

3721 Washington Boulevard  
St. Louis, MO 63108 USA

## NEWS RELEASE

August 15, 2012

### JOAN HALL: *Marginal Waters*

**Opening Reception:**

Friday, September 7, 2012, from 5 to 9 pm

**Dates of the exhibition:**

September 7 – October 13, 2012

Media Room:

**Cherie Sampson:** *At the Pole of Heaven*

Media Contact: Bruno L. David, Director  
Public Hours: Wednesday through Saturday  
10:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Email: [info@brunodavidgallery.com](mailto:info@brunodavidgallery.com)  
Website: [www.brunodavidgallery.com](http://www.brunodavidgallery.com)  
Tel: 1.314.531.3030



### Bruno David Gallery Presents a New Exhibition by Joan Hall

(SAINT LOUIS, MO – August 15, 2012) – For the opening of our Seventh Season, Bruno David Gallery is pleased to present Joan Hall’s second solo exhibition with the gallery, *Marginal Waters*, on view from September 7<sup>th</sup> to October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Fascinated with the ocean for years and traveling over 25,000 miles as a skilled navigator and sailboat racer, it comes as no surprise that Hall’s latest work encompasses her passion for the environment. Through Hall’s use of Mylar and handmade paper, viewers will recognize marine debris and plastic pollution that infiltrate our oceans. Previously exploring the ocean and its relationship to the body, Hall’s work has expanded from the micro-focus of the ocean’s relationship to the individual and the body of cells we are made of to the body of global society of which we are all a part of.

Piqued by the Great Pacific Garbage Patch that extends from Indonesia to the western shores of North America, Hall’s work encapsulates the deteriorating shores and waters that she has frequented. Hall both makes the viewer aware of her environmental concern and her ability to make pollution into something beautiful. Making paper and casting pins from debris collected from the beaches, the material is both familiar and alien. Inventing her own coding system through the exploration between her ideas and materials, Hall’s work creates a juxtaposition between the entrapped netting and the organic ever-varying oceans; a play between the ancient waters and their current state of ephemerality.

Joan Hall received her B.F.A. at the Columbus college of Art and Design, Ohio, and her M.F.A. at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. She is the Kenneth E. Hudson Professor in the Sam Fox School of Art and Design at Washington University in St. Louis. Her work has been shown both nationally and internationally, including: *Your Existence is Not Unlike My Own*, Silkeborg Bad, Denmark (2010); *Crossovers: Materials and Metaphors*, The Blue Star Contemporary Art Center, San Antonio, TX (2010); *Joan Hall*, The Museum Rijswijk, Holland (2008) and *Holland Paper Biennial*, The CODA Museum, Apeldoorn, Holland (2008). Her latest permanent installation work “The Confluence” can be seen at the Lambert-St. Louis International Airport. A fully illustrated catalogue with essays by Buzz Spector and Kara Gordon will accompany this exhibition.

In the **Media Room**, the gallery presents a single-channel video work titled “At the Pole of Heaven” by **Cherie Sampson**. This video-performance made for the camera was created on Lake Mekri near Ilomantsi, Finland. The performance vignette is inspired by the classic Finnish epic poem, *The Kalevala*. In the first canto, the goddess *Ilmatar* rises from her lament in primordial waters to ‘set about her creations’, initiating the birth of earth and skies. She traverses the birch ‘world tree’, as a conduit between the worlds of the physical and celestial, a universal journey of the mythic and human alike... a means to re-member our seemingly disparate origins and place in both the “*mixture of mud and water*” of the earth and the “*beautiful and comely stars of heaven...*” (*Kalevala*) The three ladders allude to the tripartite symbolism that frequently appears in the ancient rune poems of Karelia, the cultural area at the border of Finland and Russia.



Cherie Sampson lives and works in Columbia, Missouri, and is currently an Assistant Professor of Art at the University of Missouri. Sampson received her Master of Fine Arts degree in Intermedia and Video Art from the University of Iowa and her Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Maharishi International University in Fairfield, Iowa. She has exhibited nationally and internationally in live performances, art-in-nature symposia, video screenings and installations in the U.S., Finland, Norway, the Netherlands, Italy, France, Greece, Cuba and Hong Kong. She has been the recipient of two Fulbright Grants to Finland in 1998 and 2011.

### Upcoming Events at the Bruno David Gallery:

#### Book Release:

Please join Sara Ranchouse and **Buzz Spector** at the Bruno David Gallery on Saturday, September 15, 3:30-5:00 PM for a book signing and publication release party for "Buzzwords: Interviews with Buzz Spector."

This selection of six interviews spanning nearly thirty years showcases Spector's ideas about art, books, libraries and his own history of reading. Spector describes and elucidates his installations, book objects and photographs within an intellectually rich context, provoking stimulating conversation and thought. Spector has designed new page art especially for this publication, including a section that he has individually hand-torn for each book. Other of Spector's book projects will also be on view.

"Buzzwords" is the third in a series that focuses on artists' writings and includes projects conceived particularly for the book format. The first two publications, "Kaysays: Essays and Interviews by Kay Rosen" and "Plah Plah Pli Plah" by Alison Knowles will also be available to view and purchase. For more information, please visit: [www.sararanchouse.com](http://www.sararanchouse.com)

#### Gallery Talk:

**Joan Hall** will be giving a Gallery Talk on her current work at the gallery on Friday, September 21 at 5pm.

#### Images:

Joan Hall, “Ghost Fishing,” 2012. Printed, cast, painted handmade paper, Flotsam; 64H x 84W x 12D inches

Cherie Sampson, “At the Pole of Heaven,” 2012. Still from a color video. Single-channel video, 12:00 minutes (loop), Edition of 6

#### OUR 7th SEASON 2012 - 2013 ART PROGRAM

JOAN HALL	September/October 2012
GARY PASSANISE	October/November 2012
KELLEY JOHNSON	January/February 2013

#### ABOUT THE BRUNO DAVID GALLERY

Founded in 2005, the Bruno David specializes in contemporary art, and has been a leading art gallery in Saint Louis. Bruno David represents some of the best artists that St. Louis offers, along with artists of national and 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*. More information about the gallery can be found at [brunodavidgallery.com](http://brunodavidgallery.com).

See our videos/interviews on **VIMEO** at <http://www.vimeo.com/brunodavidgaller> and on **YouTube** at <http://www.youtube.com/user/brunodavidgallery>  
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