

SHANE CAMPBELL GALLERY

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MOCA Goes Big With Major Shows to Anchor These Cold Months in Cleveland

By Josh Usmani

Opening this week, MOCA Cleveland's winter/spring exhibitions include Adam Pendleton's largest solo museum show to date, Lisa Oppenheim's first solo show in the United States, and a site-specific sound installation, Transport Empty, in MOCA's Stair A by artists Zarouhie Abdalian and Joseph Rosenzweig.

In the Mueller Family Gallery and Rosalie + Morton Cohen Family Gallery, Adam Pendleton's *Becoming Imperceptible* includes wall-based graphic vinyl installations, a multichannel film installation, ceramic floor sculptures and framed silkscreens printed on mirror. The exhibition's title is derived from the writings of Gilles Deleuze and Felix Guattari who claim that "to go unnoticed, is by no means easy." For his MOCA exhibition, Pendleton explores and re-contextualizes African, American and European aesthetic and cultural movements, including historic art movements such as Dada and Minimalism, as well as contemporary social concerns such as Black Lives Matter.

"Adam Pendleton is a brilliant contemporary artist who raises questions about authorship and history," says Jill Snyder, MOCA's executive director. "The result is both provocative and thoughtful, showing how language and abstraction can interrogate both history and politics. With programming that mirrors social and political realities, MOCA sees *Becoming Imperceptible* as a timely exhibition."

Curated by Andria Andersson, from the Contemporary Arts Center New Orleans, Adam Pendleton: *Becoming Imperceptible* originated in New Orleans and traveled to Denver before coming to Cleveland. Cleveland's presentation is organized by MOCA Cleveland senior curator Andria Hickey.

"Adam Pendleton's work reimagines the history of 20th century art movements using a prolific process of research and the manipulation of archival materials," says Hickey. "Through cutting, editing, collage and reproduction, he reframes the way we see the images and ideologies of both our past and our yet-to-be-imagined future. His work explores the function of abstraction and offers a powerful perspective on how our systems of language and identity are constructed, distributed and processed anew."

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