

3721 Washington Boulevard
St. Louis, MO 63108 USA

NEWS RELEASE

March 9, 2013

ALEX COUWENBERG: SWELL

Front Room: **Carmon Colangelo**: *Glocal Diptychs*
Project Room: **Chris Kahler**: *Dissequencing*
Media Room: **Eric Minh Swenson**: *The Making of La Fonda*

Opening Reception:

Friday, April 5, 2013, from 5 to 9 pm

Dates of the Exhibition:

April 5-May 4, 2013

FIRST FRIDAYS IN GRAND CENTER

Friday, April 5, 2013, from 5 to 9 pm

For further information and images, please contact:

Bruno L. David, Director

Public Hours: Wednesday through Saturday

10:00 am – 5:00 pm

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BRUNO DAVID GALLERY PRESENTS AN EXHIBITION BY ALEX COUWENBERG

SAINT LOUIS, MO — March 9, 2013 — Bruno David Gallery is pleased to present **Alex Couwenberg**'s second solo exhibition with the gallery, opening Friday, April 5, 2013. The exhibition titled "Swell" will be on view April 5–May 4, 2013. A catalogue, *Alex Couwenberg: Swell*, will be published on the occasion of the exhibition.

Los Angeles based painter Alex Couwenberg's new paintings explore "process" and the "moment" through tightly controlled compositions of paint and mark making. Born and raised in Southern California, Couwenberg creates images that are inspired by the elements indigenous to his surroundings. The work references and suggests the aesthetic associated with mid-century modernism, car culture, skateboards, and surfing. Not to leave out, paying homage to the historical styles of post-war art making associated with Los Angeles and Southern California throughout the 1950's, 60's, and 70's.

Couwenberg's paintings give a nod towards the Hard-edge abstractionists, the finish fetish, and the light and space artists. Not content to replicate, he uses the sensibility of Eames-era design and hard-edge geometric abstraction as points of departure for creating paintings. His process, an additive and reductive series of moves and passes, creates multilayered environments that are deep and sensual. He harnesses these ideas into harmonious results, reflecting the visual landscape of his local environment.

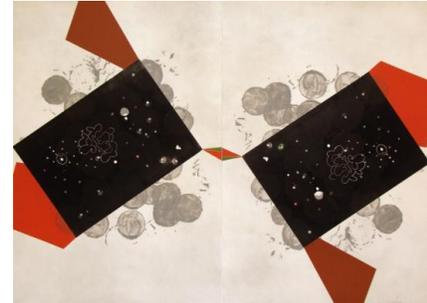
Couwenberg received his B.F.A. from Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, California and his M.F.A. from the Claremont Graduate School, Claremont, California. He has exhibited his work nationally and internationally. He lives and works in Los Angeles.

In the **Project Room**, the gallery presents an exhibition titled "Disequencing" by **Chris Kahler**. A new body of work that utilizes a more intimate scale and simplicity that is in contrast to recent works. A duality exists in the work, playing back and forth with questions of depth and causality. **David Pagel** of the *Los Angeles Times* wrote of Kahler's work: "a potent and corrosive beauty, a sublime combination of breakdown and growth, disintegration and accumulation, creation and destruction. Sometimes it seems as if he paints pictures of a world of effervescence, in which solid substances dissolve into roiling gases, steamy atmospheres, and gravity-defying liquid clouds. In his work, it is almost impossible to distinguish between the microscopic and the cosmic, and everything is richer for the confusion."



Chris Kahler is a Professor of Painting and Drawing at Eastern Illinois University. He received his B.F.A. at Ohio Wesleyan University and M.F.A. from Northwestern University.

In the **Front Room**, the gallery presents an exhibition by **Carmon Colangelo** titled "Glocal Diptychs". Carmon Colangelo's new work muses about cultural narratives, urban life, human ecologies, globalism, social networking, transcendence, and recording everyday ideas. *Glocal Diptychs* is a series of nine mixed media prints produced in 2012 at Pele Prints in St. Louis. Each of the works is made from a shared matrix and printed on two sheets of paper using monotype, intaglio, relief process as well as hand-coloring. These prints expand on Colangelo's interest in architectonic forms and the poetics of space with an eye to our changing notions about place and shifts between geographic location and local identity while contemplating a globalized future.



Born in Toronto, Canada, Carmon Colangelo received his M.F.A. from Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. His work has been exhibited widely, from Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. to Argentina, Canada, England, Puerto Rico, and Korea. His works are in collections at the National Museum of American Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Saint Louis Art Museum, and the Fogg Art Museum at Harvard University. He is the Dean of the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts at Washington University in St. Louis and holds the E. Desmond Lee Professor for Collaboration in the Arts.

In the **New Media Room**, the gallery presents a video-interview of Alex Couwenberg by Los Angeles based filmmaker **Eric Minh Swenson**. The short-film titled "The Making of La Fonda" is directed and produced by Swenson and, is part of an on-going series that focuses on artists' lives and studio practices in Los Angeles. The music is by The Hitchikers, James Lucchesi, and Mick Cripps and video is 20:32 minutes long. More info can be found on his ongoing Los Angeles project at thuvanarts.com and the interview can be seen at www.youtube.com/watch?v=prZ6aGRTWhg



OUR SEVENTH SEASON 2012 - 2013 ART PROGRAM

JOAN HALL	September/October 2012
GARY PASSANISE	October/November 2012
RED-WHITE-BLUE	December 2012/January 2013
KELLEY JOHNSON	February 2013
RICHARD HULL	March 2013
ALEX COUWENBERG	April 2013
YVETTE DUBINSKY	May 2013

ABOUT THE BRUNO DAVID GALLERY

Specializing in contemporary art, Bruno David Gallery has been a leading art gallery since its establishment in 2005. Bruno David represents some of the best artists that St. Louis offers, 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*.

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