

## **The Nothing That Is**

A drawing show in five parts  
June 5 – September 7, 2015



Daniel Davidson, *Land of Me* (detail), 2015, Mixed media on assembled papers, 70" x 46", Courtesy of the Artist.

**Opening Preview – Members and Press**

Thursday, June 4, 2015, 6-8pm

**Free First Friday & Public Opening**

Friday, June 5, 2015, 6-10pm

**Coffee & Conversation with artists and curators**

Free and open to the public

Saturday, June 6, 2015, 11am

**Exhibition Tours available by Appointment**

919.261.5920

**CAM Raleigh (Contemporary Art Museum)** is pleased to present *The Nothing That Is: a drawing show in five parts* curated by Bill Thelen. This extraordinary exhibition includes more than 85 local, national and international artists all exploring contemporary approaches to drawing, mark making and gesture. *The Nothing That Is* will be presented in five parts throughout the museum and also includes drawing projects in the community.

**Chapter 1 DDDRRRAAAWWWIINNNGGG** in the Main Gallery curated by Bill Thelen and Jason Polan features a “do it yourself” approach to drawing with an emphasis on emerging artists, illustration, zines, economy, and building community through drawing. These artists’ works all utilize drawing as a prime strategy in their art-making process. Artists will be exhibiting collaborative and singular works embedded with their own unique drawing practices including Tedd Anderson, Joana Avillez, Amanda Barr, Chris Bogia, Elijah Burgher, Richard C., Robin Cameron, Ryan Travis Christian, Casey Cook, Daniel Davidson, Louise Despont, Mollie Earls, James Esber, Joy Feasley, Bill Fick, Nancy Ford, Sarah Gamble, Nathan Gelgud, Lincoln Hancock, EJ Hauser, Harrison Haynes, Kathleen Henderson, Jordin Islip, Rich Jacobs, Spencer Jacobs, George Jenne, Ken Kagami, Tricia Keightley, Thad Kellstadt, Victor Kerlow, Jeff Ladouceur, Lump Lipshitz, Ryan Martin, Stefan Marx, Rich McIsaac, Hazel Meehan, Allyson Mellberg, Tristin Miller, Lee Misenheimer, Lavar Munroe, Kymia Nawabi, Tucker Nichols, Paul Nudd, Jason Osborne, Jason Polan, Tal R, Fernando Renes, Josh Rickards, Steve Reinke, Louis Schmidt, Christopher Schulz, Stewart Sineath, Damian Stamer, Paul Swenbeck, Megan Sullivan, Jeremy Taylor, Christopher Thomas, Derek Toomes, Michael Worful, James Ulmer, Todd Webb, Neil Whitacre, Eric White, Laura Sharp Wilson and Tyler Wolf.

**Chapter 2 Conceptual Approaches** in the Independent Weekly Gallery focuses on artists employing contemporary drawing strategies with nods to conceptualism, feminism, queer theory, formalism, video, performance, photography and art history featuring: Lauren Adams, Becca Albee, Leah Bailis, Lucas Blalock, Kellie Bornhoft, Blake Fall-Conroy, Joy Drury Cox, Steven Evans, Ray Johnson/Richard C, Alex Jovanovich, Gary Kachadourian, Pedro Lasch, Stan Shellabarger, elin o’Hara slavick, Deb Sokolow, Stacy Lynn Waddell and Amy White.

**Chapter 3 Movement** in the Independent Weekly Gallery will show video that reflects the principles of drawing. Videos will all be based on drawing and range from animation to performance. There will be several special screenings throughout the summer. Featured artists include David Colagiovanni, Jerstin Crosby and Fernando Renes.

**Chapter 4 Locals Only** will feature capsule solo exhibitions by North Carolina artists. These “locals only” exhibitions will rotate throughout the exhibition space and feature regional artists that utilize drawing as a prime strategy in their art-making process including Carol Cole (June), Barbara Campbell Thomas (June), David Eichenberger (July), Chris Musina (July) and Tedd Anderson (August).

**Chapter 5 Open Source** explores social engagement by featuring projects that utilize collaborative art strategies that extend beyond the museum’s walls. Through community outreach and social practice, there will be opportunities for the community to be involved in the exhibition. Such projects as Jason Polan’s ongoing “Taco Bell Drawing Club” will unite artists of all abilities to draw in a non-hierarchical, non-judgmental setting. Other projects will include the CAM Young Artists Advisory Panel, The Drawn, Elsewhere, Pedro Lasch, Vegan Snake Club and Lee Walton.

## Curator Bill Thelen

**Bill Thelen** is an artist, curator and educator. He currently lives and works in Raleigh, NC. Thelen holds degrees from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (BFA) and the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (MFA). His work has been exhibited both nationally and internationally, including Cell Projects in London, UK, Galeria Zé dos Bois, Lisbon, Portugal, Threadwaxing Space, Plus Ultra Gallery, Guild and Greyshkul, Cinders Gallery and Exit Art in New York City, NY, Vox Populi and Space 1026 in Philadelphia, PA, New Image Art in Los Angeles, CA, Monique Meloche Gallery, Western Exhibitions, and Heaven Gallery in Chicago, The Green Gallery in Milwaukee, SECCA in Winston-Salem, The Weatherspoon Art Museum and Greenhill Center for the Arts in Greensboro, Branch Gallery in Durham and Lump and Rebus Works in Raleigh among others. His work has been reviewed in the *The New York Times*, *Art Papers*, *TimeOut London*, *Sculpture Magazine*, *The News & Observer*, *The Independent* and many online journals and blogs. He is also the director/cofounder of Lump, a contemporary art gallery, collective, and project space located in Raleigh since 1996.

## Curator Jason Polan

**Jason Polan** is an artist living in New York City. He has exhibited work all over the United States, Europe, Africa, and Asia. He is a member of The 53rd Street Biological Society and Taco Bell Drawing Club. He has made over 100 books including *The Every Piece of Art in the Museum of Modern Art Book* (twice). Mr. Polan's drawings have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *Believer Magazine*, *Lucky Peach* and *ARTnews*. He has done projects with The Criterion Collection, Warby Parker, the Whitney Museum, Levi's, the Brooklyn Museum, and The Ford Foundation. Polan is currently drawing every person in New York (he has drawn over 36,000 people so far). Polan is from Michigan.



James Esber, *untitled (Run)*, 2013, Acrylic on paper, 27 x 19.5 in., Courtesy of Pierogi



Tucker Nichols, *Untitled*, 2010, Pencil and spray paint on cardboard, 11 x 14 x 1 in., Courtesy of Zieher Smith Horton



Pedro Lasch, *Crumbs: Drawing on a Limited View of New York City's Cultural Wealth*, 2000, C-prints, wooden frames, brass plaques, 19 1/2 x 29 1/2 in. each, (top to bottom) #1, #5 in a suite of 12.

# About CAM Raleigh



Photo courtesy Aerial Lift Marketing

The Contemporary Art Museum (CAM Raleigh) has served as a cultural hub for Raleigh's vibrant Warehouse District since opening in 2011. CAM has become a leading force in contemporary art in the Southeast by curating the most current and essential works of art and design today. Art that is still emerging, growing and living.

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**Hours:**

M: By Appointment  
T: Closed  
W, Th, F: 11:00 am – 6:30 pm  
S, Su: 12:00 – 5:00 pm

**CAM Raleigh strives to be fully accessible to our community.**  
Your questions, concerns or suggestions help us ensure that we are as accommodating as possible: 919.261.5917 or gab.smith@camraleigh.org

All CAM Raleigh Galleries, Classroom and Restrooms are wheelchair accessible. (The entrance ramp to CAM Raleigh is located at the front door. An elevator is located at the main entrance. Wheelchair accessible restrooms, each situated next to a water fountain, are located on the Upper Level and Lower Level.)

Manual wheelchairs are available free of charge at the front desk.

Upon request we offer ASL, audio description, large format brochures, touch tours and specialized tours for our programs and exhibitions. We ask for two weeks notice for these services, please contact us at 919.261.5917 or gab.smith@camraleigh.org.

