

CAC announces 2014-15 season

The Contemporary Arts Center has released its 2014-15 season lineup, the one in which it will mark both the center's 75th anniversary and the 25th anniversary of its controversial Robert Mapplethorpe exhibit, *The Perfect Moment*.



Instead of directly addressing either event, the CAC is choosing to lightly reference both, with *Memory Palace* in September, an exhibition that touches on ideas about memory, and *the perfect kiss (QQ)** in April, an exhibition curated and co-created by one-time Cincinnati artist Matt Morris.

Here is an edited summary of the season:

Sept. 12-Feb. 16, 2015 / *Memory Palace* curated by Steven Matijcio, CAC curator. To mark the CAC's 75th anniversary, this exhibition presents memory as "soft, malleable clay" and considers remembering as a creative act. Confirmed artists include Louise Bourgeois, Spencer Finch,

Mike Kelley, William Kentridge, Guillermo Kuitca, Jun Nguyen-Hatsushiba, Hans Op de Beeck, Dennis Oppenheim and Katrin Sigurdardottir. The CAC is gathering memories and stories of the museum in different formats, from video interviews to forensic sketches, and commissioning reconfigurations of the organization's unofficial archives. Cincinnati artist Pam Kravetz will create a memory quilt for the CAC lobby.



Sept. 12.-Feb. 16, 2015 / Blockbuster: Taiyo Onorato & Nico Krebs curated by Kevin Moore, also curator of FotoFocus 2014. This is the first major museum exhibition in the United States for Onorato and Krebs, Swiss-born and Berlin-based. The artists use photography and other

media (film, sculpture and sound) to celebrate eccentric reconstructions of the world around us.

Oct. 10-March 22, 2015 / Based on a True Story: Duke Riley & Frohawk Two Feathers curated by Matijcio. This exhibition brings together two artists who have turned historical fiction into a calling. Boston-born Duke Riley marries what he calls "populist myth" and "reinvented historical obscurities" with research, participatory craft and museological display. Chicago-born, Los Angeles-based Frohawk Two Feathers is an artist, historian and self-described "myth-maker" who re-imagines 18th century colonial history through a fictive cast of slaves, revolutionaries, militiamen and aristocrats.

Oct. 10-March 22, 2015 / Unmade: Anne Lindberg & Saskia Olde Wolbers curated by Matijcio. This exhibition is designed to turn upside down what feels familiar. Lindberg creates what might be called drawing clouds while Dutch-born, London-based video artist Wolbers submerges her handmade sets into water and tells stories around them.

March 20-Aug. 16, 2015 / Erasing the Present: Daniel Arsham curated by Matijcio. Cleveland-born artist Daniel Arsham is said to "make architecture do all the things it shouldn't." This is the first large-scale Ohio exhibition for Arsham, who became widely known (at the age of 25) when asked to design a stage set for dancer and choreographer Merce Cunningham.

March 20-Aug. 16, 2015 / Self-Portrait as Light: Albano Afonso curated by Matijcio and Alice Grey Stites, museum director for 21C Museum Hotels. Through photographs, installations, projections and luminous object, Afonso gives light a sculptural presence. This will be Afonso's first major exhibition in the United States, and it will extend across the CAC and 21c Museum Hotel.

April 17-Sept. 13, 2015 / the perfect kiss (QQ)*: James Lee Byars and

Matt Morris curated by Matt Morris. American artist James Lee Byars' (1932-97) marriage Gwedolyn Dunaway and his flirtation with German artist Josef Beuys (to whom he sent lyrical letters and objects) serve as fodder for an exhibition that is both art and exchange. Morris will develop an installation of works by Byars along with his own artistic response. The exhibition's title references a 1974 work by Byars, while also speaking to Robert Mapplethorpe's exhibition, *The Perfect Moment*. QQ stands for "questioning queer."

April 17-Sept. 13, 2015 / The Vesper Project: Titus Kaphar curated by Titus Kaphar and Matijcio. "The Vesper Project" is a massive sculptural statement in which Kaphar's paintings are woven into the walls of a 19th century American house and is the culmination of a five-year project around the lost storylines of the Vespers, a 19th century family who "passed" as a white family in New England even as their mixed heritage made them "Negro" in the eyes of the law. Members of this family and their histories are intertwined with Kaphar's autobiographical details, posing cultural questions of identity and truth.

Performance Series

September 2014 / Taylor Mac, "An Abridged Concert of The History of Political Popular Music (1939-now)." Mac (who prefers the pronoun "judy") is an Obie Award-winning playwright, actor and singer-songwriter who transforms into a bedazzled creature. This is a portion of the latest in judy's series of concerts that explore the last 240 years of popular songs in America.

October 2014 / Ben Frost, A U R O R A live. Frost is an Australian composer and producer based in Iceland, whose compositions merge guitar-based textures and electronics into digital soundscapes. A U R O R A is his fifth album.

Nov. 17 / Nils Frahm, Dawn of Midi. Frahm, of Berlin, is an accomplished

composer, producer and pianist. His most recent album is "Spaces," which focuses on his love of experimentation. Solo piano works include "Wintermusik" (2009) and "The Bells" (2009), and "Felt" (2011).

More performances will be announced later.

CAC seeks performance artist for August

The CAC is accepting proposals for original performance works by artists and collectives from or currently living in Greater Cincinnati for its 2014 Summer Performance Series.

The Summer Performance Series is 7 p.m. Mondays in August in the CAC Black Box. Each evening, two artists will produce their works, at a maximum of 50 minutes in length. A \$350 stipend is provided.

Proposals must be submitted by email by 5 p.m. June 13 to afournier@contemporaryartscenter.org