

Related Events:

All events are free and open to the public

**Opening Reception and Catalog Release:** Sunday, September 23, 3 – 5 pm

**Panel discussion:** Wednesday, October 3, 6 – 8 pm

Claudine Ise, Amelia Ishmael, Michelle Grabner discuss the impact of the written word on the art world. The panel will address a critic’s role in facilitating and encouraging discourse around artistic practices.

**Panel discussion:** Wednesday, October 13, 12:30 - 2pm

Discussion led by *Ground Floor* catalog author Caroline Picard with Jeremy Bolen, Tony Lewis, Julie Renee Jones, Eric May, and Shane Ward  
*Ground Floor* artists confront the relevance of their own art practice within larger art world contexts. Post-MFA, each of these artists defines, not only for themselves, but for larger audiences, the connections between their production and current trends and art world concerns.

**Eric May presents:** E-Dogz Center for the Preservation and Advancement of Street Food  
E-Dogz will vend street food classics and mongrel creations three days a week for lunch on Wednesdays and Fridays 12 - 3 pm and Saturdays 12pm- 2pm from September 19 through November 10.

*Ground Floor* is generously supported by:

**Lead Sponsor:**



**Thanks, also, to the generous support of our Host Committee:**

Deone Jackman, Justine Jentes and Daniel Karuna, Janis Kanter and Thomas McCormick, Linda Erf Swift, Linda Warren Projects, & Richard Wright and Valerie Carberry

# Hyde ParkARTCENTER

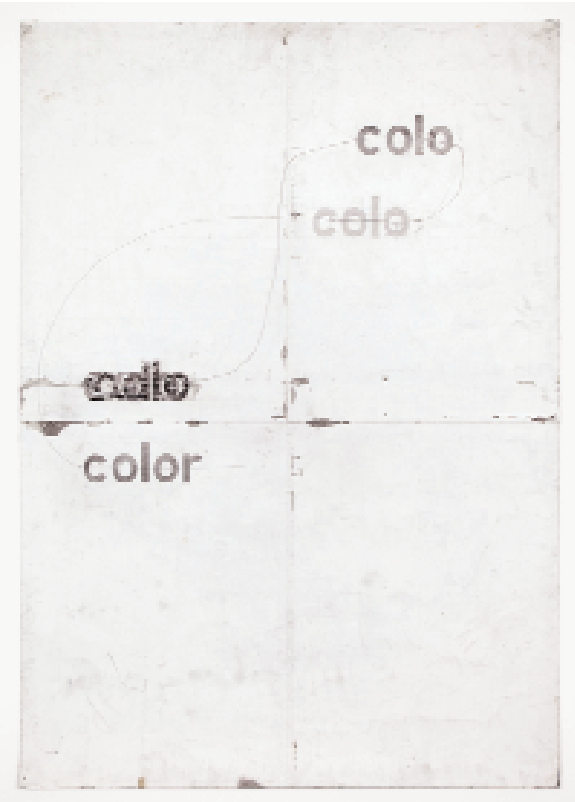
5020 South Cornell Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60615 773.324.5520 [www.hydeparkart.org](http://www.hydeparkart.org)

The Hyde Park Art Center is at once an exhibition space for contemporary art, learning annex, community resource, and social hub for the art curious and professional artists alike — carrying out its mission to stimulate and sustain the visual arts in Chicago. The Art Center is funded in part by the: Alphawood Foundation; Andy Warhol Foundation for Visual Arts; Chicago Community Trust; a City Arts III grant from the City of Chicago’s Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events; David C. and Sarajeon Ruttenberg Arts Foundation; Field Foundation of Illinois; Harper Court Arts Council; Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; The Irving Harris Foundation; Joyce Foundation; Leo S. Guthman Fund; Lloyd A. Fry Foundation; MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at Prince; National Endowment for the Arts; Polk Bros. Foundation; Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust; and the generosity of its members and people like you. The Hyde Park Art Center does not discriminate against any person for reason of race, gender, age, place of national origin, handicap, religious conviction, marital status, veteran status or sexual preference.

# Hyde ParkARTCENTER

Gallery 1, 2, Cleve Carney Gallery  
& Jackman Goldwasser Catwalk Gallery

August 19 – November 11, 2012



Tony Lewis  
*roloc colo oloc oloc or colo colo oloc color*  
2011  
Pencil and graphite powder on paper  
84 x 60 inches  
Courtesy of Shane Campbell Gallery

This exhibition continues the *Ground Floor* tradition which began in 2010 at the Hyde Park Art Center with an inaugural survey of artists representing top Chicago art schools offering Master of Fine Art degrees. These institutions currently produce the young talent influencing the climate of art making here and abroad. This exhibition of multi-media artworks provides a deeper look into our city's pedagogical art institutions as well as the individual production and budding art practices of the *Ground Floor* artists.

*Ground Floor*, so named because it fills the entire lower level of the Art Center—over 6,000 square feet of gallery space—gives these young artists a major public venue in which to display their works at a critical juncture in their careers, helping to build, support and ensure a strong, vibrant and broad community of artists in Chicago. The exhibition also facilitates a unique cross-institution conversation under one institutional umbrella.

At the same time, *Ground Floor* offers the Chicago community a consistent and dynamic biennial destination where they are introduced to those artists whose work demands to be seen and supported. The Art Center is a neutral ground without any school affiliation and so the perfect host for an exhibition that takes the pulse of current local art production. *Ground Floor* presents art made in the past couple of years in the hopes of investigating and articulating conceptual and stylistic trends contemporaneously coming out of Chicago art schools.

*Ground Floor* is the brainchild of art world luminary **Dawoud Bey**, who together with **Huey Copeland**, **Sze Lin Pang**, **Jason Salavon**, and other members of the Art Center's Exhibitions Committee selected artists based on recommendations from local faculty, artists, and curators. The Exhibitions Committee reviewed the work of over 100 artists from the graduating classes of 2011/2012 from schools including Columbia College Chicago, Northwestern University, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, the University of Chicago, and the University of Illinois at Chicago.

The *Ground Floor* exhibition includes:

**Jeremy Bolen** (UIC), **Guillermo R. Gudiño** (SAIC), **Julie Renée Jones** (Columbia College Chicago), **Tony Lewis** (SAIC), **Andrew Thomas Lopez** (Columbia College Chicago), **Eric May** (Northwestern University), **Rachel Niffenegger** (Northwestern University), **Josh Reames** (SAIC), **Casilda Sánchez** (SAIC), **Neal Vandenberg** (UIC), and **Shane Ward** (University of Chicago).

In the spirit of supporting young artists for this exhibition, the Hyde Park Art Center has also commissioned **Caroline Picard**, a young Chicago-based artist, writer and curator (herself an SAIC graduate who earned her MFA in 2010) to author the *Ground Floor* catalog. This new tradition - creating a catalog for the *Ground Floor* exhibition as a method of documenting and archiving this pivotal and vital moment in time - creates an unprecedented opportunity for a young voice to emerge alongside those visual artists presented here.



Jeremy Bolen  
*In Five Directions, Above the Tevatron  
Particle Accelerator, Fermi Lab, Batavia,  
IL, 2011*  
Archival pigment print  
52 x 42 inches  
Courtesy of Andrew Rafacz Gallery

The catalog release will accompany the opening reception on September 23, 2012 and will be available for purchase at the front desk.

Aaron Ott  
Interim Exhibitions Manager