

For immediate release
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**Charlotte Street Foundation's Urban Culture Project is pleased to present
THIRD FRIDAY ART DOWNTOWN, Friday, February 18, 6-9PM
*A walk-able art-filled evening in downtown KCMO***

**Featuring:
OPEN STUDIOS -**

**3 studio residency venues; 30 artists; live performances at 6:30 + 8pm!
(Tours to Studios departing from Paragraph gallery at 6:30 + 8pm)**

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***Out of the Frying Pan, Into the Fire: New work by Lee Piechocki and Aaron Storck
at Paragraph gallery***

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***Dual Singularity: a multimedia installation by Brandon Barr and Lee Piechocki
at Project Space***

Charlotte Street's Urban Culture Project hosts an art-packed Art Downtown event the evening of Friday, February 18, 6-9pm. All free and open to the public, the evening features open studios at three locations plus two exhibitions on view at UCP's Paragraph and Project Space.

OPEN STUDIOS

The public is invited to visit the studios of the visual and performing artists in UCP's Studio Residency Program at City Center Square, Town Pavilion, and pARTnership Place, where they may meet the artists, view recent work and work in progress, and get a behind the scenes perspective on these artists' working processes. **GUIDED TOURS to the STUDIOS will leave from Paragraph gallery, 23 East 12th Street, at 6:30 and 8pm.** Maps of the studios will be available at Paragraph, sign boards will be placed at each studio building, and hosts at each location will guide visitors up to the studios.

Open Studios February 18, 6-9pm features:

CITY CENTER SQUARE, 1100 Main, 5th floor: Visual Artists Terry Campbell, John Carroll Davis, Christina Dostaler, Abbe Findley, John Hilger, Misha Kligman, Carmen Moreno, Sean Starowitz, Cheryl Toh, Anthony Baab, Clayton Skidmore, Frank Norfleet. **PLUS live performances by a quartet of lap steel, bass clarinet, drums, and guitar featuring performing artist resident Russell Thorpe, 6:45-7:30, and several dance and video works by performing artist resident Leralee Whittle, 8-8:30pm.**

TOWN PAVILION, 1100 Walnut, 6th floor: Visual Artists Brandon Barr, Diane Burchett, Katherine O'Hara, David Rhoads, Phil Shafer, Russell Shoemaker, and Jeff Tackett. **Plus, a sneak peak at WE!, a Rocket Grant-funded cross-disciplinary, collaborative, installation-based performance co-directed by Performing Studio Resident Jane Gotch and musician/composer/producer Mark Southerland.**

PARTNERSHIP PLACE, 906 Grand, 13th floor: Visual Artists Erika Lynn Hansen, Cory Imig, Paul Smith, Nicholas Naughton, David Carlisle, Julie Malen and Luke Rocha.

EXHIBITIONS

OUT OF THE FRYING PAN, INTO THE FIRE

AN EXHIBITION OF NEW WORK BY LEE PIECHOCKI & AARON STORCK

Paragraph / 23 E 12th Street

Third Friday February 18: Open 6-9pm

Public discussion with artists: Saturday, February 26, 2pm

Exhibition runs through March 5, 2011

Gallery hours: 12 - 5pm Wed, Fri, & Sat; 11 - 6pm Thurs

The stability of the modernist era has disintegrated into a multiplicity of art making approaches. Artists, historians, critics, and theorists have systematically dismantled barriers and effectively opened the floodgates. Art, it seems, can be anything. We are free, but this freedom does not come without a price. The current pluralistic art milieu is unpredictable and chaotic, a tangled mess of methodologies.

So write artists Lee Piechocki and Aaron Storck, whose exhibition, *Out of the Frying Pan, Into the Fire* explores, with fascination and skepticism, the boundary-blurring trends in contemporary art. Drawing subject matter from the immediate environments of their studios, and taking inspiration from contemporary culture, art, and theory, Piechocki and Storck confront this material and methodological mess, its potential and its problematics. The exhibition includes new still-life paintings and sculptural objects/arrangements by Piechocki, and a new large-scale multi-media diptych painting, installation, videos, and studies by Storck.

DUAL SINGULARITY

A MULTI-MEDIA INSTALLATION OF NEW WORK BY BRANDON BARR & JUSTIN RULO-SABE

Project Space / 21 E 12th Street

Third Friday February 18: Open 6-9pm

Exhibition runs through March 5, 2011

Gallery hours: 12 - 5pm Wed, Fri, & Sat; 11 - 6pm Thurs

Additional events in conjunction with exhibition (departing from Project Space):

February 25, 12pm: 2nd Algorithmic Walk

March 5, 12, 12pm: 3rd Algorithmic Walk

With *Dual Singularity*, emerging artists Justin Rulo-Sabe and Brandon Barr seek to interpret patterns of information embedded in natural phenomena, and to use digital media to translate that information into new languages and ways of seeing. Through video installations, photographic prints, writings, drawings, and

“algorithmic walks,” their exhibition posits a way of looking at information as values to be transformed and recombined, until the ways of seeing that information become variable and multifarious enough to suggest near-infinite possibility.

Images, pg. 1 from left: Leralee Whittle (City Center Square performing studios), Jeff Tackett (Town Pavilion visual artist studios), Lee Piechocki (exhibition at Paragraph), Russell Thorpe with members of Black House Improvisors’ Collective (City Center Square performing studios.)

Urban Culture Project is an initiative of the Charlotte Street Foundation, an organization dedicated to making Kansas City a place where artists and art thrive. Urban Culture Project creates new opportunities for artists of all disciplines and contributes to urban revitalization by transforming spaces in downtown Kansas City into new venues for multi-disciplinary contemporary arts programming. For more information, visit **www.charlottestreet.org**.