

t r a n s f o r m e r

12th Annual Exercises for Emerging Artists *E12: Social Practice* July 22 - September 12, 2015

Transformer is proud to present *E12: Social Practice*, the 12th year of our Exercises for Emerging Artists program. Focusing on a different artistic discipline each year, *E12: Social Practice* is supporting artists interested in pursuing social change and social engagement through their work.

With mentorship from **Kenneth Bailey** of Boston based **Design Studio for Social Intervention (DS4SI)**, DC based artist **Patrick McDonough**, and Transformer staff, E12 artists **Amy Hughes Braden**, **Margo Elsayd**, **Kunj**, and **Joseph Orzal** explore topics of femininity, critical pedagogy, urban planning, and visibility through a series of public actions and social interventions.

Transformer's 1404 P Street, NW project space will be dedicated to *E12: Social Practice*, **July 22 - September 12**, acting as a *Social Practice Lab* for each participating artist to workshop their ideas & methods, and share documentation of public actions during the following 10-day blocks:

Amy Hughes Braden

July 22 - August 1st, 2015

Opening Reception: Thursday July 23

Kunj

August 5 - August 15, 2015

Opening Reception: Thursday August 6

Joseph Orzal

August 19 - August 29, 2015

Opening Reception: Thursday August 20

Margo Elsayd

September 2 - September 12, 2015

Opening Reception: Thursday September 3

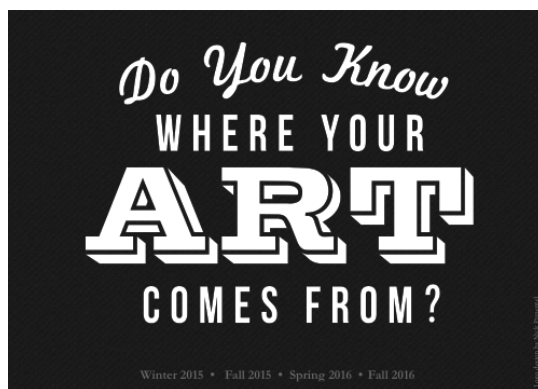
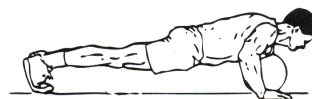
Social Change Art Action Lab

at American University's Katzen Arts Center

The 2nd exhibition in Transformer's four-part

Do You Know Where Your Art Comes From? Series

September 24 – October 22, 2015



E12: Social Practice marks the 12th season of Transformer's *Exercises For Emerging Artists* program. Launched in March 2004, this highly successful mentorship program supports DC area emerging artists through a rigorous critique process with peers & mentors as they create a new work or new body of work. Artists are invited to participate in the *Exercises* via nominations by Transformer staff, Advisory Council, area arts educators and curators.

Focusing on a different artistic discipline each year, *E12: Social Practice* highlights artists who are interested in pursuing social change and social engagement through their work. This year's Exercises artists include:

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Amy Hughes Braden, Margo Elsayd, Kunj, and Joseph Orzal. Expanding the scope of the Exercises this year, Transformer will collaborate with Boston based **Design Studio for Social Intervention (DS4SI)**, an artistic research and development outfit for the improvement of civil society and everyday life. Situated at the intersections of design thinking and practice, social justice and activism, public art and social practice and civic/popular engagement, DS4SI designs and tests social interventions with and on behalf of marginalized populations, controversies and ways of life. (ds4si.org).

Beginning in late May and spanning through mid August, the Exercises artists will work with DS4SI's **Kenneth Bailey**, E12 DC Lead Mentor artist **Patrick McDonough**, Transformer staff, and citywide social service groups and social entrepreneurs, to expand their understanding of cultural tactics used in social interventions, learn methodologies for exploring cultural contexts, develop relevant cultural symbols, and generate ideas that build on these symbols to create powerful social interventions.

Transformer's 1404 P Street, NW project space will be dedicated to *E12: Social Practice* July 9 – September 12, acting as a *Social Practice Lab* for the participating artists to workshop ideas & methods, with public hours and events for audience engagement.

E12 artists will then share their ideas for new cultural tactics through their own methodologies in a culminating *Social Change Art Action Lab* at American University's Katzen Arts Center September 24 – October 22, 2015. *Social Change Art Action Lab*, a collaboration between the Studio Art Program at American University, Transformer, and DS4SI, is the 2nd exhibition in Transformer's four-part *Do You Know Where Your Art Comes From?* series being presented over two years at the American University Museum and the Rotunda of the Katzen Arts Center. Curated by Victoria Reis, Executive & Artistic Director of Transformer, in collaboration with Tim Doud, Associate Professor of Art and coordinator of the Visiting Artist Program at American University, *Do You Know Where Your Art Comes From?* highlights various contemporary platforms artists and arts organizations have initiated to develop, create, and present art, and investigates current and future models of art organizing.

The *Do you Know Where Your Art Comes From?* exhibition series was inspired by the launch of Common Field (commonfield.org), a new national network of artist projects and spaces. Transformer is a Founding Member of Common Field.

t r a n s f o r m e r is a Washington, DC based 501 (c) 3 artist-centered non-profit visual arts organization, providing a consistent, supportive, and professional platform for emerging artists to explore and present experimental artistic concepts, build audiences for their work, and advance their careers. A catalyst and advocate for contemporary artists and emergent expression in the visual arts, Transformer connects and promotes emerging visual artists within regional, national and international contexts through exhibition and programs partnerships with artists, curators, commercial galleries, museums and other cultural institutions.

t r a n s f o r m e r's 2015/16 Exhibition Series and programs are supported by: The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities/ NEA, The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, The Bernstein Family Foundation, The Robert Lehman Foundation, The CrossCurrents Foundation, The S&R Foundation, The National Endowment for the Arts' Access to Artistic Excellence Award, and The Visionary Friends of Transformer – individual donors, members of our Annual Auction Host Committee, and Corporate Sponsors.