



For Immediate Release

NON SERVIAM: NEW DIRECTIONS IN GRAPHIC DESIGN
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Contact: info@dcartscenter.org
202-462-7833 cell: 202-379-5601
www.dcartscenter.org

NON SERVIAM: NEW DIRECTIONS IN GRAPHIC DESIGN



Benjamin Critto, *Rolu 4 Ommu*, 2013 C-print, 20x30",
Courtesy of the artist and photographer Mike Garten

Six contemporary DC area graphic designers bring their innovative artwork to DCAC.

DC Arts Center (DCAC) is pleased to announce the opening of *Non Serviam: New Directions in Graphic Design*. The exhibition featuring six contemporary artists who are graphic designers; Benjamin Critton, Anther Kiley, the collaborative team of Keetra Dean Dixon and J.K. Keller, Martin Venezky and Carolyn V. Marsden; and is curated by Jessica K. Pavone and mentored by Professor and Artist Helen Frederick. The exhibit is presented in conjunction with DCAC's Curatorial Initiative Program and continues through Sunday, Oct. 13.

These featured artists create works that blur the lines between traditional definitions of design and fine art. Their oeuvres move beyond functionality and the traditional client-designer relationship into the realms of individual and personal expression. As stated by curator Pavone, "They expand and radicalize their field, rebuking the strictures of functionality."

The exhibition features compelling works that fuse typography and image in a variety of print media including "old school" letterpress, offset, lithograph, web, risograph, and 3-D printing.

The Artists

Artist Martin Venezky is the mastermind behind Appetite Engineers, a small international recognized design firm based in San Francisco. Benjamin Critton is an American designer and Art Director based in Brooklyn, NY, who works in both the fields of design and academia. The collaborative team of Keetra Dean Dixon and J.K. Keller received their undergraduate degrees from the Minneapolis College Art with MFAs from the Cranbrook Academy of Art. Ms. Dixon's work is part of the Design collection at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and Mr. Keller's video works have been exhibited nationally and internationally. Carolyn V. Marsden holds degrees from University of New Mexico and Dartmouth, and was a graphic designer for Boston Magazine. Anther Kiley, a native of Boston, is a graphic designer who teaches at the Rhode Island School of Design.

Panel Discussion, Sunday, Sept. 22 at 5 pm

Graphic Designers Keetra Deen Dixon, Anther Kiley and Javier Lopez will join writer, curator and graphic designer Ellen Lupton. Lupton heads Graphic Design at the Maryland Institute College of Art's MFA program. Participants will discuss the changing role of their medium, including the notion of authorship, the need to move past "service" thinking and the importance the recent book *The Designer as Author, Producer, Activist, Entrepreneur, Curator & Collaborator* by Steven McCarthy.

Gallery hours: Wednesday through Sunday from 2-7PM, and later when there is a theater performance. For information call 202-462-7833 or go to www.dcartscenter.org.