museum's executive director, Lisa Melandri remarks, "Dada Ball is known as a fundraiser with a twist, and this year it comes with its own silver linings—a reassurance that CAM has the resources to share the ideas, the meanings, the emotions, and the power of new art to come, whether at the museum, in schools, at senior centers, or online. Over the past months, CAM has delivered art experiences, on-site and online, throughout the pandemic. CAM, too, has been unstoppable."

"The Dada Ball spirit cannot be hindered by Zoom boxes," says Melandri, "especially for a celebration of those who have made CAM an unstoppable force: our dedicated Board of Trustees, our supportive Dada Ball Committee, our gracious sponsors, our intrepid Dada Ball Co-Chairs Susan Barrett and Margaret McDonald, and all of those who got us through a profoundly difficult year and kept us going. I thank and praise you all."

The Dada Ball raises essential funds for its dynamic exhibitions, thought-provoking public programs, and impactful educational initiatives. Dada Ballers are known for their generosity and commitment to CAM, and for their expressive Dada-bilities, whatever the mode of contact. This year, in a nod to Zoom life, they are invited to invent their own "couch couture."

Susan Barrett and Margaret McDonald not only serve as co-chairs, but as co-hosts of the event, which will feature musical performances by St. Louis favorites the [Red and Black Brass Band](#), who marched through the city streets giving hundreds of impromptu concerts last summer; and [Tonina](#), bass player and vocalist who made it onto a Barack Obama top-playlist. They are joined by [Moor Mother](#), poet, singer/songwriter, activist, visual artist and more, who is based in Philadelphia's verdant music scene. A number of CAM artists appear offering appreciation, support,

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

CAM is free. Visit often!

and their own silver linings during the event, including Katherine Bernhardt, Big Freedia, Derek Fordjour, Marilyn Minter, Amy Sherard, Laurie Simmons, Mickalene Thomas, Lisa Yuskavage, and other bright art-world stars.

All proceeds from the Dada Ball benefit CAM and are driven by contemporary art's unstoppable force. For more information contact dada@camstl.org.



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Dada Ball
A Silver Linings Virtual Celebration
Friday, April 30, 7:00 pm

Tickets: Benefactor \$500; Patron \$1,000

For the price of a ticket, Dada Ballers receive an exclusive link to the party plus a cocktail-hour Dada Box filled with surprises. An additional After Party Zoom Room opens following the main event.

Location: Virtual Dada Reality

Attire: Couch couture

Dada Ball Sponsors

Altostratus Sponsor

Alexis M. Cossé and Erik Karanik

Cumulus Sponsors

Edward Jones, Penny Pennington and Mike Fidler

The logo for Edward Jones, featuring the name 'Edward Jones' in a serif font, with 'Edward' in black and 'Jones' in white on a yellow rectangular background.

Nimbus Sponsor

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Barrett Barrera Projects, Ferring Family Foundation, First Bank, HOK, Jamieson Design Associates, Moneta, Carol and Michael Staenberg, Howard and Kate Stephens, Stifel, Pat Whitaker and Dick Miles, Jackie Yoon



Dada Ball Patrons

Joe Herman, Terry Hoffmann and Jeff Hartz, Patty and Gary Krosch, Hedy Lee, Judy W. Levy, Laura McCanna, Emily Rauh Pulitzer, Rick Shang, Mary Ann and Andy Srenco, Amanda Trudell Cambridge and Paul Cambridge

Dada Ball Committee

Shannon and Bradley Bailey, Gail E. Childs and J. Bradford Childs, Robert and Jane Clark, Alexis M. Cossé and Erik Karanik, JiaMin and Michael Dierberg, Alison and John Ferring, Shereen and Michael Fischer, Daron Hendrix, Joe Herman, Terry Hoffmann and Jeff Hartz, Nancy and Kenneth Kranzberg, Patty and Gary Krosch, Hedy Lee, Judy W. Levy, Greg Lukeman and Justin Scarbrough, Sue McCollum, Bridget Melloy and Yusuf Daneshyar, Penny Pennington and Mike Fidler, Emily Rauh Pulitzer, Leslie and Jacob Reby, Stephanie Riven and Roger Goldman, Julian and Sanya Schuster, Rick Shang, Julie and William Shearburn, Elizabeth Fowler Sheybani, Jeanne and Rex A. Sinquefield, Amy Soper, Mary Ann and Andy Srenco, Carol and Michael Staenberg, Donald M. Suggs, Amanda Trudell Cambridge and Paul Cambridge, Cort VanOstran, Kate Warne, Christine and Bradford K. Werner, Pat Whitaker and Dick Miles, Ted Wight, Jackie Yoon

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Special Thanks

Major Brands, Dierberg Vineyard



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About the Dada movement

In 1916 a group of artists gathered at the Cabaret Voltaire in Zurich and formed a brief yet influential art movement in reaction to nationalism and the horrors of World War I. They championed an art against normality, mocked convention and tradition, and unbuttoned a very buttoned-down era. Every other year CAM holds its notorious Dada Ball in honor of the Dada spirit that brought new life and light to art after a time of unprecedented death and destruction, a movement of ideas that confronted power with irreverence.

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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