

# CULTURE LAB DETROIT

## CULTURE LAB DETROIT ANNOUNCES 2016 PROGRAMMING

*Featuring Elizabeth Diller, Eva Franch i Gilabert, Glenn Kaino, Trevor Paglen, Adam Pendleton,  
Franklin Sirmans*

**Detroit (June 27, 2016)** — Culture Lab Detroit, an organization that fosters conversations and collaborations between Detroit and the international art, architecture and design communities, announces its 2016 program. For its fourth edition, Culture Lab Detroit explores the theme of **“Walls”**— be they architectural or theoretical, historical or speculative. Through a two-night **discussion series**, **public art projects**, and **ongoing collaborations**, Culture Lab Detroit 2016 brings together premier artists, architects, curators and theorists to provide groundbreaking alternatives to some of the most entrenched issues of recent times.

Culture Lab Detroit's discussion series will take place **September 15 and 16, 2016**. Participants will discuss new ways to move through a city, to visit a museum, to catalyze social change through art, and to negotiate the ever-shifting divide between public and private space. These vital conversations will be held against the backdrop of Detroit, addressing issues of empty space, population shifts, urban blight and renewal, and the struggle to define a new environment of collaboration and respect.

*Each dialogue is free and open to the public.*

**Thursday, September 15 – 6:30 p.m. EST**

### **Sliding Walls: Reimagining the Architecture of Social Space**

College for Creative Studies, Benson & Edith Ford Conference Center at the A. Alfred  
Taubman Center for Design Education  
460 W Baltimore St., Detroit, MI

#### **PARTICIPANTS**

**Elizabeth Diller**, Founding Partner, Diller Scofidio + Renfro

**Trevor Paglen**, Artist

**Franklin Sirmans**, Director, Pérez Art Museum Miami

#### **MODERATOR**

**Dennis Scholl**, Former VP/Arts, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

**Friday, September 16 – 6:30 p.m. EST**

**Stones Thrown: Art and Social Progress**

The Jam Handy  
2900 E Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI

**PARTICIPANTS**

**Eva Franch i Gilabert**, Director, Storefront for Art and Architecture

**Glenn Kaino**, Artist

**Adam Pendleton**, Artist

**MODERATOR**

**Salvador Salort-Pons**, Director, Detroit Institute of Arts

“This year, Culture Lab Detroit looks to provide a variety of answers to a central issue of cultural placemaking: how do we allow walls to inform our experiences without limiting us,” says Founder Jane Schulak. “Our participants bring together a wide array of professional and personal diversity, but they are united in the pursuit of social justice. We’re thrilled to hold this globally relevant conversation in Detroit.”

In addition to the two-night discussion series, Culture Lab Detroit will continue to present world-class public works of art and design to the Detroit community.

**ABOUT CULTURE LAB DETROIT 2016 PARTICIPANTS**

**ELIZABETH DILLER** is a founding partner of Diller Scofidio + Renfro, an interdisciplinary design studio that spans the fields of architecture, the visual arts, and the performing arts. With Ricardo Scofidio, Diller was the first in the field of architecture to receive the MacArthur Foundation “genius” award; the jury stated, “their work explores how space functions in our culture and illustrates that architecture, when understood as the physical manifestation of social relationships, is everywhere, not just in buildings.”

Founded in 1979, the New York-based studio established its identity through independent, theoretical, and self-generated projects before coming to international prominence through projects such as the Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston, Massachusetts; the renovation and expansion of Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York; and the High Line, an urban park situated on an obsolete elevated railway stretching 1.5 miles long through Manhattan. Diller is recipient of the Smithsonian Institution’s National Design Award, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Academy of Design. In 2009, Diller was selected by *Time* magazine as one of the “100 Most Influential People in the World.”

**EVA FRANCH I GILABERT** is a New York-based architect, curator, educator and lecturer of experimental forms of art and architectural practice. In 2004, she founded her solo practice OOAA (Office of Architectural Affairs) and since 2010 is the Chief Curator and Executive Director of Storefront for Art and

Architecture. In 2014 Franch, with the project OfficeUS, was selected by the US State Department to represent the United States Pavilion at the XIV Venice Architecture Biennale.

Franch has taught at Columbia University GSAPP, the IUAV University of Venice, SUNY Buffalo, and Rice University School of Architecture. She has received numerous awards and fellowships, and her work has been exhibited internationally including FAD Barcelona, the Venice Architecture Biennale, the Vitra Design Museum, and the Shenzhen Architecture Biennale, among others. She has been part of international competition juries and member of several nominating and advisory boards including the Hong Kong Design Trust, Ideas City, +Pool and the YAP PS1-MoMA in New York.

**GLENN KAINO** transforms conventional materials and forms through a process of working that mobilizes the languages, logics, and economies of other creative disciplines as raw elements in artistic production. Trained as a sculptor in Southern California, Kaino has also worked extensively with biologists, robotics specialists, programmers, animators, hackers, cartographers, weavers, Zapatistas, and magicians to develop his oeuvre that draws from the mechanics of these specialized nodes of knowledge in order to forge new relationships between distinct forms of matter and thought.

Kaino has exhibited at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth; Grand Arts, Kansas City; the Studio Museum in Harlem, New York; the Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh; LAX, Los Angeles; REDCAT, Los Angeles; and the Kitchen; New York. He is represented by Honor Fraser Gallery and Kavi Gupta Gallery.

**TREVOR PAGLEN** deliberately blurs lines between science, contemporary art, journalism, and other disciplines to construct unfamiliar, yet meticulously researched ways to see and interpret the world around us. Paglen's visual work has been exhibited at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; The Tate Modern, London; The Walker Arts Center, Minneapolis; The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; the 2008 Taipei Biennial; the 2009 Istanbul Biennial; the 2012 Liverpool Biennial, and numerous other solo and group exhibitions.

He is the author of five books and numerous articles on subjects including experimental geography, state secrecy, military symbology, photography, and visuality. His most recent book, *The Last Pictures* is a meditation on the intersections of deep-time, politics, and art. Paglen has received grants and awards from the Smithsonian, Art Matters, Artadia, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the LUMA foundation, the Eyebeam Center for Art and Technology, and the Aperture Foundation. Paglen holds a B.A. from U.C. Berkeley, an MFA from the Art Institute of Chicago, and a Ph.D. in Geography from U.C. Berkeley.

**ADAM PENDLETON** is a conceptual artist known for his multi-disciplinary practice, which includes painting, publishing, collage, video, and performance. His work engages with language, both figuratively and literally, as well as the re-contextualization of history. Through his work, Pendleton seeks to establish “a future dynamic where new historical narratives and meanings can exist.”

Pendleton has been included in significant exhibitions in America and Europe. Most recently, his solo exhibition *Becoming Imperceptible*, opened at the Contemporary Arts Center New Orleans and traveled

to the Museum of Contemporary Art Denver. His work is included in the collections of Tate Modern, London; Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego; The Museum of Modern Art, New York; and Studio Museum in Harlem, New York.

**SALVADOR SALORT-PONS** joined the Detroit Institute of Arts' (DIA) curatorial division in 2008 as assistant curator of European paintings and served as head of the European art department since 2011, adding the role of executive director of Collection Strategies and Information in 2013. He also served as the Elizabeth and Allan Shelden Curator of European Paintings at the DIA and played a key role in the museum's current strategic planning process. Salort-Pons was appointed director, president and CEO in October 2015, succeeding Graham W. J. Beal, who retired as director on June 30, 2015.

Prior to coming to Detroit, Salort-Pons was senior curator at the Meadows Museum at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, assistant professor at the University of Madrid and exhibition curator at the Memmo Foundation/Palazzo Ruspoli in Rome. Salort-Pons has been the recipient of a Rome Prize Fellowship at the Spanish Academy of Rome and a research fellow at the Royal College of Spain in Bologna (founded in 1364), the Getty Grant Program, the Medici Archive Project in Florence and Bibliotheca Hertziana in Rome, among others.

**DENNIS SCHOLL** was the Vice President / Arts of the Knight Foundation from 2009 to 2015. He oversaw the foundation's national arts program, including the Knight Arts Challenge and Random Acts of Culture. Scholl created a series of initiatives dedicated to building the contemporary art collections of museums, including the Guggenheim, the Tate Modern and the Pérez Art Museum Miami, which resulted in hundreds of patron-funded art acquisitions. He has served on the boards and executive committees of the Aspen Art Museum, Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami, the Pérez Art Museum and the Linda Pace Foundation. He was named three times to the annual WESTAF list of the Most Powerful and Influential Leaders in the Nonprofit Arts, and along with his wife, Debra, recently received the National Service in the Arts Award from the Anderson Ranch Art Center.

In 2012, Scholl was named a Harvard University Advanced Leadership Fellow, focusing on the role of culture in community engagement. Scholl is currently a Visiting Scholar at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Media Lab. *No Boundaries: Contemporary Aboriginal Australian Abstract Painting*, a show drawn from Scholl's collection, is currently touring to six U.S. museums.

**FRANKLIN SIRMANS** is Director of the Pérez Art Museum Miami. Prior to his recent appointment, he was the department head and curator of contemporary art at Los Angeles County Museum of Art from 2010 until fall 2015. At LACMA Sirmans organized *Noah Purifoy: Junk Dada*, which traveled to the Wexner Center for the Arts in January 2016. He also curated *Variations: Conversations in and Around Abstract Painting*, *Futbol: The Beautiful Game*, *Ends and Exits: Contemporary Art from the Collections of LACMA and the Broad Art Foundation*, and co-organized the exhibition *Human Nature: Contemporary Art from the Collection*

From 2006 to 2010, he was Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at The Menil Collection in Houston, where he organized several exhibitions including *NeoHooDoo: Art for a Forgotten Faith*, *Steve Wolfe: Works on Paper*, *Maurizio Cattelan: Is Their Life Before Death?* and *Vija Celmins: Television and Disaster, 1964-1966*. He is the 2007 David C. Driskell Prize Winner and he was the artistic director of Prospect.3 New Orleans from 2012-2014. He is the curator of the forthcoming exhibition *Toba Khedoori*.

#### **ABOUT CULTURE LAB DETROIT**

Culture Lab Detroit fosters conversations and collaborations between Detroit and the international design community. Through public discussions, exhibitions, public art projects, and creative partnerships, Culture Lab Detroit explores and promotes the vital role of culture in the mindful regeneration of the city. The organization was founded by Jane Schulak founded Culture Lab Detroit in 2013, in partnership with the **Detroit Creative Corridor Center** and the **College for Creative Studies**.

Culture Lab Detroit's 2015 edition was organized around the theme of **Green Space**. Patrick Blanc, Sou Fujimoto, Stephen Henderson, Walter Hood, Reed Kroloff and Alice Waters discussed ecology, architecture, and nature. Last year also saw the launch of **Culture Lab Detroit Designs**, which was conceived by David Stark, and featured designs by Kelly Behun, Estudio Campana, Sebastian Errazuriz, and Paola Navone, among others.

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