

kemperMUSEUM

of contemporary art

For more information or to request a digital image, contact Margaret Keough at margaret@kemperart.org or 816-457-6132

Artist Deb Sokolow to Draw BBQ Caper on Walls of Kansas City's Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art

Visitors May Watch Sokolow Work February 8–15

Chicago-based artist Deb Sokolow creates elaborate diagrammatic drawings that read like graphic novels with meandering and sometimes alarming narratives. For the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, she will construct a new storyline based on an amateur detective's attempts to unravel a mystery involving barbecue sauce, food critics, condiment espionage, and SubTropolis, Kansas City's underground storage facility. Working directly on the gallery's walls, visitors will have the opportunity to watch Sokolow create this new piece, titled



Deb Sokolow, preliminary artist's conceptual rendering of *You are one step closer to learning the truth*, 2007; graphite, ink on paper, dimensions variable; Courtesy of the artist

You are one step closer to learning the truth, beginning February 8 through 15.

Sokolow's site-specific project is on view February 8–June 15, 2008, at the Kemper Museum. Admission is free.

Deb Sokolow will speak about her work 2:00–3:00 p.m., Saturday, February 16 in the Museum's meeting room. The lecture is free, and seating is first come, first served.

Often constructed from pen, pencil, watercolor, and correction fluid on paper, Sokolow's drawings feature diagrams, floor plans, texts, and illustrations that chart an anonymous, paranoid narrator's obsessive explorations of the circumstances and

(more)

4420 Warwick Blvd., Kansas City, Missouri 64111 | 816-753-5784 | www.kemperart.org

Page 2 of 2....Deb Sokolow at Kemper Museum

clandestine connections between various characters and places. Written in the second-person and following the narrative structure of a Choose Your Own Adventure—a popular series of children’s books—viewers of *You are one step closer to learning the truth* will assume the role of the central character and determine the fate of the inquisitive detective.

Her earlier works have told stories about the internal lives of business offices, apartment buildings, and the curious Winchester Mystery House in San Jose, California, and have also centered on the popular films *Rocky* and *Scarface*. Her large-scale drawing *Someone tell Mayor Daley, the pirates are coming* (2005) is part of the collection of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago.

A native of Davis, California, Sokolow holds a MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and an BFA from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Thank you

The Kemper Museum acknowledges the generous support of ArtsKC Fund—Arts Council of Metropolitan Kansas City; Francis Family Foundation; Arvin Gottlieb Charitable Foundation, UMB Bank, n.a., Trustee; Hallmark Corporate Foundation; Muriel McBrien Kauffman Foundation; and the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency. Financial assistance has been provided by David Woods Kemper Memorial Foundation and William T. Kemper Foundation—Commerce Bank, Trustee. Generous in-kind support is provided by Kansas City Marriott Country Club Plaza and Midwest Airlines.

About the Kemper Museum

Kansas City’s renowned free modern and contemporary art museum, the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art opened in October 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. Permanent collection artists include Louise Bourgeois, Dale Chihuly, Petah Coyne, Nan Goldin, Willem de Kooning, Morris Louis, Joan Mitchell, Georgia O’Keeffe, Tom Otterness, Jaume Plensa, Matthew Ritchie, and Wayne Thiebaud. The Museum hosts temporary exhibitions, installations, performance work, film and video series, lectures, concerts, children’s workshops, and other creative programs designed to both entertain and challenge.

The Museum 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. The galleries at Kemper East (200 E. 44th Street) are open 10:00 a.m.–4 p.m., Tuesday–Friday. Café Sebastienne 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.

(end)