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Exterior view of CAM Raleigh, a museum that explores what's now and presents an always-changing museum experience. Image courtesy CAM Raleigh

CAM RALEIGH SET TO OPEN APRIL 30 ANNOUNCES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, INAUGURAL EXHIBITIONS

RALEIGH, MARCH 25, 2011—A lively evening of street-festival activities, an official ribbon-cutting ceremony, and a weekend of free admission and special programs mark the grand opening of **CAM Raleigh**, a museum for contemporary art and design in Raleigh's historic Warehouse District. **Elysia Borowy-Reeder**, who begins as Executive Director on May 16, will lead the museum's dedication to exploring what's now and nearing within an always-changing museum experience. Its inaugural exhibitions feature artists **Dan Steinhilber** (Washington, DC) in the main gallery and New York-based Naoko Ito, the first artist in the Independent Weekly Gallery's Emerging Artists Series. CAM Raleigh is a partnership between the community and **North Carolina State University's** (NC State) College of Design.

"I am thrilled to celebrate new ideas in art and design in a home commensurate with both the College of Design's program and the ambitions of the many artists that we showcase," said NC State's College of

Design Dean **Marvin J. Malecha**, FAIA. “Elysia Borowy-Reeder will contribute the same intrepid energy, excitement, and willingness to experiment that brought us to this extraordinary milestone.”

“I’m excited by the breaking of boundaries between different art forms, connecting audiences with artists and designers who use street art, design, performance, craft, architecture, and other disciplines and mediums to create a message that has to do with human condition,” says Borowy-Reeder. “I am thrilled and honored to be selected by the CAM Raleigh Board and Dean Malecha to guide the Museum at this exciting period in its history.”

CAM Raleigh Board Members, staff, and NC State officials will preside over a grand ribbon cutting ceremony at CAM Raleigh on April 30 at 11:30 a.m. Free admission is offered Saturday and Sunday, 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sponsored by Progress Energy, the weekend includes hands-on activities in the museum classroom, middle school student docents, and opportunities for visitors to interact with exhibition artists.

A Grand Opening Celebration is planned for the evening of April 29, providing the community a first look inside the Museum. The lively street party begins at 7:00 p.m. with fare by Poole’s Diner, Humble Pie, Jibarra, The Pit, and bu•ku; signature cocktails from Foundation; locally crafted beers from Carolina Brewery and Big Boss; wine and spirits; and a variety of entertainment and festivities. At 9:00 p.m. the CAM/now After Party portion of the evening kicks off with gourmet desserts from Escazu, Crumb, and Locopops. Tickets to the entire Grand Opening Celebration from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. are \$150. Tickets to attend the CAM/now After Party beginning at 9:00 p.m. are available for \$50. Either ticket level gets you a discount to the official CAM Raleigh AFTER After Party at Kings featuring the Smith Westerns. Visit camraleigh.org to purchase tickets to the event. Honorary Chairs for the grand opening are Dr. and Mrs. James Goodnight.

CAM Raleigh’s new home is an early twentieth-century structure that is located in the Depot National Register Historic District. The downtown warehouse was designed and renovated by the architectural team of **Clearscapes** and **Brooks + Scarpa**. Clearscapes, based in Raleigh, is a multi-disciplinary design firm that focuses on cultural facilities, higher education, urban mixed use, and large scale public art. Brooks + Scarpa is the successor architecture firm formerly known as Pugh + Scarpa, founded in Santa Monica, California in 1991. The firm was recently chosen to receive the prestigious **2010 AIA Architecture Firm Award**, the highest honor the AIA bestows on an architecture firm and recognizes a practice that consistently has produced distinguished architecture for at least 10 years.

CAM Raleigh is located at 409 W. Martin Street, between Harrington and West streets, and online at camraleigh.org. The telephone number is 919-513-0946. Museum hours are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 11 a.m. – 6:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., and first and third Fridays of the month open until 9 p.m. The museum is closed on Tuesday. General admission to the museum is \$5. CAM Raleigh members, children 10 and under, members of the military, and NC State students, staff, and faculty are admitted free.

ABOUT THE EXHIBITIONS

Dan Steinhilber: Hold On, Loosely will be on view from April 30 through August 22 and the exhibition created by Naoko Ito, *Urban Nature*, will be on view from April 30 through July 11. CAM Advisory Board Chairman **Raven Manocchio** says “CAM Raleigh’s inaugural exhibitions will offer each and every visitor a rich, intricate, multidisciplinary exploration of the work being produced by a new generation of artists. Both installations are not-to-be-missed.”

Dan Steinhilber: Hold On, Loosely

April 30–August 22

CAM Raleigh is proud to present a new installation of some of the largest works to date by Washington DC-based artist Dan Steinhilber.

Inspired by the relationship between our building’s past and present function, Steinhilber has created a series of site-specific installations throughout the museum that reflect the human gesture to contain the perishable. An architectural structure of cardboard boxes spans overhead, shipping pallets painted with stretch wrap hang on the wall, and an inflated sculpture of mulched plastic bags can be entered. These, and several other works, demonstrate Steinhilber’s capacity to transform the ordinary into the extraordinary.

An established mid-career artist, Steinhilber received his MFA from American University in Washington D.C. and his BFA from the Institute of Art and Design, Milwaukee, WI. He has had numerous solo and group exhibitions including a recent installation at Mass MoCA entitled “Breathing Room,” which received much critical acclaim. Past exhibitions include the Hirshhorn Museum of Art and Sculpture Garden (Washington, DC) and Contemporary Art Museum Houston (Houston, TX), among others. Steinhilber is a recipient of a Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters and Sculptures Grant and a Smithsonian Artist Research Fellowship.



Dan Steinhilber, 2011, Untitled, work in progress at CAM Raleigh, image courtesy of the artist.

Naoko Ito: Urban Nature

April 30–July 11

CAM Raleigh is proud to present New York-based Japanese artist Naoko Ito in her first solo museum exhibition. This is the first exhibition in the Emerging Artists Series in the Independent Weekly Gallery.

Ito works primarily with manufactured materials rather than traditional “art” media. Incorporating common items like jars and wire, the works are accessible by everyone. In her series “Urban Nature”, segmented tree branches are preserved in mason jars, a nod to historical methods of homegrown food preservation as well as a comment on man’s desire to contain nature. The resulting sculpture reveals and obscures the whole, your eyes shifting focus from the branch inside to its glass enclosure. The spare installation of the works enhances their quiet beauty, crystalline forms shining in the concrete gallery.



Naoko Ito, 2009, Ubiquitous, jar, tree, 35" x 70" x 50", installation at her studio, image courtesy of the artist.

ABOUT THE EMERGING ARTIST SERIES

CAM Raleigh is the only museum in the region with a dedicated gallery for emerging artists and designers. Through exhibiting emerging artists whose work is still in progress and fresh from the studio, CAM Raleigh celebrates the diversity of artistic expression and places the artist at the center of the community. The museum supports early career contemporary artists in an atmosphere where they are encouraged to foster a cross-fertilization of ideas and dynamic interaction with visitors. Visitors from all walks of life will often have a chance to meet and exchange ideas with the artists celebrated in this series. CAM Raleigh's Independent Weekly Gallery features the Emerging Artist Series.

ABOUT ELYSIA BOROWY-REEDER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CAM RALEIGH

Elysia Borowy-Reeder received her first degree in visual arts from Antioch College, Ohio, and has two Master of Arts degrees from Michigan State University, in art history and art education. Borowy-Reeder attended the Getty Leadership for Museum Management in 2008 and the Yale School of Management in 2010. Throughout her career, Borowy-Reeder has served on professional panels and advisory committees. She has held senior leadership positions at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, and at the Milwaukee Art Museum. In her curatorial capacity, she has organized contemporary art shows at Kolnischer Kunstverein in Cologne, Germany, General Store in Milwaukee, White Columns in New York, Locust Projects in Miami, the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, and Gavin Brown's enterprise in New York. Her curatorial work has been reviewed in *Artforum*, the *New York Times*, *Paper Magazine*, and the *Village Voice*.

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CAM Raleigh is a non-collecting museum that explores what's now and presents an always-changing museum experience. CAM Raleigh is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization created through partnership between the community of Raleigh and North Carolina State University's College of Design. CAM Raleigh is generously supported by its Board of Trustees, North Carolina State University, individual and corporate members, private and corporate foundations, and government agencies. CAM Raleigh is located at 409 West Martin Street, Raleigh, NC 27603, between Harrington and West streets and in the heart of Raleigh's Depot National Register Historic District and Warehouse District. CAM Raleigh has a parking lot; additional parking is available at metered spots on the street or at the Davie Street Parking Lot located at 201 W. Davie Street. Museum hours are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 11 a.m. – 6:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., and first and third Fridays of the month open until 9 p.m. The museum is closed on Tuesday. General admission to the museum is \$5. CAM Raleigh members, children 10 and under, members of the military, and NC State students, staff, and faculty are admitted free. Information about CAM Raleigh's exhibitions, programs, and special events is available on the CAM Raleigh website at <http://camraleigh.org> or by phone at 919.513.0946. Visit <http://camraleigh.org> to participate in the behind-the-scenes of the museum opening. Follow @camraleigh on twitter.