

USF Contemporary Art Museum
NEWS RELEASE
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LIFE DURING WARTIME: ART IN THE AGE OF THE CORONAVIRUS

An Evolving Online Exhibition <https://lifeduringwartimeexhibition.org/>

Curated by Christian Viveros-Fauné; organized by USFCAM

June 6 – December 12, 2020

(Tampa – June 3, 2020) On **Saturday, June 6**, the USF Contemporary Art Museum, part of the USF Institute for Research in Art in the College of The Arts, will launch its first major virtual exhibition, *Life During Wartime: Art in the Age of the Coronavirus*. It humbly engages a select company of international artists to respond to the overwhelming realities of the crisis that has gripped the planet since March 5, the date the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global pandemic. The exhibition takes full advantage of one of the few outlets artists still have—the Internet—during a public health emergency recently exacerbated by the wanton murder of George Floyd by police officers in Minneapolis. It aims to mobilize sentiment, thought and activity around art and its enduring possibilities: its role as a conceptual catalyst, its ability to trigger ideas, stories, conversations, emotions, feelings and mental states. Separately and together, each artist contribution provides a picture of a planet in crisis, now further enraged and victimized by violence, but also images of hope and optimism in the face of a global emergency. The exhibition will continue to evolve with the addition of new artists and materials. *Life During Wartime: Art in the Age of Coronavirus* is supported in part by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.

ONLINE OPENING + CONVERSATION // Saturday, June 6, 1-3pm EDT, featuring participating artists Basil Kincaid, Cristina Lucas, Narsiso Martinez and Spencer Tunick. Join online at <https://zoom.us/j/93435970625/> or from the exhibition website at <https://lifeduringwartimeexhibition.org/> (Exhibition website opens 10am EDT)

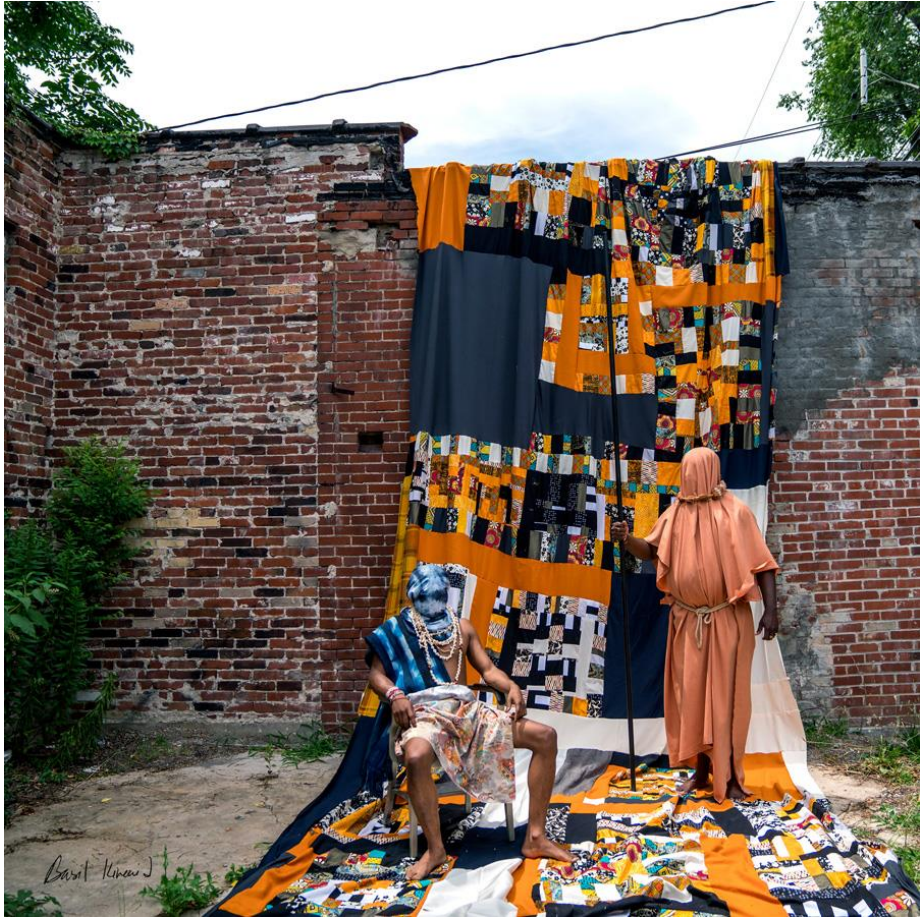
The opening will be held virtually via Zoom on June 6 from 1-3pm EDT and will feature an artist/curator talk, a virtual walk-through of the exhibition and a public Q+A. Additional artist talks and events will be announced along the run of the exhibition, as artist contributions are unveiled.



Cristina Lucas, *La Anarquista (The Anarchist)*, from the series *The Old Order*, 2004. Courtesy of the artist.



Spencer Tunick, *Stay Apart Together*, 2020. Courtesy of the artist.



Basil Kincaid, *Awaiting Instruction*, 2017.



Newsha Tavakolian. The concierges of my apartment building at first said they didn't believe in masks and gloves. They said the whole Corona story was a ploy by the Iranian government to distract people. But after a while they started appearing with masks and gloves, now saying the virus was designed by America. Courtesy Newsha Tavakolian / Magnum / Thomas Erben Gallery.



Narsiso Martinez, *Good Farms*, 2020. Courtesy of the artist and Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles. Photo by Joshua Schaedel, Michael Underwood.

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS INCLUDE

Marcos Agudelo, Diana Al-Hadid, Atelier Van Lieshout, Alberto Borea, Sebastiaan Bremer, The Bruce High Quality Foundation, Seth Cameron, Samantha Casolari, Rebecca Chamberlain, Jake & Dinos Chapman, Jordi Colomer, Patricia Cronin, Godfried Donkor, Dysturb, Inka Essenhigh, Maureen Gallace, Zhao Gang, Rico Gatson, Mark Thomas Gibson, Patrick Hamilton, Ellen Harvey, Yishai Jusidman, Deborah Kass, Basil Kincaid, Glenda León, Matvey Levenstein, Kalup Linzy, Hew Locke, Cristina Lucas, Narsiso Martinez, Eva and Franco Mattes, Richard Mosse, Angel Otero, Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara, Edison Peñafiel, Dagoberto Rodríguez, Anastasia Samoylova, Fernando Sánchez Castillo, Guy Richards Smit, Kiki Smith, Bosco Sodi, Tavares Strachan, Superflex, Sarah Sze, Jorge Tacla, Tony Tasset, Newsha Tavakolian, Janaina Tschäpe, Spencer Tunick, Rodrigo Valenzuela, William Villalongo, Kennedy Yanko, Lisa Yuskavage.

In consideration of the fact that artistic expression has been significantly recontextualized by the current pandemic and George Floyd's death, *Life During Wartime* will present artworks made before as well as contributions made during the current period of quarantine. The exhibition will feature artist contributions that are not limited exclusively to finished artworks, but also include interviews, personal reflections, observations, texts, social media posts and even playlists.

Follow us for *Life During Wartime* updates! #usfcam #lifeduringwartime #irausf #artcanhelp #stayhome
<https://www.instagram.com/irausf/>
<https://www.facebook.com/USFCAMfan/>

ABOUT THE CURATOR

Christian Viveros-Fauné (Santiago, 1965) has worked as a gallerist, art fair director, art critic and curator since 1994. He was awarded a USF Kennedy Family Visiting Fellowship in 2018, a Creative Capital/Warhol Foundation Grant for short-form arts writing in 2009, was named Art Critic in Residence at the Bronx Museum in 2011, and has lectured at Yale University, Pratt Institute, and Amsterdam's Gerrit Rietveld Academie. Viveros-Fauné is Chief Critic for *Artland* and writes regularly for *ArtReview* and *Sotheby's/Art Agency Partners's in other words*. He serves as Curator-at-Large at the University of South Florida Contemporary Art Museum. He has curated numerous museum exhibitions around the world and is also the author of several books. His most recent, *Social Forms: A Short History of Political Art*, was published by David Zwirner Books in 2018.

ABOUT USF CONTEMPORARY ART MUSEUM

The University of South Florida Contemporary Art Museum (USFCAM) organizes and presents significant and investigative exhibitions of contemporary art from Florida, the United States, and around the world, including Africa, Europe, and Latin America. Exhibitions and educational programs are designed to introduce students, faculty, and the community to current cultural trends. USFCAM also publishes relevant catalogues, schedules critically important traveling exhibitions, and underwrites new projects by artists emerging on national and international fronts. USFCAM maintains the university's art collection, comprising more than 5,000 art works.

The USF Contemporary Art Museum is recognized by the State of Florida as a major cultural institution and receives funding through the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the National Endowment for the Arts. The USF Contemporary Art Museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.



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