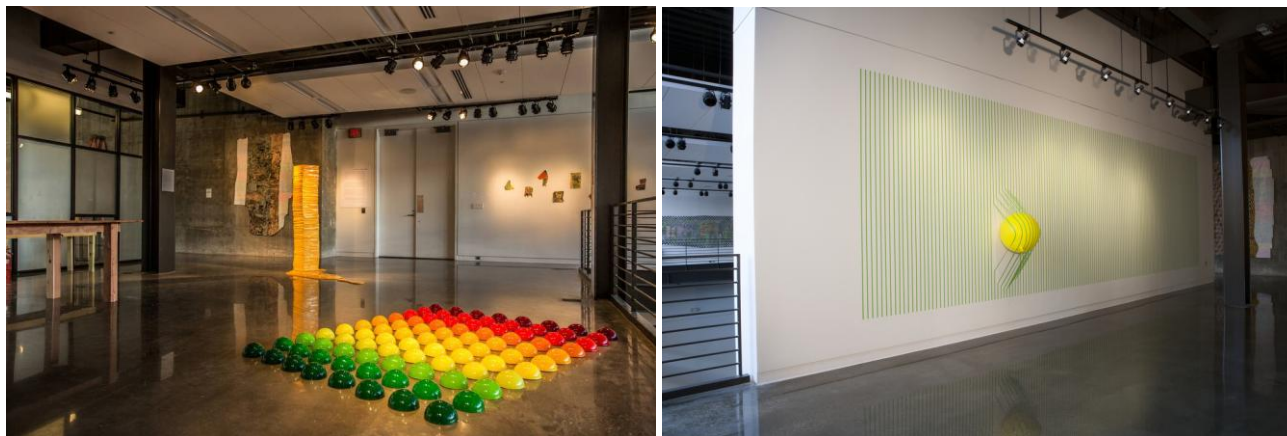


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Contact: Jen Vogrin, Marketing & Community Relations Manager
816.994.7734 | jen@charlottestreet.org
www.charlottestreet.org
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OKLAHOMA VISUAL
ARTS COALITION

Charlotte Street Foundation Presents
FOCUS: OK↔KC
An exhibition collaboration with Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition,
connecting Kansas City and Oklahoma artists



Installation views of the first presentation of *FOCUS: OK↔KC* at Hardesty Art Center, Tulsa. *Left*: installation view with Aaron Hauck's *Armada* in foreground. *Right*, *Falling Structure* by Cory Imig.

FOCUS: OK↔KC is a regional exhibition project designed to nurture, support, and connect artists and arts practitioners from the Midwest region, specifically from Kansas City and Oklahoma. A collaboration between Charlotte Street Foundation and the Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition (OVAC), this project encompasses two exhibitions featuring eight artists/collaboratives. The first exhibition was presented at the Hardesty Art Center in Tulsa, OK, December 16, 2013-February 16, 2013, curated by independent, Melbourne, Australia based curator Liza Statton; the second exhibition will be presented at Charlotte Street's la Esquina gallery, Kansas City, March 15-April 20, 2013, curated by Charlotte Street 2012-13 Curator-in-Residence Jamilee Polson Lacy. Artists were selected for this project by Liza Statton through an open call for applications followed by in-person studio visits to over twenty artists in Kansas City and Oklahoma.

Date: Opening Reception, **March 15, 6-9pm**, FREE

Location: **la Esquina** / 1000 W 25th St. KCMO 64108

Exhibition Runs: **March 15-April 20, 2013**

Public Program: Saturday, **March 16**, 2pm featuring a gallery tour and discussion with artists, curator, and partners

Featuring artists from Kansas City and Oklahoma:

Kansas City:

Jason Carron

Cory Imig

Garry Noland

Charlie Mylie + Lyndsey Griffith

Oklahoma:

Grace Grothaus

Geoffrey Krawczyk

Aaron Hauck

Romy Owen

When an art exhibition is relocated, must the artwork adapt to its new location? With site specificity in mind, for *FOCUS: OK↔KC* at la Esquina, the featured Kansas City and Oklahoma artists reconsider, adjust, and even recreate projects originally presented at the Hardesty Arts Center in Tulsa. In doing so, each artist's contribution stresses the

union of material and site, content and place, and audience and experience. Together, the artworks featured in this traveling exhibition represent artistic and intellectual growth generated by a change of scenery.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS:

Jason Carron

Born in Perryville, Missouri, Jason Carron is an emerging artist now living and working in Kansas City, MO. The majority of his current work is in video format. His videos are minimal and repetitive, exploring intuitive humanistic expressions. While his work is quite literal and simple, the use of his body reflects the complex nature of the human condition. For a video interview with Carron and more about his work for *FOCUS: OK↔KC*, visit jasoncarron.concept-ok.org. Website: jasoncarron.com

Grace Grothaus

Currently based in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Grace Grothaus has been exhibiting multimedia art for over a decade. She has received grants and awards from the Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition, the Kansas City Art Institute, and the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts. Her work has been featured in *This Land Press*, OETA, and Yahoo.com. This year marks her first International exhibition, the World Creativity Biennale in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. She is represented by the MA Doran Gallery and JRB Art at the Elms. Her current work is concerned with the city as a physical manifestation of our collective aspirations and our digital tools. Video interview with Grothaus and more about her work for *FOCUS: OK↔KC* at gracegrothaus.concept-ok.org. Website: www.gracegrothaus.com

Aaron Hauck

Aaron Hauck is a visual artist, professor, and designer currently working in northeastern Oklahoma. He grew up in Joplin, Missouri and Miami, Oklahoma. His education includes an MFA in sculpture from Montana State University. He has received numerous awards and grants for his work and has exhibited nationally and internationally, including a group exhibition at Benrison Contemporary in Chelsea, NYC. Hauck's work represents his trepidation with consumerism and how it has affected American culture and environment. Material and form are used to create dialog between the banalities of modern consumerism, and their relationship with the environment. Video interview with Hauck and more about his work for *FOCUS: OK↔KC* at aaronhauck.concept-ok.org. Website: www.aaronhauck.com

Cory Imig

Cory Imig is an interdisciplinary artist currently working in Kansas City, Missouri. Her work is primarily installation based and emphasizes patterns of time, whether patterns existing in her own daily activities or embedded in ideas she finds interesting. Imig received her BFA from Savannah College of Art and Design in 2008. She has participated in numerous group shows including the Charlotte Street Foundation's Project Space and Spray Booth Gallery along with several residencies including the Vermont Studio Center and Charlotte Street Foundation's Studio Residency Program. She was recently a regional fellow in the Oklahoma Art Writing and Curatorial Fellowship Program organized by the Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition, and is a co-curator of the curatorial collaborative, Plug Projects. Video interview with Imig and more about her work for *FOCUS: OK↔KC* at coryimig.concept-ok.org. Website: www.coryimig.com

Geoffrey Krawczyk

Geoffrey Krawczyk was born in Oklahoma in 1978. Growing up in a family with a disabled veteran gave him an interest in the nature of sacrifice and violence and would greatly influence his art practice. In 2006, he completed his BFA at the University of Oklahoma and received his MFA in Visual Studies in 2010 from the State University of New York - Buffalo. His work has been shown in numerous galleries and locations throughout the world. Geoffrey is currently Assistant Professor of Art at Southwestern OK State University and resides in Norman. His current project, *Breaking Bread*, is a performance art piece that seeks to address the reality of Native and non-Native America today. Video interview with Krawczyk and more about his work for *FOCUS: OK↔KC* at geoffreykrawczyk.concept-ok.org. Website: www.geoffreyk.com

Charlie Mylie & Lyndsey Griffith

Working collaboratively since mid-2012, Charlie Mylie and Lyndsey Griffith cultivate nourishing moments with interpersonal tools like honesty, receptivity, fearlessness, sincere zeal, and the youthful strength of YOLO [you only

live once] in the fertile beds of novelty, intimacy, danger, excitement, desire, and experiments. Their efforts and findings have been channeled into art projects, a to-do list consultation service, KC Free Skool classes, and a zine, *The Sweetness of Raw Fruit*.

Lindsey Griffith is a Kansas City artist and performer. She currently creates zines, to-do lists, and visceral experiences for herself and others, and makes sets and performs as Wet Clown on the traveling faux public-access kids show Whoop Dee Doo. Charlie Mylie likes to have fun; he finds fun in the educational encounters between the everyday and the absolutely novel. He works in a gallery, teaches art classes at a community center, and participates in the fresh, local educational models of Rad School and KC FREE SKOOL. Video interview with Charlie and Lyndsey and more about their work for *FOCUS: OK↔KC* at charlieandlindsey.concept-ok.org/

Garry Noland

Garry Noland marks time and makes things by building up layers of material, transforming material and experience into new identity and function. Originally from South Dakota, Noland has lived in the Kansas City area over 50 years. His 2013 group and solo exhibits include Bemis Center for Contemporary Art (Omaha, NE), Indianapolis Art Center, ROYGBIV (Columbus, OH), Weekend Space (Los Angeles, CA) and The Studios Inc. (Kansas City, MO). Recently his work has appeared in New American Paintings (#101) and PatternBase. Noland is currently an artist-in-residence at The Studios Inc. in Kansas City. He earned a B.A. in History of Art from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Video interview and more about Noland's work for *FOCUS: OK↔KC* at garrynoland.concept-ok.org. Website: garrynolandart.com

Romy Owens

Romy Owens is an Oklahoma City based artist who spends most of her time taking photographs and sewing them together by hand. She graduated from Oklahoma City University with a MA in Photography in 2005. In addition to dozens of curated and juried group exhibitions, Romy has been featured in five solo exhibitions and has curated more than a dozen group and solo exhibitions. Through September 2013, Romy is the Artist-in-Residence at the Skirvin Hotel in Oklahoma City. Video interview and more about Owens' work for *FOCUS: OK↔KC* at romyowens.concept-ok.org. Website: romyowens.com

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS:

The Kansas City iteration of *FOCUS: OK↔KC* is made possible by funding from Mid-America Arts Alliance and Missouri Arts Council.

The mission of Mid-America Arts Alliance (M-AAA) is strengthening communities and improving lives through extraordinary cultural experiences. In an effort to encourage creativity and generate greater visibility for regional artists and nonprofit arts-based organizations of all disciplines, M-AAA has

launched its new Artistic Innovations grant program, which funds projects that encourage the spirit of experimentation and exploration, engaging artists in the creation of new works for audiences across the M-AAA region. Charlotte Street Foundation received a pilot Artistic Innovations grant for the curatorial, programmatic, and administrative coordination of *FOCUS: OK-KC*, which engages collaboration between regional arts organizations, multiple curators and artists, artist exchanges and residencies, and on-site creation of new work. For more information on M-AAA and the Artistic Innovations Grant Program visit: www.maaa.org



The Missouri Arts Council (MAC) – as a public leader, partner and catalyst – is dedicated to broadening the appreciation and availability of the arts in the state and fostering the diversity, vitality and excellence of Missouri's communities, economy, and cultural heritage. For more information visit: www.missouriartscouncil.org

