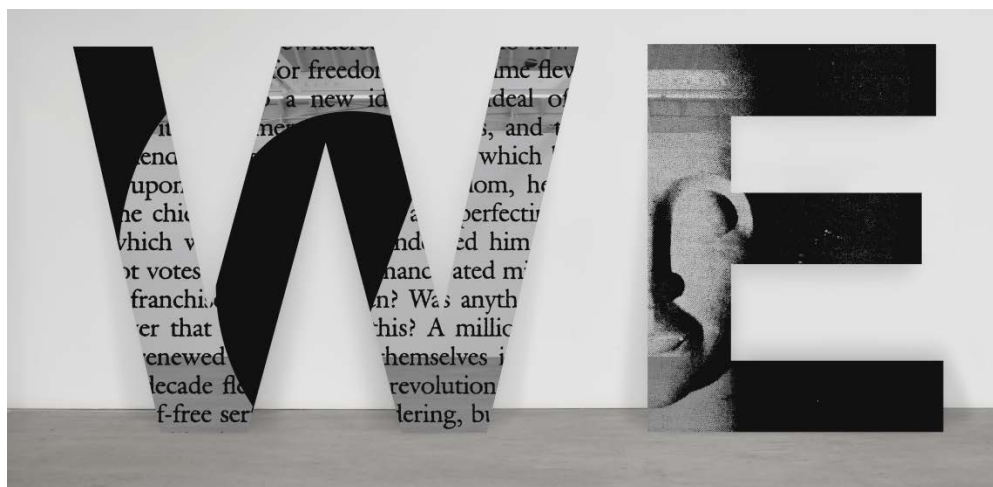




CONTEMPORARY ARTS CENTER NEW ORLEANS

The Contemporary Arts Center announces

**ADAM PENDLETON: BECOMING IMPERCEPTIBLE
EXHIBITION ON VIEW APRIL 1–JUNE 16, 2016 AT THE CAC**



Adam Pendleton: Becoming Imperceptible

April 1–June 16, 2016

Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans
First, Second, & Third Floor Galleries

Opening Party Friday | April 1, 8–10pm

Featuring Edna Karr High School drumline, a performance of Steve Reich's Clapping Music by David Reinfurt and Dan Fox, and DJ RQ Away

The Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans (CAC) is pleased to announce *Adam Pendleton: Becoming Imperceptible*, the largest solo museum presentation of the artist's work in the United States, will open at the CAC April 1, 2016. Including film, wall paintings, ceramics, silkscreens (on mylar, plexiglass, steel, and canvas), the exhibition frames the artist's oeuvre as a complex dialogue between culture and system, a body of work invested in the cross-referencing of aesthetic and social histories.

"Adam's work serves, fundamentally, as an extended practice in difficult dialogue. That is, in putting into visual conversation histories that have not traditionally engaged one another, he models not only an aesthetic possibility but also a social possibility. These, of course, are the very kinds of conversations that we, at the CAC, are so committed to hosting.

It is an exhibition that speaks to many different segments of our population, and invites them into alternate histories to which they may have formerly felt excluded."

—Dr. Andrea Andersson

The Helis Foundation Chief Curator of Visual Arts

At the center of this exhibition are found images, which have served as the artist's source material throughout his practice. Reframed, reconditioned, and reoccurring, these images have been described by the artist as "indistinct." And yet, harvested from the artist's personal library, from texts and films ranging from *The Short Century: Independence and Liberation Movements in Africa 1945–1994* and "Black Dada Nihilismus" by LeRoi Jones (later re-identified as Amiri Baraka) to Jean-Luc Godard's *Sympathy for the Devil*, the images serve as bedrock for Pendleton's artistic practice and connect his form of abstraction with the history of the America Civil Rights Movement, the pre-war Avant-Garde, and Minimalist and Conceptualist art practices of the 1960s.

"I'm interested in the art object as a site of engagement, and the infinite possibilities of what can happen when images, ideas, and people that are traditionally looked at separately merge in this space. Black Lives Matter is arguably a global movement that is actively reshaping our view of our recent past and future contingencies."

—Adam Pendleton

Becoming Imperceptible takes its name from the writings of Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari, with whose philosophical works Pendleton has long engaged, and positions Pendleton's practice as a kind of counter-portraiture. *Becoming Imperceptible* welcomes its audiences at once into the history of Civil Rights and Black Resistance movements, Black aesthetic tradition, and the historical avant-garde. It calls on histories that have indelibly shaped American culture as it opens up a rigorous conversation about system and form in the European, African, and American avant-gardes of the last century.

OPENING PARTY

The opening reception for *Adam Pendleton: Becoming Imperceptible* will take place on April 1 at the CAC from 8–10pm, and will feature Edna Karr High School drumline, a performance of Steve Reich's Clapping Music by David Reinfurt and Dan Fox, and DJ RQ Away.

ABOUT ADAM PENDLETON

Adam Pendleton (b. 1984, Richmond, Virginia) has shown work in significant exhibitions at institutions across the United States and Europe, including the Belgian Pavilion at the 56th International Art Exhibition, La Biennale di Venezia (2015); Museum of Contemporary Art, Denver (2015); Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (2014–15); Collection Lambert, Avignon (2014, 2006); Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2012); Museum of Modern Art, New York (2012); Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago (2012, 2009–10, 2007–08); Centre Pompidou-Metz, France (2010); MoMA PS1, New York (2010); Tate Liverpool (2010); Institute of Contemporary Art, London (2009); New Museum, New York (2009); Studio Museum in Harlem, New York (2009, 2005–06); Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (2008); Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (2007); and the Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston (2005), among others.

Pendleton's work is included in numerous public collections including Tate Modern, London; Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego; Museum of Modern Art, New York; and the Studio Museum in Harlem, New York. The artist lives and works in Germantown, New York and Brooklyn, New York.

ABOUT THE CURATOR

Andrea Andersson is The Helis Foundation Chief Curator of the Visual Arts at the Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans. She has toured exhibitions across North America to museums, including the Museum of Contemporary Art - Denver, The Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, The Power Plant Art Gallery (Toronto, ON), and Yale Union (Portland, OR). Her scholarship traces the legacy of the interdisciplinary avant-garde in contemporary art practice; she has taught at NYU and Barnard College. Her first book, *Postscript: Writing After Conceptual Art*, an edited volume of collected essays on the subject of conceptual writing, is forthcoming from the University of Toronto Press (Co-imprinted by MCA-Denver).

ABOUT THE CAC

The Contemporary Arts Center (CAC) is a multidisciplinary arts center dedicated to the presentation, production, and promotion of the art of our time. Formed in 1976 by a passionate group of visual and performing artists when the movement to tear down the walls between visual and performing arts was active nationwide, the CAC expresses its mission by organizing world class curated exhibitions, performances, and public programs that educate and enlarge audiences for the arts while encouraging collaboration among diverse stakeholders composed of artists, institutions, communities, and supporters throughout the world.

Visit cacno.org for information about tours, talks, films, & other related events.