

kemperMUSEUM

of contemporary art

For Immediate Release

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First Solo Museum Exhibition for Abstract Painter Keltie Ferris Opens October 23 at Kemper at the Crossroads

A rising star in the world of abstraction, Keltie Ferris uses oil, acrylic, and sprayed oil paint to create her visually seductive paintings. The exhibition *Keltie Ferris: Man Eaters* features eleven large, abstract paintings and is the artist's first solo museum exhibition for the Brooklyn-based artist. The exhibition is on view October 23, 2009–February 13, 2010 at Kemper at the Crossroads, located at 33 W. 19th Street in the heart of the Crossroads Arts District in Kansas City, Missouri. Kemper at the Crossroad is open noon–8:00 p.m., Fridays and noon–6:00 p.m., Saturdays. Admission is free.

The exhibition *Keltie Ferris: Man Eaters* opens with a free public reception, 6:00–9:00 p.m., Friday, October 23. The artist will be present for the opening.

Keltie Ferris is a postdigital painter, employing formalist strategies and materials—oil, acrylic, sprayed paint, and oil pastel—to create enigmatic abstractions. Her quick, gestural marks, hard-edged forms, and diaphanous passages of sprayed oil paint demonstrate rigorous investigations of spatial illusion, color,



The Wrestler, 2009; oil, acrylic, sprayed paint on canvas, 80 x 80 inches; Collection of the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, Missouri, Bebe and Crosby Kemper Collection, Museum Purchase made possible by a gift from the R. C. Kemper Charitable Trust

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and surface texture. Motley textures, marks, and palettes hover and collide into one another, creating complex compositions of competing strata of visual information. Ferris's methodically structured paintings evoke the digital networks and urban topographies of the 21st century.

Ferris (born 1977) earned a BFA at Nova Scotia College of Art and Design and an MFA at Yale School of Art in New Haven, Connecticut. Her work has been included in numerous group exhibitions at galleries in New York, Chicago, Miami, and Los Angeles, as well as in Turin, Italy, and Berlin, Germany. She has been featured in solo and two-person shows at SUNDAY L.E.S. in New York and Kinkead Contemporary in Los Angeles.

The Museum published 24-page catalogue, including color images of all the exhibition's works with an essay by Michelle Grabner, professor of painting and chair of the painting and drawing department at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. The exhibition was curated by Christopher Cook, executive director of the Salina Art Center, Kansas.

Free Exhibition Programs

Visit www.kemperart.org for more information.

Artist Talk

Saturday, October 24, 2:00–3:00 p.m.

Kemper at the Crossroads, 33 W. 19th Street

Join Keltie Ferris and exhibition curator Christopher Cook for a gallery walk-through and discussion of her paintings. Free

Late Night University

Friday, December 4, 9:00–11:00 p.m.

Kemper at the Crossroads, 33 W. 19th Street

At this event, especially for college students, participants can get that extra boost before finals and enjoy a late night musical performance, t-shirt-making contest, and light refreshments. Bring your student ID for entry. Free

About the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art

Kansas City's renowned free modern and contemporary art museum, the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art opened in 1994 and draws more than 120,000 visitors each year. The Museum boasts a rapidly growing permanent collection of modern and contemporary works of artists from around the world and in three locations—the signature Gunnar Birkerts-designed building, Kemper at the Crossroads, and Kemper East. The Museum hosts temporary exhibitions, installations, lectures, concerts, children's workshops, and other creative programs.

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Kemper at the Crossroads (33 West 19th Street) is open noon–8:00 p.m., Fridays; and noon–6:00 p.m., Saturdays. Admission is free.

The Museum (4420 Warwick Blvd.) is open 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Tuesday–Thursday; 10:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m., Friday–Saturday; and 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Sunday. Café Sebastienne, a four-star restaurant, serves lunch 11:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m., Tuesday–Sunday; and dinner 5:30–9:30 p.m., Friday–Saturday. The Museum and Café are closed on Mondays and major holidays. Admission is free.

The galleries of Kemper East (200 E. 44th Street) are open 10:00 a.m.–4 p.m., Tuesday–Friday. Admission is free.

Thank you

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For more general information about the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, visit www.kemperart.org.

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