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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 3, 2016

## Southern Constellations April 2 – May 29, 2016

The 3rd exhibition in Transformer's fourpart Do You Know Where Your Art Comes From? series in collaboration with American University's Visiting Artist Program

**Exhibition Opening Reception:** Saturday, April 2, 6:00 – 8:00PM Contact Victoria Reis / Georgie Payne 202.48.1102 or <u>info@transformerdc.org</u>



### Gallery Talk with George Scheer, Victoria Reis, and Tim Doud Thursday, April 28, 6:30 – 7:30PM

### Southern Constellations Convergence:

**Exploring Experimental Practice and Resources in Southern Cities** Saturday, April 30, 11:00AM – 5:00PM

**Transformer** is proud to present **Southern Constellations**, an exhibition profiling the work of **Elsewhere** – a museum and artist residency set in a former thrift store in Greensboro, North Carolina. Highlighting their curatorial initiative to extend experimental practices and creative networks in the Southern United States, Southern Constellations is an exhibition curated by Elsewhere featuring 15+ artworks by southern artists who participated in their Southern Constellations fellowship program.

Now in its fourth year, Elsewhere's Southern Constellations program invites six artists raised or based in the southern United States for fellowships at the museum to create site-specific works that explore the museum, its collection, and communities as an intersecting ecology of social, political, and material concerns. Through the Southern Constellations fellowship, Elsewhere considers the conditions and context for experimentation in the South, connecting with regional networks of experimental artists and arts spaces.

A selection of Elsewhere's Southern Constellation works have shown at the Atlanta Contemporary (Atlanta, GA), ArtSpace Raleigh (Raleigh, NC), Allcott Gallery and Sloane Art Library on the campus of University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (Chapel Hill, NC), Smith Gallery at Appalachian State University (Boone, NC), and the Stanford L. Warren Library (Durham, NC). The residency is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

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Southern Constellations at the American University Museum is the 3rd exhibition in Transformer's fourpart Do You Know Where Your Art Comes From? series being presented over two years in collaboration with American University's Visiting Artist Program.

Do You Know Where Your Art Comes From? is 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. Highlighting various contemporary platforms, artists, and arts organizations, Do You Know Where Your Art Comes From? investigates current and future models of art organizing.

Do You Know Where Your Art Comes From? was directly inspired by the launch of **Common Field** (<u>www.commonfield.org</u>) a new national arts network of non-profit artist-run and artist centered organizations and independent art spaces, artist projects, and arts organizers. Transformer & Elsewhere are both Founding Members of Common Field.

### Southern Constellations Programming

Panel Discussion with George Scheer, Victoria Reis, and Tim Doud Thursday, April 28, 6:30-7:30pm

Join George Scheer, Executive Director of Elsewhere, Victoria Reis, Executive & Artistic Director of Transformer and Tim Doud, Associate Professor of Art at American University for a discussion of the artworks in Southern Constellation and its presentation as part of Do You Know Where Your Art Comes From?.

### Southern Constellations Convergence: Exploring Experimental Practice and Resources in Southern Cities Saturday, April 30, 11AM – 5PM

Presented in collaboration with the Southern Constellations exhibition at American University, the Southern Constellations Convergence will be a full day of back-to-back panels with breakout sessions, mapping art spaces and artist led projects around the southeast region with a focus on planning for the next national Common Field convening to take place in Miami, FL, Fall 2016.

Participation is free; advance registration is required: SoutherConstellations.eventbrite.com

### EXHIBITION HOURS: Tuesday – Sunday, 11-4pm and by appointment.

1404 P Street NW, Washington, DC 20005 | 202.483.1102 | www.transformerdc.org

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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. www.transformerdc.org

**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



