

# kemperMUSEUM

of contemporary art

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For more information or digital images for reproduction, contact:  
Margaret Keough at 816-457-6132 or [margaret@kemperart.org](mailto:margaret@kemperart.org)

## Memory, Time, and Loss Topic of Exhibition at Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art

*Remembering the Future* on view November 17 through January 28

KANSAS CITY, MO—For centuries, artists have explored the rich territories of memory, loss, and time intrinsic to the human condition. Time-based media, laborious processes, and contemplative subject matter are just a few techniques employed by artists, working to adequately express such universal truths. Featuring works from the Kemper Museum's growing permanent collection, the exhibition *Remembering the Future* is on view November 17, 2006–January 28, 2007 at the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, Missouri.



Christopher Brown, *Elm Street*, 1995; Collection of Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Gift of the E. Kemper Carter and Anna Curry Carter Community Memorial Trust, 1996.3

The exhibition includes forty works, including painting, sculpture, photographs, and a video installation, that explore themes of memory, time, and loss. Works by Magdalena Abakanowicz, Ken Aptekar, Keith Sonnier, and Bruce Yonemoto, among others are on view. Many of the works have not been exhibited for several years.

Individual, social, and collective memory occupies the first portion of the exhibition. Individual and collective memory is illustrated in Christopher Brown's painting *Elm Street*

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(1995), depicting an image from President John F. Kennedy's assassination in 1963. Inspired by Abraham Zapruder's 8mm film (the only known film of the entire assassination), the painting creates a bystander-as-witness theme, examining how individual and collective memories are informed by mediated imagery.

As well as historical events, issues pertaining to observation, experience, and record are also explored in the exhibition. Clive Smith's multiple portraits in *5x5 (5 days a week for 5 weeks with Lauri)* (2004) and Till Freiwald's untitled painting document the physical aging of the artists' subjects. Natural and scientific time are the focus of works by Russell Crotty and John Kalymnios, and works by Keith Jacobshagen, Andrew Wyeth, and Richard Estes tap into nostalgic ideas about place and time. For instance, Wyeth's painting *Man and the Moon* (1990) recalls late-night motorcycle rides the artist had with friends in the rolling Pennsylvania countryside.

*Remembering the Future* also looks at the transitory nature of life in works that focus on death and loss. Personal loss is examined in Dean Mitchell's painting *Release Me* (1991), a tender portrait of the artist's dying Uncle Sam. Roberto Juarez also commemorates the loss of a loved one in his monumental painting *Gone to Italy/Se Fue a Italia* (1995). In his work *20 Dead Swiss* (1990), Christian Boltanski appropriates images from newspaper obituaries.

At the end of *Remembering the Future*, exhibition curator Christopher Cook, the Kemper Museum's assistant curator, invites visitors to leave behind their own memories on a designated wall in the galleries via "Post-it" notes. The collective "wall of memories" will evolve through the exhibition.

## EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

**Wednesday, November 29, noon–1:00 p.m.**

**Feed Your Mind Program: Solo Trombone Performance—Illusions and Recollections**

In this lunchtime concert, Norwegian trombonist Ole Melhus musically explores themes of memory and nostalgia in conjunction with the exhibition *Remembering the Future*. Hear works by Arne Nordheim, Leonard Bernstein, Luciano Berio, and Kansas City composer Mara Gibson. The program also features Berio's "Sequenza V" and the world premiere of Gibson's work "Duet for Solo Trombone."

An optional \$10.00 box lunch from Café Sebastienne—including a turkey sandwich, salad, drink, and cookie—may be reserved in advance with a credit card. Please specify if a vegetar-

(more)

ian option is preferred. Not outside food or drink is permitted. Call 816-457-6100 to reserve a space for the lecture and/or pre-order a box lunch. Seating is limited. (free)

**Wednesday, December 6, 1:00–3:00 p.m.**

**Lifelong Learning Course: Forget Me Not**

Offered exclusively through the University of Kansas Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, this course investigates the topic of memory using works of visual art as a springboard for discussion. Christopher Cook, assistant curator, presents an illustrated talk on the exhibition *Remembering the Future*. Then, Stowers Institute Medical researchers Dr. Kausik Si and Dr. Ron Yu will investigate memory and the brain—specifically how the brain processes and acquires information and intakes various sensory experiences then stores them as a memory. Works of art will be used as examples for lively discussion about research findings in current brain research. A registration and membership fee is required (a \$60.00 membership fee provides unlimited classes during Osher’s fall session). Contact the Institute toll free at 877-404-5823 (local 785-864-5823) or [www.continuinged.ku.edu/lifelonglearning/classes](http://www.continuinged.ku.edu/lifelonglearning/classes) to register.

**Wednesday, December 27, 1:00–3:00 p.m.**

**Home for the Holidays Family Event: Remember Me**

After spending time in the Museum’s exhibitions *Remembering the Future* and *Lisa Sanditz: Fly-over*, kids may create a memorable card to send to a friend or make a collage of a person, place, or experience. They also may make a mini scrapbook to store your fabricated visual memories and take it home. Paper materials for these free hands-on activities are generously donated by K & Company. This free family fun is for all ages and will be available in the Museum atrium. Enjoy live music while you create! No reservation is required. (free)

**Thank You**

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**About the Kemper Museum**

Kansas City’s acclaimed, free contemporary art museum, the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art opened in 1994 and draws more than 130,000 visitors each year. The Museum boasts a rapidly growing permanent collection of modern and contemporary works of artists from around the world. 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. For more information, visit [www.kemperart.org](http://www.kemperart.org).

The Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art 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.–4:00 p.m., Tuesday–Friday. The Museum’s popular Café Sebastienne serves lunch 11:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m., Tuesday–Saturday; dinner 5:30–9:30 p.m., Friday–Saturday; and brunch 11:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m., Sunday. The Museum and Café are closed on Mondays and major holidays, including Thanksgiving (November 23), Christmas (December 25), and New Year’s Day (January 1).

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