

For Immediate Release:

**ARTSPACE**

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Artspace presents the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of its annual City-Wide Open Studios festival, October 5–22. A Crystal Anniversary program is planned.

Connecticut's leading forum for visual artists returns to New Haven every October. City-Wide Open Studios invites the public to meet hundreds of visual artists, in studio and alternative spaces across New Haven, and to learn about the creative process. Nearly 300 artists will take part in the festival over the course of three consecutive weekends. Each weekend features different workspaces in New Haven; in all, more than 60 sites will be open. A grand opening reception, free and open to the public, takes place at Artspace on Friday, October 5, from 5:00–8:00 PM, followed by late night festivities throughout Ninth Square.

To mark the 15<sup>th</sup> year, Artspace has invited artists to draw inspiration from the crystal, whether in chemical, mathematical, geological, or polished form. Special themed tours and exhibitions will take place; prepare to be dazzled. In collaboration with Project Storefronts, the public is invited to the opening night Crystal Ball. Other special events are listed on the calendar and more will be announced in the coming weeks.

During the first weekend (October 6/7), visitors are invited to explore New Haven, Hamden, and West Haven to discover the area's hidden artistic gems—the individual studios and small group spaces scattered throughout downtown and residential neighborhoods. A special gathering of artists making functional objects—furniture and crafts—will be featured at 14 Gilbert Street. A free, guided bike tour departs both Saturday and Sunday at 12:30 PM from the Devil's Gear bike shop at 360 State Street (enter on Orange). Walking tours TBA.

The second weekend (October 13/14) features artists and demonstrations at Erector Square, 315 Peck Street, New Haven. Erector Square is New Haven's largest concentration of studios, in a series of buildings that once housed the factory making Erector Sets; today over 100 artists maintain studios there. Studio Maps will be available at the entrance, along with a schedule of demonstrations. The visit is free; \$5 donation is suggested. The studios will be open from 12:00–5:00 PM.

The third weekend (October 20/21) will feature the Alternative Space, at the vacant, mid-century, New Haven Register Building, off of I-95. Admission is free; a \$5 donation is suggested. The Alternative Space will be open from 12:00–5:00 PM.

Throughout the festival, viewers are invited to visit the central Festival Exhibition at Artspace, which will feature a representative work by each participant, along with maps and information. A host committee of local individuals invites everyone to meet the artists at the

opening reception on October 5. The Official Map & Guide of the event and a website with studio information will be available at the opening. Details for all of the events can be found at [www.cwos.org](http://www.cwos.org)

City-Wide Open Studios has been made possible thanks to First Niagara Bank Foundation, Yale University, the New Haven Register, the City of New Haven Economic Development Office, Yale-New Haven Hospital, and other local corporations. Eileen & Andrew Eder, Seth Brown & Ywe Ludwig, and the Honorable Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro chair the Host Committee, a group of art lovers and supporters.

## About Artspace

Artspace is New Haven's largest independent contemporary arts venue, presenting a rotating array of group and solo exhibitions in all media. It has a threefold mission: to catalyze artistic activities; to connect contemporary artists, audiences, and resources; and to enrich art experiences and activate art spaces. Since 2002, Artspace has operated at The Chamberlain Building, a 5,000 square foot storefront in the historic Ninth Square district of New Haven, in what was once a Civil War-era furniture factory. During CWOS, Artspace is free and open to the public Tuesday–Thursday 12:00–6:00 PM, Friday–Saturday, 12:00–8:00 PM, and Sunday 12:00–5:00 PM. The Lot, Artspace's outdoor exhibition space located at 812 Chapel Street, is open 24/7. Artspace is located at the heart of the historic Ninth Square entertainment district, three blocks from the City's central Green, a six-minute walk from the Metro North/Amtrak station, and a ten-minute walk from the Yale campus.

## Special Events

September 30

### Speed/Networking/Live!

A high-energy and fast paced "speed dating" with art world professionals helping artists hone an "elevator pitch" of their work and get ready for CWOS. Artists may register [here](#).

Confirmed curators and experts include:

Kenise Barnes, Owner, Kenise Barnes Fine Art, LLC

Daniel Belasco, Freelance Curator, New York

Marianne Bernstein, Independent Curator, Philadelphia

Sharon Butler, Blogger/Critic, Two Coats of Paint

Elinor Buxton, Independent Curator

Elizabeth DeRose, Former Assistant Curator, Yale University Art Gallery and PhD Candidate at the Graduate Center CUNY

Pamela Franks, Deputy Director for Collections & Education, Yale University Art Gallery

Fred Giampietro, Owner, Giampietro Gallery, New Haven

Hope Ginsburg, Artist and Assistant Professor in the Department of Painting & Printmaking, Virginia Commonwealth University

Steve Holmes, Curator, Bass Museum, Miami and Cartin Collection, Hartford

Richard Klein, Curator, Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum

Kenjo Lee, PhD Candidate, Art History/African American Studies, Yale University

Aaron Levy, Director, Slought Foundation

Omar Lopez-Chahoud, Independent Curator, New York

Sarah Murkett, Founder and Owner, Murk & Co., New York  
John O'Donnell, Adjunct Professor, Southern Connecticut State University  
Cynthia Reeves, Owner, Cynthia Reeves Gallery, New York  
Anna Rogulina, Assistant Curator, New Britain Museum of American Art  
Barry Rosenburg, Director, University of Connecticut Gallery  
Risa Shoup, Independent Curator/Development Consultant and Residency Manager, Bric Arts Media, Brooklyn  
Terri Smith, Director, Franklin Street Gallery  
Lexi Lee Sullivan, Curatorial Fellow, DeCordova  
Christina Vassalo, Curator, FluxFactory, New York  
Liena Vayzman, Curator, Crystal Palace Film/Video Festival, New Haven

October 5

### **CWOS Grand Opening Reception**

As part of the October's first Friday, On 9, Artspace will hold the CWOS Grand Opening Reception. Also at Artspace, the opening of a special printmaking project created by [Darwin Nix](#) in collaboration with clients of Liberty Community Services. Free! At 8:00 PM, explore LAMP, Light Artists Making Places, throughout the Ninth Square.

October 6/7, 13/14, 20/21

### **The Playhouse Cube.** Curated by Marianne Bernstein.

A modular cube, crystal clear, serves as temporary studio by day and a 4-sided, illuminated projection space by night at 812 Chapel Street. The schedule will be as follows: October 6/7 (Darwin Nix, abstract etchings), October 13/14 ([Keily Anderson-Staley](#), tin types), and October 20/21 (Kirk Bacon, drawing and sculptural installation). For a sneak peek of the cube, click [here](#).

October 5–22

### **The Crystal Palace Experimental Film/Video Festival.** Organized by Liena Vayzman.

Crystal Palace is an experimental film/video festival curated by Liena Vayzman for ArtSpace's 15th Anniversary, its crystal anniversary, which will feature crystal-themed, crystallizing, and multi-faceted video and films. Crystals, including snowflakes, diamonds, ice crystals, and gems will be featured; works will explore these references in both abstract and narrative forms, taking the cultural, scientific, and mathematical associations with crystal as a point of departure. Like the Crystal Palace plate-glass building, a marvel of engineering constructed by Joseph Paxton for the Great Exhibition of 1851 in London, ArtSpace's Crystal Palace aims to illuminate and amaze—the festival, held in Artspace's gallery at 50 Orange Street, will feature non-narrative and experimental video installations, as well as more traditional films. Works in the festival will be screening continually during gallery hours (Tuesday–Thursday, 12:00–6:00 PM; Friday, 12:00–8:00 PM; Saturday–Sunday, 12:00–5:00 PM). After CWOS, the Crystal Palace Experimental Film/Video Festival will travel to the Kroswork Gallery in Oakland, California.