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SALT LAKE ART CENTER ANNOUNCES FALL EXHIBITION

Doublespeak

SALT LAKE CITY, UT –Salt Lake Art Center announces *Doublespeak*, October 7, 2011 – January 7, 2012, an exhibition of contemporary women artists who work in code and layered meaning. *Doublespeak* opens to the public on October 7, 2011, at 8:00 PM. Exhibiting artists include Guggenheim Fellow Jennifer Nelson, 2011 Venice Biennale artist Daniela Comani, Lisa Anne Auerbach, Rebecca Campbell, Julie Orser, Carlee Fernandez, Julie Lequin, Carlin Wing, Wendy Red Star, 2011 Rome Prize recipient Mary Reid Kelly, Barbara Kruger, and The Fourth Height + Urs Bigler.

Inspired by the 19th century Vietnamese poetess Hô Xuân Hu’o’ng who drafted verses with both aural and semantic double entendres, *Doublespeak* features contemporary women artists who work in strategies of code and layered meaning. For centuries women have found eloquent and inventive ways to articulate their ideas and experiences when social, political, or religious confines would otherwise prohibit them from speaking out. The international artists in *Doublespeak* use material, language, and bodies to present an idea, medium, or structure that has multiple reads depending on the perspective from which the viewer is perceiving and ‘reading’ the work.

“There is a long history of women using codes to get their message across – from the centuries old language Nüshu, used by Chinese women in the Hunan province, to the secret quilt codes of the Underground Railroad during the American Civil War. This exhibition offers contemporary examples of such cultural codes, examining feminine perspectives on politics, war and gender,” says Micol Hebron, Chief Curator, Salt Lake Art Center.



Events surrounding *Doublespeak* include an opening reception on the evening of Friday, October 7, 5:00 – 6:00 PM for Art Center members and 8:00 – 10:00 PM for the public. A lecture and reading titled *Poems of Provocations and Witness* by Shole Wolpé (*Rooftops of Tehran*), is presented in partnership with the Utah Humanities Book Festival, on Friday, October 7, 7:00 PM. Also, artist Wendy Red Star, whose work is featured in *Doublespeak*, presents *Crow Style: The Artwork of Wendy Red Star*, on Friday, December 2, 7:00 PM, supported by the United States General Services Administration. All events are at Salt Lake Art Center.

Mary Reid Kelly, *Sadie, the Saddest Sadist*, 2009, Video with sound, 7'23"

Salt Lake Art Center

Salt Lake Art Center is Utah’s premiere venue for contemporary art, and was recognized as Best Museum in the State of

Utah for 2011. Founded in 1931 and now located in the heart of Salt Lake City, the Art Center exhibits groundbreaking work by leading local and international artists. www.slartcenter.org

Notable past exhibitions include: Robert Fontenot's *The Place This Is*, a conceptual exploration of the stories and histories of Utah and America through materials commonly associated with the domestic realm; *Contemporary Masters: Artist-Designed Miniature Golf*, *Honeymoon: A Harmonious Marriage of Opposites*, featuring paintings by Kristin Calabrese and Joshua Aster, and the community public sculpture initiative *Lawn Gnomes Eat Your Hearts Out*; and *Fallen Fruit of Utah*, a state-wide collaboration with museums and individuals about the role of fruit in Utah's history, led by artist collective Fallen Fruit.

Current exhibitions include: the first round of the new Local's Only Gallery exhibiting Jared Clark's *Bild* (through December 17), *Final Light: V. Douglas Snow in Retrospect* (through October 22), and the current installment of in a series of contemporary video art, *Looped: Enduring* (through November 3), featuring performances by Jamie McMurry and Nikolaj Larsen.

Upcoming exhibitions include: *Doublespeak* (October 7, 2011 – January 7, 2012), Work by contemporary women artists who utilize strategies of layered or multiple meanings to address sensitive or difficult subject matter; Kim Schoenstadt, recipient of the 2011 Catherine Doctorow Prize for Contemporary Painting (November 4, 2011 – February 18, 2012); *Sundance Film Festival New Frontier* (January 20 – May 19, 2012) in its second annual presentation at the Art Center; and *Play Me I'm Yours* (June 10 – 25, 2012), a participatory art installation that will invite the residents of Utah to show off their piano skills on street corners all over Salt Lake. Also, the New Genres Gallery launches with an inaugural exhibition by artist Brian Bress, whose single channel video *Creative Ideas for Every Season* (October 7 – November 17, 2011) explores the difficulties and absurdities confronting the pursuit of a creative practice.

The Art Center rounds out its offerings with a lively mix of award-winning educational programs, film screenings, panel discussions, and events celebrating Salt Lake's vibrant local art scene. Salt Lake Art Center is located at 20 S. West Temple, just off the intersection with South Temple. Admission is free year-round. Business hours are Tuesday thru Thursday: 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM; Friday: 11:00 AM to 9:00 PM; Saturday: 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM; closed Sunday and Monday. For more information call (801) 328-4201 or visit www.slartcenter.org.

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