

### Related Events:

All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

Please consult the website calendar page or call 773.324.5520 for any updates and changes before attending these events.

#### **Sunday, May 10, 3-5 pm**

Opening reception including a ceremonial procession with live acoustic bluegrass accompaniment performed by NFA space. The VIP room is brought to you by LAW OFFICE.

#### **Monday, May 11, 6-7 pm**

Kimchi Demonstration presented by Roots & Culture

#### **Saturday, May 16, 2-4 pm**

Kimchi Pancake Feast presented by Roots & Culture

#### **Saturday, May 23, 11-7 pm**

WEST LOOP GALLERY BIKE TOUR (off-site)

#### **Saturday, May 30, 1-4 pm**

The Artist-Run Credit League by INCUBATE presented by Alogon Gallery

#### **Sunday, May 31, 12-4 pm**

Suitable presents a Cookout and Video Screenings, Bean Bag Toss Competition hosted by NFA Space and Ping-Pong Tournament hosted by Old Gold

#### **Wednesday, June 17, 6 pm**

Art or Party?

Lori Waxman moderates a discussion examining the phenomenon of cultural events that blur the line between art opening and social gathering.

#### **Saturday, June 20, 3-10 pm**

1/Quarterly's **All-City Scavenger Hunt** Awards Ceremony, 3 pm  
*Shrill and a Half Block Party* presented by joymore 4-10 pm

#### **Saturday, June 27, 5-8 pm**

Fryalry: You bring it, Kevin Jennings and Philip von Zweck fry it. You eat it!

#### **Tuesday, June 30, 6 pm**

The Short History of Spaces

Hear from panelists including Lynne Warren, Barbara Koenen, Michael Ryan, and others on the Do-It-Yourself artist culture that drives the contemporary art system locally, nationally and internationally.

The *Artists Run Chicago* exhibition has been supported in part by the generous contributions of Jewel Osco, County Materials Corporation, and Elston ACE Hardware (Hyde Park). Advertising and publicity is sponsored by Proximity Publications. ThreeWalls and Green Lantern Press will produce a publication documenting the exhibition to be released in the Fall of 2009.

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## Hyde Park ARTCENTER

5020 South Cornell Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60615 773.324.5520 [www.hydeparkart.org](http://www.hydeparkart.org)

The Hyde Park Art Center is a not-for-profit organization that presents innovative exhibitions, primarily work by Chicago-area artists, and educational programs in the visual arts for children and adults of diverse backgrounds. The Center is funded in part by the Alphawood Foundation; The Chicago Community Trust; a City Arts III grant from the City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and the Illinois Arts Council; The Lloyd A. Fry Foundation; The Leo S. Guthman Fund; The Irving Harris Foundation; The Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; The Joyce Foundation; JPMorgan Chase Foundation; The Mayer & Morris Kaplan Family Foundation; The MacArthur Foundation; The MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at Prince; The Orbit Fund; Polk Bros. Foundation; The Clinton Family Fund; The Sara Lee Foundation; South East Chicago Commission; The Wallace Foundation; and the generosity of its members and friends.

Hyde Park **ARTCENTER**

# Gallery 1

May 10 - July 5, 2009



1/Quarterly, 65GRAND, Alogon, Antena, artLedge, The Butcher Shop, Co-Prosperity Sphere, Devening Projects + Editions, Deluxe Projects, Dogmatic, Fraction Workspace, Fucking Good Art (FGA), Green Lantern, He Said-She Said, HungryMan, joymore, Julius Caesar, Law Office, LiveBox, Margin Gallery, Medicine Cabinet/Second Bedroom Project Space, mini dutch, Modest Contemporary Art Projects, NFA Space, Normal Projects, Old Gold, Polvo, Roots & Culture, Scott Projects, Standard, Suitable, Swimming Pool Projects, Teti, The Suburban, and VONZWECK.

## A Directory of Exhibiting Spaces:

Many of the works included in the exhibition are available for sale through the galleries identified on their object label. Please contact them directly and visit their spaces. Spaces in red are no longer in operation.

- **1/Quarterly:** contact Heather Mekkelson (773) 486-1005, (773) 350-2781
- 65 GRAND: 1378 W. Grand Avenue, Chicago, IL, 60642; (312) 719-4325; www.65grand.com
- Alogon: 1049 N. Paulina, 3R, Chicago, IL, 60622; (708) 214-9118
- **artLedge:** contact alvendia1@gmail.com
- ANTENA; 1765 S. Laflin Street, 1R, Chicago, IL, 60608; 773-344-1940; www.antenapilsen.com
- Co-Prosperity Sphere; 3219 S. Morgan Street, Chicago, IL, 60608; 773.837.0145
- **Deluxe Projects**
- Devening Projects + Editions; 3039 W. Carroll, 3rd Floor, Chicago, IL, 60612; 312 420 4720; www.deveningprojects.com
- **Dogmatic:** DogmaticFranchise@gmail.com
- Fucking Good Art (FGA): contact fgaspace@hotmail.com
- **Fraction Workspace**
- Green Lantern: 1511 N. Milwaukee Ave, 2nd Floor, Chicago, IL, 60622; 773.235.0936; www.thegreenlantern.org
- He Said-She Said: 831 S. Grove Avenue, Oak Park, IL, 60304; 708-310-2607; www.hesaid-shesaid.us
- Hungry Man: 2135 N. Rockwell, Chicago, IL, 60647; 773.360.1208; www.myspace.com/hungrymangallery
- **Joymore:** info@joymore.com
- Julius Caesar: 3144 W. Carroll Ave, 2G, Chicago, IL, 60612; www.juliuscaesarchicago.com
- **Law Office:** contact davislangois@sbcblglogal.net
- Livebox: 1031 N. Shore Drive, Crystal Lake, IL, 60014; (815)236-5692; www.liveboxgallery.com
- **Margin Gallery:** contact masonnathan@gmail
- Medicine Cabinet: 3216 S. Morgan Street, Apt 4R, Chicago, IL, 60608; (630) 849-7750; the-medicine-cabinet.blogspot.com/
- Mess Hall: 6932 N. Glenwood Avenue, Chicago, IL 60626; 773.262.4614; www.messhall.org
- mini dutch: 3111 W. Diversey, 1st Floor, Chicago, IL, 60647; 773.235.5687; www.minidutchgallery.org
- **Modest Contemporary Art Projects:** contact jdunda@saic.edu
- **NFA Space;** www.nfaspace.com
- Normal Projects; 2844 S. Normal, Chicago, IL, 60616; (917) 312-8889; normalprojects@gmail.com
- Old Gold; 2022 N. Humboldt Blvd., Chicago, IL, 60647; www.oldgoldexhibitionsandevents.com
- **Polvo:** www.polvo.org
- Roots & Culture: 1034 N. Milwaukee, , Chicago, IL, 60642; www.rootsandculturecac.org
- Scott Projects: 1542 North Milwaukee, Chicago, IL, 60622; info@scottprojects.com
- Second Bedroom Project Space: 3216 S. Morgan Street, Apt 4R, Chicago, IL, 60608; 630-849-7750; www.secondbedroomproject.blogspot.com
- **Standard:** contact droman@rcn.com
- **Suitable:** contact snowol@sbcglobal.net
- Swimming Pool Projects: 2858 W. Montrose, Chicago, IL, 60618; (773)680-6557; www.swimmingpoolprojectspace.com
- Teti: 2250 W. North Avenue, 2nd Floor, Chicago, IL, 60647; (847) 903-5360
- **The Butcher Shop:** 1319 W. Lake Street, 3rd Floor, Chicago, IL, 60607
- The Suburban: 125 N. Harvey Avenue, Oak Park, IL, 60302; (708) 763-8554; www.thesuburban.org
- **VONZWECK:** www.stopgostop.com/VONZWECK

## Making “It” Happen

The *Artists Run Chicago* exhibition presents a selection of artist-run practices of note that have existed, and are currently operating in Chicago for the past decade. Participants included in this exhibition represent a wide variety of art-showing strategies: projects spaces meant for one-time only installations, commercial galleries, not-for-profit organizations, storefronts, rovers (non-fixed spaces), sheds, lofts, and spaces that double as the artist’s studio or home (and sometimes both). What unites all these physical entities is the fact that, again, it is artists who initiate, manage, program, market, curate, buy beer for and clean up afterwards. Usually this all happens out of their own pocket and with a little help from their friends. Many of them may have completely different missions and objectives for their respective spaces, but they all are, or have in the past, made the best of what they were given to make the Chicago art scene a fertile ground for risk-taking, play, and experimental art production.

To curate a show like *Artists Run Chicago*, we needed a list of guidelines to develop an exhibition that represented what we experienced to be the best of what Chicago had to offer in the alternative art system. We chose to tackle the past ten years in effort to connect the energy of the recent past with the current moment.\* By following these guidelines, we aimed to capture what makes Chicago’s contemporary art culture distinct and so unlike other major metropolitan cities. As such, the basic principles we looked for in the spaces chosen include:

- ◆ A do-it-yourself aesthetic characteristic of Chicago;
- ◆ Exist in the Chicagoland area and are run by artist(s) that live in, or have lived in, Chicago and vicinity;
- ◆ Have presented several provocative exhibitions between 1999 and 2009;
- ◆ Worked from, or developed out of, a wide variety of “physical” exhibition spaces;
- ◆ Represent a wide example of exhibition practices;
- ◆ Exemplify an equal mixture of spaces that currently exist along with spaces that have gone to the “great Artist-Run Space in the sky”

The exhibition contains over 100 works by artists at various stages in their career and from all over the country, but mainly Chicago. We selected the spaces and in turn, the spaces decided what to contribute that best represented the spirit or mission of their gallery. Some galleries chose to feature artists they are exhibiting right now or artists they exhibited repeatedly in the past, while others created sentimental mementos of times past, commentaries on the socio-economic realities of such an endeavor and encouragements for the next generation of artists-run spaces. Whichever strategy they chose, their love, passion, and dedication to this underground art system is self-evident and, we hope, contagious.

Ten years is a long time in a city like Chicago – especially since the structures that are set up to disseminate visual art are far different than other cities of similar size. There have been at least over 100 artist-run spaces during this period of time. Some have lasted a couple of months, some years, and some of the spaces have developed into non-artist-run spaces (and in one case an artist-run business) meaning that the artist stops making art to focus on furthering the career of other artists. Regardless, it is clear

that these exhibition spaces are an extension of the artists’ studio in that the artist or artists running it are often applying their own knowledge and aesthetic to the type of work they champion in their space. The most refreshing aspect of these spaces is that they have no fear of failure. The gallery is transformed into a fun laboratory, which allows a high level of freedom and experimentation. Keeping up with the flow – sometimes a trickle and other times a waterfall – is a difficult and sometimes frustrating exercise. But the rewards are plentiful for those who relish in this particularly Chicago-like dynamic. The size, scope, durability, reach and success of these spaces are contingent upon a number of factors, the greatest being the continued encouragement for future artist-run spaces.

Another important element of this exhibition and one that will make use of the Hyde Park Art Center’s invaluable library called 4833, is the development of a living and continually evolving archive of such venues. We have asked each participating artist-run space to contribute any number of different items of ephemera and information to this archive with the hopes that it will live at 4833 into perpetuity. We encourage all past and current Chicago-based artist-run spaces, beyond the ones represented in the exhibition, to donate their own items to the gallery – regardless of the size, scope, durability, reach and “success” of their endeavor. It is our hope that visitors to the exhibition, and after, might sift through these items for inspiration, amusement, research and continued dialogue about what makes Chicago such a fantastic place for making “it” happen.

Get to know your local artist-run space! We encourage you to participate in the many free events that are taking place during the run of the exhibition listed in this brochure. The contact information of these galleries are also included here to inspire you to get in touch with them directly if you are interested in purchasing or finding out more about the artists featured by these space in *Artists Run Chicago*.

Britton Bertran  
Allison Peters Quinn  
curators of *Artist Run Chicago*

\*The exhibition catalogue for *Alternative Spaces in Chicago* presented at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago has more information on the influential contemporary art venues in Chicago in the 1970s and 1980s.