

aspenartmuseum

EXHIBITIONS | SUMMER 2013



ROB PRUITT: *An American Folk Artist* **May 3 – July 14, 2013**

Rob Pruitt, *Panda and Bamboo (10 year Anniversary, No Green)*, 2011. Private collection. Image courtesy of the artist and Gavin Brown's enterprise, New York.

Since the early 1990s, Rob Pruitt's risk-taking investigations into American popular culture have taken many forms. Common throughout Pruitt's varied body of work is a post-Pop sensibility through which he playfully satirizes the art world and its ambivalent relationship to celebrity and popular culture. His glitter portraits of pandas show them impersonating a wide range of well-known people, including 1970s rock stars KISS and Hollywood actress Denise Richards, and engaging in activities like hugging, eating, and climbing trees. In other works, the artist has produced performances in the form of events such as his ongoing *Flea Market* and *Annual Art Awards*.

Curated by Aspen Art Museum Nancy and Bob Magoon CEO and Director Heidi Zuckerman Jacobson, *Rob Pruitt: An American Folk Artist* features approximately 30 works that simultaneously chart a path through his diverse oeuvre and stay true to the spirit of disruption that has long been central to his artistic practice.



THEA DJORDJADZE **May 3 – July 14, 2013**

Thea Djordjadze. Installation view of *Let me disclose the gifts reserved for age*, 2011. Courtesy of the artist and Rat Hole Gallery.

Originally trained as a painter, Thea Djordjadze is best known for creating sculptural installations that combine found and constructed elements in carefully choreographed settings. Employing materials ranging from the elegant to the everyday, Djordjadze's installations often suggest fragmentary arrangements of furniture and other functional objects, oscillating between such categories as abstraction and decoration, model and reality, process and product. While her works may develop out of interests in cinema, architecture, and literature, their references remain oblique, in effect setting a mood rather than telling a story. This is Djordjadze's first major solo exhibition in North America.



Machine Project | AAM Annual **Fourth of July Parade Float | Thursday, July 4, 2013**

Mungo Thomson's *Levitating Mass* in 2012 AAM Fourth of July Parade.

Since 2005 the AAM has commissioned contemporary artists to design a float for Aspen's Old Fashioned Fourth of July Celebration and Parade. Past participants have ranged from composer Nico Muhly to visual artists Dave McKenzie, Mungo Thomson, and Harrell Fletcher to the New York-based architectural firm WORKac.

This year's float—*Aspen Yodel Mountain: A Musical Tribute to Maroon Bells* by Los Angeles-based Machine Project—is planned to feature animatronic skiers, a live yodeler, and alpine horns. Machine Project is both a nonprofit performance and installation space investigating art, technology, natural history, science, and food in an informal Echo Park storefront and a loose confederacy of artists producing shows at locations ranging from museums to beaches and parking lots. Machine Project has worked with the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, and the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, and recently concluded a year-long residency addressing topics of public engagement at LA's Hammer Museum.

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS | SUMMER 2013



LORNA SIMPSON:
Works on Paper
2013 Jane and Marc
Nathanson Distinguished
Artist in Residence
July 26 – September 22,
2013

L: Lorna Simpson, *Actress 1M*, 2007
Graphite, ink, and watercolor on paper
Courtesy of the artist and Salon 94, New York

R: Lorna Simpson, *Barbara 1N*, 2007
Graphite, ink, and watercolor
Courtesy of the artist and Salon 94, New York

Lorna Simpson: Works on Paper highlights a recent body of work that explores the complex relationship between the photographic archive and processes of self-fashioning. As in

Simpson's earlier works, these new drawings and collages take the African-American woman as a point of departure, continuing her longstanding examination of the ways that gender and culture shape the experience of life in our contemporary multi-racial society. This will be the first museum exhibition dedicated to Simpson's drawings and collages—including a new series of works created during her tenure as the Aspen Art Museum's 2013 Jane and Marc Nathanson Distinguished Artist in Residence—and will be accompanied by a fully illustrated, scholarly catalogue.

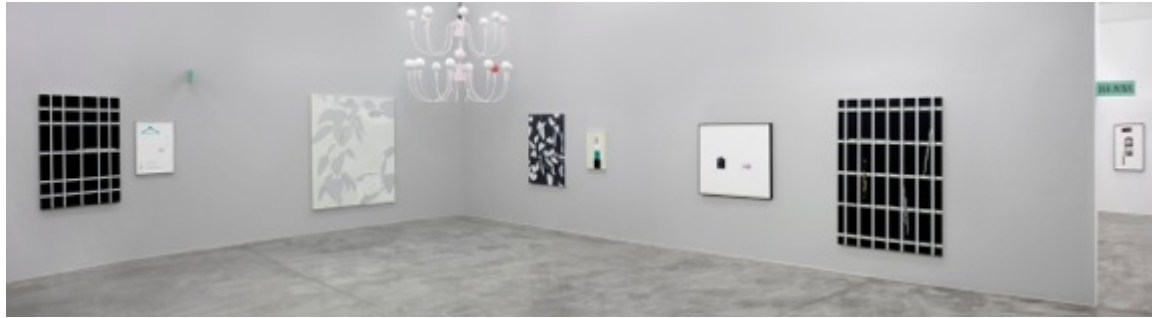


HAYLEY TOMPKINS
July 26 – September 22, 2013

Hayley Tompkins, *Chair*, 2011 Installation view. Courtesy of the Artist, The Modern Institute/Toby Webster Ltd., Glasgow and Andrew Kreps, New York

In her paintings and painted objects, Hayley Tompkins emphasizes the energy found in small things and economical gestures. From sticks and scraps of wood to spoons and mobile phone casings, her choice of support insistently draws attention to the boundary between painting and reality. Organized in suggestive and deceptively informal arrangements, Tompkins's minimal, lo-fi objects highlight the acts of looking, touching, and experiencing space. In so doing, Tompkins prompts us to slow down and attend to our surroundings in a concentrated way that is decidedly at odds with the pace of contemporary life. Her exhibition at the AAM will be her first solo presentation in a North American institution.

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS | FALL 2013 & WINTER 2014



Matthew Brannon, installation view, *Gentleman's Relish*, 2011, Casey Kaplan Gallery, New York.

TRAPPING LIONS IN THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS

November 15, 2013 – February 2, 2014

GROUP EXHIBITION

It might be a Scottish name, taken from a story about two men on a train.

One man says, "What's that package up there in the baggage rack?"

And the other answers, "Oh, that's a MacGuffin."

The first one asks, "What's a MacGuffin?"

"Well," the other man says, "it's an apparatus for trapping lions in the Scottish Highlands."

The first man says, "But there are no lions in the Scottish Highlands," and the other one answers, "Well then, that's no MacGuffin!" So you see that a MacGuffin is actually nothing at all.

—Alfred Hitchcock to François Truffaut

Borrowing its name from Alfred Hitchcock's explanation of the MacGuffin, the seemingly indispensable but ultimately arbitrary device by which narrative is propelled, *Trapping Lions in the Scottish Highlands* deals with questions of narrative complexity, disjunction, and ambiguity in recent art. Often combining fictional narration with seemingly archival or documentary footage, the works in the exhibition employ a range of tactics to blur the line between fiction and reality, weaving fragmentary stories around absent centers. From the elegant separation of sound and image to the complex aesthetics of the murder mystery, these works employ a range of tactics to create narrative tension even while casting doubt on their own credibility. Organized by Aspen Art Museum curator Jacob Proctor.



HOLT QUENTEL

November 15, 2013 – January 19, 2014

Images courtesy of Kathleen Cullen

Artist Holt Quentel (born 1961) achieved recognition in the late 1980s for her paintings made from distressed tarpaulins stenciled with letters and symbols. At Stux Gallery in New York in 1990, Quentel presented an exhibition of 21 modified side chairs, designed by Charles Eames and mass-produced by Herman Miller, embellished by such objects as kitschy fabric coverings, Grateful Dead stickers, and other decals. Falling somewhere between the

readymade and found object assemblage, Quentel's sculptures personalized these highly uniform icons of modern design, touching on what she described as "the contradictions inherent in the utopian desire to create a universal commodity" and ironically addressing the social implications of the modernist aesthetic. Shortly after this exhibition, the artist absented herself from the art world.

Despite the mystery surrounding her exile, Quentel and her works have maintained a cult following, existing as a vital, if underground, presence. Now 23 years later, the Aspen Art Museum brings these objects back together again for the artist's first solo museum presentation, reopening this little known body of work to new discourse and new evaluation.

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS | SUMMER & FALL 2014



AMY SILLMAN: *one lump or two*
February 14 – May 18, 2014

Amy Sillman, *The Plumbing*, 2006. Courtesy of the Artist and Sikkema Jenkins & Co, New York

The first museum survey of New York-based painter Amy Sillman will contain drawings, paintings, 'zines, as well as the artist's recent forays into animated film. Curated by Helen Molesworth and presented at the ICA Boston, and coordinated by AAM curator Jacob Proctor, *Amy Sillman* covers the period from 1995 to the present and traces the development in Sillman's work from her early use of cartoon figures and a vivacious palette, through to her exploration of the diagrammatic line, the history of abstract expressionism, and a growing concern with the bodily and the erotic dimensions of paint. The exhibition will focus on the importance of drawing in Sillman's practice, as well as the intensity with which she has embraced the dichotomy between figuration and abstraction.



ERNESTO NETO
June 6 –
September 2, 2014

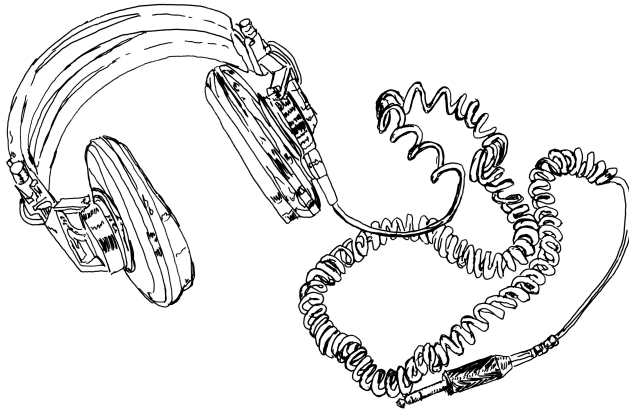
Ernesto Neto, *Mother body emotional densities, for alive temple time baby son*, 2007. Mixed media. Installed in MCASD's new Jacobs Building. Museum purchase, International and Contemporary Collectors Funds. Photograph by Pablo Mason.

Brazilian artist Ernesto Neto (born 1964) has achieved international acclaim for his large-scale, immersive environments that alter and heighten our perceptions of our surroundings. Often involving stretchy semitransparent fabric, aromatic spices, and,

more recently, crochet, Neto's installations have an organic, biomorphic character evoking skin and interior bodily systems. Neto's work challenges the notion of sculpture as static object and investigates the ways that alterations to space, and environment in turn, transform the relations between people. In this, he draws on and extends both the abstract modernism of Alexander Calder, Hans Arp, and Constantin Brancusi and the sensuous, performative practices of such Brazilian predecessors as Lygia Clark and Hélio Oiticica. Spanning both AAM upper and lower galleries, Neto's exhibition will present visitors with an opportunity to slow down, pause, and rediscover the essential qualities of sensory experience.

ART IN UNEXPECTED PLACES | 2013

A core element of the AAM's innovative programming is the exhibition of art in a variety of environments. From installations in local businesses to ambitious on-mountain projects, the AAM has developed a reputation as an incubator for the arts and creativity in the Aspen community.



DAVE MULLER

Dave Muller, *A Few of My Favorite Things – Aspen Three-Day Weekend* (project detail), 2013. Image courtesy of the artist, Aspen Art Museum, and Blum & Poe, Los Angeles.

AAM Future Home South Spring Street and East Hyman Avenue, Aspen, beginning summer 2013

Known for his wall drawings and large-scale works on paper that employ iconic structures such as the top-ten list to create uniquely personal portraits based on the musical passions of their subjects Los Angeles-based

artist Dave Muller is creating a new work for the covered walkways on the site of the New Aspen Art Museum. The new mural will incorporate imagery from Muller's *Three Day Weekend* held in Aspen over Presidents' Day weekend 2013. Visitors were invited to bring a favorite object to the museum for Muller to translate into a one-of-a-kind T-shirt. On one covered walkway, passersby will encounter some of Muller's favorite things, while the other will feature some of Aspen's favorite things. The project follows on the success of Kay Rosen's *Construction Zone*, exhibited on the site from June 2012–June 2013.



A key partner in building the AAM Art in Unexpected Places programming has been the Aspen Skiing Company. Since 2005, the AAM and SkiCo have invited artists to design lift tickets and create installations, performances, and events around Aspen and Snowmass.

For the 2012–13 ski season, Dave Muller created a site-specific wall drawing for the new Elk Camp restaurant on Snowmass Mountain. Entitled *Aspen Skiing Company Music Survey Results and Generated Topography (The Hills Are Alive...)*, the drawing is based on the results of a brief questionnaire given by the artist to ASC employees in which he inquired about their top 10 favorite albums of all time as well as their height. Muller created a similarly themed acrylic on paper work for the AAM, *Aspen Art Museum Top Ten (To Each His or Her Own)*, currently on view in the museum's lower-level lobby.

Dave Muller (b. 1964, San Francisco) has exhibited widely over the past twenty years, including solo exhibitions at the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León, Spain; Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; St. Louis Art Museum; and the Bard Center for Curatorial Studies Museum, among many others. In addition to *Marlon Brando*, *Pocahontas*, and *Me* at the AAM, his group exhibitions include *Sympathy for the Devil: Art and Rock and Roll Since 1967* at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; and *The Record: Contemporary Art and Vinyl*, at the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, ICA Boston, and Miami Art Museum. Muller lives and works in Los Angeles.

SPECIAL EVENTS



ARTCRUSH | Friday, August 2, 2013

Prominent artists, art collectors, curators, gallery owners, celebrities, and philanthropists from around the world gather in Aspen every year during the first week in August to celebrate ArtCrush, the Aspen Art Museum's annual summer benefit.

The Aspen Art Museum is proud to announce the selection of renowned contemporary artist **Teresita Fernández** as the recipient of the museum's **2013 Aspen Award for Art**. The award will be presented on **Friday, August 2, 2013**, during the museum's 9th annual **ArtCrush** summer benefit gala. The Aspen Award for Art is given each year to an artist who has made a significant contribution to the field of contemporary art. Past artist-honorees are: Tom Sachs, Roni Horn, Marilyn Minter, Fred Tomaselli, Ed Ruscha, Jim Hodges, Tony Feher, and Richard Tuttle.



On Friday, August 2, 2013, the Aspen Art Museum will host its annual summer benefit gala, with over 350 of the world's top art collectors, wine connoisseurs, artists, gallery owners, curators, celebrities, and global business leaders, who will come together in Aspen for three days of events to celebrate the Aspen Art Museum. The hugely successful **2012 AAM ArtCrush** summer benefit raised \$2 million to fund the Museum's educational programming and exhibitions. The ten-lot 2012 ArtCrush Live Auction of contemporary art raised a total of \$770,000 and the seventy-lot Silent Auction art auction garnered an additional \$774,000.



ArtCrush is chaired by veteran Chair and AAM National Council member **Amy Phelan**.

2012 AAM ArtCrush. Photos by Billy Farrell/BFAnyc.com

Teresita Fernández, *Fire*, 2005, Silk yarn, steel armature, epoxy, 96 x 144 (diameter) inches. Courtesy of Lehmann Maupin, New York

FREESTYLE | Saturday, December 28, 2013

The Aspen Art Museum's annual Freestyle winter benefit is the season's most-anticipated annual après ski event. Freestyle is a no-holds-barred evening of champagne, fine caviar, fashion, and a top-shelf bar all benefitting the AAM and featuring amazing auction items. The evening highlight is a fabulous live auction of must-have luxury items and travel packages that can't be found anywhere else.



NEW AAM SITE



Construction of a new 30,000+-square-foot Shigeru Ban-designed Aspen Art Museum (AAM) facility is underway with a grand opening targeted for summer 2014. The AAM continues its programming of internationally significant contemporary art at its current location throughout construction.

Designed by internationally renowned architect Shigeru Ban of Shigeru Ban Architects (SBA) the new AAM will be located at the corner of South Spring Street and East Hyman Avenue in downtown Aspen. This will be Ban's first U.S. museum to be constructed. The new AAM will include key design elements that comprise Ban's vision for the new facility as a state-of-the-art space to experience the museum's mission of bringing contemporary art to Aspen and its visitors from around the globe.

Shigeru Ban is critically heralded for his innovative approaches to environmentally sound architecture and his devotion to humanitarian efforts in the wake of some of the most devastating natural and manmade disasters of the past two decades.

The new AAM will feature 12,500 square feet of exhibition space; a grand staircase along the South Spring Street side of the building that allows for natural blending of the outdoor and the interior spaces of the Museum to create contemplative and relaxing breaks between gallery spaces infused with natural light, as well as Ban's idea of mobile pedestals whereby art can be exhibited on the staircase; a "moving room" glass elevator that will animate the northeast corner of the new facility; a woven exterior screen and roof structure to allow the building to remain a transparent facility that will marry interior and exterior spaces; and "walkable" skylights that will modulate the abundance of natural light illuminating the main gallery on the second floor and act as a main feature of the rooftop sculpture garden that faces Aspen's picturesque main skiing/snowboarding mountain, Ajax Mountain.



Construction of the new AAM facility is completely privately funded. The AAM continues fundraising as part of an overall Capital and Endowment Campaign with 100% of an Endowment goal of \$20,000,000 fully secured and over \$33,000,000 of its new building project budget goal currently pledged.

The Aspen Art Museum is a noncollecting institution presenting the newest, most important evolutions in international contemporary art. Our innovative and timely exhibitions, education and public programs, immersive activities, and community happenings actively engage audiences in thought-provoking experiences of art, culture, and society.

AAM MUSEUM HOURS:

Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.; Thursdays 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, noon to 6:00 p.m.; Closed Mondays and major holidays

AAM ADMISSION IS FREE courtesy of Amy and John Phelan

Visit the AAM online: www.aspenartmuseum.org



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