

Urban Culture Project hosts exhibitions of Austin artists

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Artists Tim Brown (from right to left), Sterling Allen, Corkey Sinks and others with The Okay Mountain Collective were busy Tuesday at the UCP Project space preparing for the Saturday opening of their exhibit.



Exposure is key to an artist's career, just as new stimulation is key to an artist's development.

Kansas City's Urban Culture Project continues to provide both in an exchange of shows between Kansas City and Austin, Texas, artists.

Earlier this month the Kansas City component of the exchange, "Slow Cooked: New Art From Kansas City," featuring works by Marcus Cain, Michael Converse, Colin Leipelt, Kacy Maddux and James Woodfill, opened at the artist-run Okay Mountain gallery in Austin.

On Saturday the UCP opens two shows of Austin artists: "Texpose: New Art From Austin" and "It's Gonna Be Reverything" at its Paragraph and Project Space galleries, 21-23 E. 12th St., with a free public reception from 6 to 9 p.m.

Kansas City painter Grant Miller and Charlotte Street Foundation associate director Kate Hackman chose works by six Austin artists for the "Texpose" show, which focuses, they say, on "experimental performance-based video work in the hopes of encouraging more work of this ilk in Kansas City."

The curators also see a parallel between the Austin artists' "high level of craftsmanship, attention to detail, and labor-intensive process" and the work of many Kansas City artists.

The "It's Gonna Be Reverything" exhibit features works by members of the Okay Mountain collective, the artists who run the Okay Mountain gallery in Austin. For the last five days they've been camped out at the Paragraph/Project Space working on their installation.

•The Okay Mountain group is one of four artist collectives that will give presentations at a "Group The(o)rapy" discussion session at Grand Arts, 1819 Grand Blvd., from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday.

They will be joined by members of the collectives, SSION and Carnal Torpor and spurse. In addition to talk, the event will feature a cathartic exercise courtesy of Carnal Torpor and group-made snacks. Admission is free.