

## PRESS RELEASE

April 22, 2014

BRUNO DAVID GALLERY  
3721 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD  
SAINT LOUIS MO 63108  
1-314-531-3030  
Hours: Wed-Sat 10:00 am – 5:00 pm  
info@brunodavidgallery.com

### **OVERVIEW\_2014**

May 9 – June 21, 2014

Opening Reception: Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00 to 9:00 pm

#### **CHRIS D. SMITH**

*Interaction* (Front Room)

#### **MARTIN LANG**

*Forever Untitled (names sake)* (New Media Room)



Bruno David is delighted to present a special group exhibition titled *OVERVIEW\_2014* and, a solo-exhibition by Chris D. Smith. The opening reception will be Friday, May 9, 2014 from 5 to 9 pm. On the same night, the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) will open the exhibition *Great Rivers Biennial 2014* in the Main Gallery and, in the Front Room, *Brenna Youngblood: Loss Prevention*. In addition, The PXSTL temporary art installation will also open that night. PXSTL, located next to the Bruno David Gallery, is a project from the Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts, and the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts at Washington University in St. Louis. The Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts will also be open that evening. A free shuttle will run between Grand Center and the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum. For further information, please contact the gallery at info@brunodavidgallery.com or at 1.314.531.3030.

#### ABOUT THE BRUNO DAVID GALLERY

Specializing in contemporary art, Bruno David Gallery has been a leading art gallery since its establishment in St. Louis in 2005. Bruno David represents some of the most innovative artists practicing in St. Louis, along with artists of international reputation. Located in a renovated industrial building in Midtown St. Louis, Grand Center arts district, the Gallery is directly opposite the Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts and the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM), and is in close proximity to the Sheldon Art Galleries, The Fox Theatre, and Powell Symphony Hall. Bruno David Gallery's art program introduces new contemporary art to local gallery visitors, and is discussed in publications including, *Art in America*, *Art Papers*, *ArtNet Magazine*, and *The Wall Street Journal*.

Please join the conversation with Bruno David Gallery on Twitter ([@bdavidgallery](https://twitter.com/bdavidgallery)), Facebook ([facebook.com/bruno.david.gallery](https://facebook.com/bruno.david.gallery)), Google+ ([plus.google.com/112677784125453318003](https://plus.google.com/112677784125453318003))

See our videos/interviews on VIMEO ([vimeo.com/brunodavidgallery](https://vimeo.com/brunodavidgallery)) and on YouTube ([youtube.com/user/brunodavidgallery](https://youtube.com/user/brunodavidgallery)). Read our news on our blog GoodArtNews ([goodartnews.com/](https://goodartnews.com/)). View our Ebook publications ([issuu.com/brunodavidgallery](https://issuu.com/brunodavidgallery)). Purchase our publications ([lulu.com/spotlight/brunodavidgallerypublications](https://lulu.com/spotlight/brunodavidgallerypublications)).



OVERVIEW\_2014 is a group exhibition surveying the work by artists affiliated with the Bruno David Gallery.

The artworks, created primarily in the last five years, will highlight the vitality and imagination of these artists. This overview defies generalized, simplified terms of description. The following artists break down the word "original" to form new meanings of the definition. Originality, therefore, can lie anywhere on the spectrum of surrealism, primary, impulse, imagination, structural chaos, color, form, design, intention, deception, representation, honesty, directness, dream state, sought imagery, reality and/or perceptions of all, some, or none of these terms.

Some of the artists include: Laura Beard, Bunny Burson, Carmon Colangelo, William Conger, Alex Couwenberg, Jill Downen, Yvette Drury Dubinsky, Damon Freed, Douglass Freed, Joan Hall, Richard Hull, Ellen Jantzen, Kelley Johnson, Chris Kahler, Leslie Laskey, Gary Passanise, Daniel Raedeke, Patricia Olynyk, Charles P. Reay, Tom Reed, Charles Schwall, Shane Simmons, Thomas Sleet, Buzz Spector, Cindy Tower, Mario Trejo, Ken Worley, and many others.





In the Front Room, the gallery presents an exhibition “Interaction” by **Chris D. Smith**.

In contemporary art making, the languages of abstraction are almost inextricable from their academic and theoretical histories, but instead of simply reiterating any of these well-worn dialogues, he opts only to sample them. Chris D. Smith’s artwork focuses on attention to emotional detail. He uses his experiences to bind tension, experience (as in through time), and harmony due to contrasting organic and geometric forms to enlighten the viewer’s perceptions and enhance human cerebral capacities. Purposefully exposing the layered history of paintings, he instills the works with a complexity that mirrors that of a personal experience. His paintings are reminiscent of the pains, joys, failures, challenges, and accomplishments he has experienced throughout his life, essentially creating never-ending opportunities to continue his practice. He received his BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, a MA from Eastern Illinois University, and a BS in Information Systems from the College of Business at Northern Illinois University. Chris lives and works in Chicago.

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In the New Media Room, the gallery presents a video work “Forever Untitled (names sake)” by **Martin Lang**.

*Forever Untitled (names sake)* challenges represented space and plays with the sequencing of text. Depicting an installation of large-scale neon letters, the video raises the question: why are we seeing it as a video and not installed as represented? The blinking letters reference neon signage, advertising something that is, in this instance, quite cryptic. The looping text can form words, but ultimately becomes a never-ending visual pattern. The audio dually references the hum of the neon lighting represented, as well as the digital nature of the piece. His work critiques the world through direct and indirect interaction. This takes form through recontextualization and appropriation of everyday, commercially produced or banal objects and experiences. This video is part of a larger body of work titled Digital Futures.

Martin Lang is an MFA candidate in Transmedia Design and a Graduate Teaching Assistant at the University of Tennessee. He received his BFA in photography from Webster University, St. Louis.

*The gallery was first established by Bruno David in New York City (1983) and later in Saint Louis (2005)*

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Images: **William Conger**: *The Prisoner*, 2014. **Buzz Spector**: *Writers as Others 1*, 2013. **Damon Freed**: *Double Chroma*, 2014. **Chris D. Smith**: *Untitled IM32*, 2014. **Martin Lang**: *Forever Untitled (names sake)-still*, 2014