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HYDE PARK ART CENTER
75 YEARS
OF MAKING CHICAGO'S
ART HAPPEN



**HYDE PARK ART CENTER ANNOUNCES ARTISTS EXHIBITING IN “GROUND FLOOR,”
A BIENNIAL EXHIBITION OF NEW ART FROM CHICAGO, OPENING DECEMBER 12, 2014**

A Preview of “Ground Floor” Can Be Seen at EXPO CHICAGO, the International Exposition of
Contemporary and Modern Art, September 18-21 at Navy Pier

Chicago—**Hyde Park Art Center** is proud to announce the return of “**Ground Floor**,” the third of an ongoing series of biennial programs that feature work by Chicago’s most promising emerging talent. An opening reception for the exhibition will be held December 12 from 6 – 8 pm.

“Ground Floor” 2014 artists are: **Evan Baden, Hannah Barco, Greg Browe, Houston Cofield, Maggie Crowley, Barbara Diener, Assaf Evron, Andrew Holmquist, Kelly Lloyd, Jesse Malmel, Esau McGhee, Ben Murray, Celeste Rapone, Kyle Schlie, Tina Tahir, Keijaun Thomas, Daniel Tucker, Ramyar Vala, Julie Weber and Nicole Wilson.** All 20 exhibiting artists will have work on view at Hyde Park Art Center’s booth # 814 at EXPO CHICAGO, September 18-21, previewing the multi-media work represented in “Ground Floor.”

For more information on EXPO CHICAGO, visit www.expochicago.com.

Nominated by respected members of the arts community and selected by the Art Center’s Exhibitions Committee, which includes artists **Dawoud Bey** (Chair), **Michelle Grabner, Caroline Picard, Daniel Sauter**, along with Art Center Staff, **Allison Peters Quinn** and **Kate Lorenz**, the selected artists are recent graduates from Chicago’s top-ranked Master of Fine Art programs: **Columbia College Chicago, Northwestern University, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, The University of Chicago** and the **University of Illinois at Chicago**.

The committee typically receives more than 100 artist nominations from faculty artists, critics, and curators in Chicago. After reviewing submissions from the nominated artists, the committee rigorously narrows down the submissions to a final shortlist of work that represents the range of dynamic art practices coming out of Chicago today. “Ground Floor” alumni include **Jessie Mott** and **Tony Lewis**, who recently exhibited in the Whitney Biennial.

Named for its role in providing a crucial platform for young artists, “Ground Floor” includes:

- A major exhibition that fills the entire lower level of the Art Center’s 32,000 square foot building, December 12, 2014-March 29, 2015.
- An exhibition catalogue that increases the visibility of *Ground Floor* artists outside of Chicago
- Critical writing that allows artists to receive valuable, documented feedback about their work and will cultivate new critical voices
- Professional support for promising Chicago artists—introducing them to curators, critics, collectors, and a public beyond their immediate network
- A public stage and “next step” for young artists following their graduate degrees
- A direct pipeline of new talent to local and national institutions, galleries, and curators
- A destination for the Chicago community to see and learn about artists whose careers we should watch and support

“This unique program exemplifies the Art Center’s mission to support Chicago artists at every stage of their careers,” said Hyde Park Art Center Executive Director **Kate Lorenz**. “We look forward to capping our 75th anniversary year with this exhibition featuring this exceptionally promising group of artists.”

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Hyde Park Art Center is a unique resource that advances contemporary visual art in Chicago by connecting artists and communities in unexpected ways. As an open forum for exploring the artistic process, the Art Center fosters creativity through making, learning about, seeing, and discussing art—all under one roof. The Art Center is funded in part by: Alphawood Foundation; Andy Warhol Foundation for Visual Arts; a City Arts III grant from the City of Chicago’s Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events; Field Foundation of Illinois; Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts; Harper Court Arts Council; Harpo Foundation; Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; Illinois Humanities Council; Irving Harris Foundation; Joyce Foundation; Lloyd A. Fry Foundation; MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at Prince; National Endowment for the Arts; National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Illinois General Assembly; Polk Bros. Foundation; David C and Sarajeon Ruttenberg Arts Foundation; Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust; and the generosity of its members and people like you.