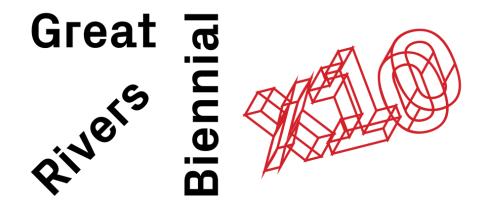
Press contact: Samantha Lyons 314.492.2988 slyons@camstl.org

**MEDIA ALERT** 

CAM celebrates 20 years of the *Great Rivers Biennial* in special event on January 26th



Design courtesy Lucy Chen.

January 17, 2023 (St. Louis, MO) - The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) celebrates ten editions—and 20 years—of the *Great Rivers Biennial* (GRB) with a special program honoring participating artists and jurors. Launched in 2003, the *Great Rivers Biennial* is a collaborative exhibition program presented by CAM and the Gateway Foundation. The initiative recognizes talented emerging and mid-career artists working in the greater St. Louis metropolitan area, providing each award recipient with a \$20,000 honorarium and a major exhibition at CAM. This event celebrates the artists and jurors who have participated in the *Great Rivers Biennial* throughout its two decades, as well as recognizes the program's impact as part of the larger ecosystem of artist support in St. Louis. Artists at all levels of their career are encouraged to attend, to learn not only about the GRB but also other opportunities offered by arts organizations whose representatives will be present at the reception. The event and reception are free and will be held at the museum on **Thursday, January 26, 5:30–8:00 pm.** 



GRB 2022 artist Yvonne Osei. Photo courtesy the artist. Guests will hear from past and present GRB winners Juan William Chávez (2008), Sarah Paulsen (2018), and Yvonne Osei (2022) in a panel discussion; connect with artist-serving resources offered by local organizations; and build momentum for the ongoing support of artists in our community. Throughout the evening, artists are invited to contribute their voices and reflect on the question: How can St. Louis best serve its artist community? Facebook contemporaryartmuseumstl

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Hours 10-5 Thu 10-8 Fri 10-5 Sat & Sun CAM is free. Visit often!



Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis

3750 Washington Blvd St. Louis, MO 63108 314.535.4660 camstl.org



Museum St. Louis

With special thanks to tabling organizations: Craft Alliance, Kranzberg Arts Foundation, Laumeier Sculpture Park, The Luminary, Midwest Artist Project Services (MAPS), Regional Arts Commission, and Volunteer Lawyers and Accountants for the Arts.

What: Confluence: Celebrating the Tenth Edition of the Great Rivers BiennialWhere: Contemporary Art Museum St. LouisWhen: Thursday, January 26, 2023, 5:30–8:00 pm

## To schedule an interview with Great Rivers Biennial artists Juan William Chávez, Yvonne Osei, and Sarah Paulsen, please contact <u>slyons@camstl.org</u>.

This is a free event. RSVP recommended. For a full list of participating artists in the *Great Rivers Biennial*, 2003–present, see the *Great Rivers Biennial* <u>online archive</u>. For more information and event details, visit our <u>website</u>.

The Great Rivers Biennial is made possible by the Gateway Foundation.

## GATEWAY FOUNDATION

## About the Gateway Foundation

The Gateway Foundation strives to enrich St. Louis life and culture by supporting efforts to acquire, create, and improve tangible and durable art and urban design. The focus of Gateway is to foster and support cultural and artistic activities and, on occasion, related to educational activities devoted to improving the quality of life in the St. Louis metropolitan area. Visit the Gateway Foundation's website at <u>gatewayfoundation.org</u> and Twitter feed <u>@CitygardenSTL</u>.

## About the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis

The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis creates meaningful engagement with the most relevant and innovative art being made today. Founded by civic and cultural leaders in 1980, the Museum transformed from a small gallery into an internationally recognized arts institution, now permanently housed in a flexible, open, and inviting building designed by renowned American architect Brad Cloepfil. CAM's distinct architecture reflects the organization's values and supports a dynamic range of exhibitions, public programs, educational initiatives, and community collaborations. The only museum in the region solely dedicated to contemporary art, CAM is one of the preeminent non-collecting institutions of its kind in the United States. We are a site for discovery, a welcoming space, free and open to all. For more information, visit <u>camstl.org</u>.

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