Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis awarded $50,000 grant from Teiger Foundation in support of upcoming Paul Chan exhibition

April 10, 2023 (St. Louis, MO) - The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) announces the receipt of a $50,000 grant from Teiger Foundation’s Call for Proposals grantmaking initiative. The award will support the touring exhibition Paul Chan: Breathers, which will be on view at CAM from March 8–August 11, 2024.

Teiger Foundation awarded a total of $4.2 million in support of innovative curator-led projects, coalitions, and climate action within the field of contemporary art. Of this total, $3.3 million has been awarded through the Foundation’s inaugural Call for Proposals, the first initiative of its kind to support the full spectrum of curatorial activities, from community integration of traveling exhibitions, to the research and development of major exhibitions, to multi-year programming at small institutions. Teiger Foundation’s Call drew over 400 proposals from curators at various stages of their careers and project development. The
39 grantees were selected through a competitive process that included a review by an advisory group of peer curators as well as the Foundation’s Board and staff.

“The Foundation’s Call for Proposals seeks to advance the fields of contemporary art and curating by providing new and needed resources for the full spectrum of curatorial activities, encompassing everything from new research to site-responsive programming.” said John Silberman, President of the Board of Teiger Foundation, in conjunction with the announcement of the inaugural Call. “The announcement of our 2023 grantees marks a pivotal moment for the Foundation as we continue to build upon the legacy of our founder David Teiger and support an ever-broader group of curatorial visionaries.”

The grant from Teiger Foundation will support CAM’s presentation of Paul Chan: Breathers, an exhibition that explores the work of New York-based artist, writer, publisher, and 2022 MacArthur Fellow Paul Chan. The exhibition is organized by the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, and curated by Pavel Pyš, Curator, Visual Arts; with Matthew Villar Miranda, Curatorial Fellow, Visual Arts. The presentation at CAM is organized by Misa Jefferies, Associate Curator. In addition to the 40 works in CAM’s galleries, Chan will contribute a new project related to his voter registration advocacy. This project will focus on pre-registering young adults who will be 18 at the time of the 2024 general election, expanding on the Museum’s own voter registration initiative, which began in 2020. Each voter who registers at CAM will be offered a free print by Chan. Following its initial presentation at the Walker Art Center, Breathers will travel to the Institute of Contemporary Art at Virginia Commonwealth University in September 2023 before arriving at CAM in March 2024.

Full details of Teiger Foundation’s inaugural Call for Proposals and its 2023 grantees can be found here.

Teiger Foundation

About Teiger Foundation
Teiger Foundation advances innovative curatorial practice and rigorous investigations in contemporary art. Through its grantmaking initiatives, Teiger Foundation aims to catalyze positive change within the field through its support of curatorial projects that further new research, broaden opportunities for diversity and inclusion, and embrace more sustainable practices. A champion for curatorial empowerment, the Foundation provides critical support for curators in realizing boundary-pushing projects that might otherwise meet institutional resistance or be deemed difficult or controversial.

Established by collector and art patron David Teiger (1929–2014) in 2008, the Foundation honors the spirit of its late founder who acted as an advocate for contemporary artists and curators pursuing ambitious, innovative, and unconventional projects. The Foundation moved into a new phase of activity following the posthumous sale of Teiger’s collection in 2018–19, which established the Foundation among the largest of its kind dedicated exclusively to contemporary art. From 2020 through the end of FY 2022, the Foundation distributed a total of $8 million, supporting exhibitions at nonprofit institutions and curator-led organizations; coalitions and initiatives that support and challenge the field of visual art;
as well as relief efforts that help artists and cultural workers in need. Fall 2022 marked the launch of the Foundation’s first Call for Proposals and Climate Action Pilot program. For more information please visit teigerfoundation.org.

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 camstl.org.

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