

Location:
James J. Hill House
240 Summit Ave
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Looking West

A group exhibition exploring themes of the American West through ceramic art

“Early America saw the Mississippi River as its western border. Looking West investigates the history, anthropologies, and landscapes of the American West through ceramic art.”

Within concept and visual, *Looking West* explores the current conversations taking place in and about the American West. *Claytopia*, (NCECA 2019 March 27th-30th) will reside on the geographical border of the Mississippi River in Minneapolis, Minnesota the same river that was the United States western border prior to the Louisiana Purchase in 1803.

Located inside the historical James J. Hill House at 240 Summit Ave in Saint Paul, *Looking West* will respond to the historical and contemporary conversations of the American West, including its traditions, history, landscape and cultural anthropologies. As the viewer walks the home, they are reminded of the vision James J. Hill had for Western Expansion and for the growth of the Great Northern Railway. The diversity of artists included will allow viewers to indulge in a dialogue that presents many various perspectives about what the West is now.

Artist Evan Hauser states, “With the rise of Industrial America comes a threat to wilderness and untouched landscapes. When looking at a National Park such as Yellowstone, we are confronted by land that is supposedly wild and natural. In reality, the lands within the park are somewhat of a construct as the wildlife is managed, fires are suppressed, and designated paths exist for the wandering tourist. This prescribed experience brings a foreseeable encounter that was once otherwise a land of discovery.”

Exhibition Dates:

March 6th- April 7th, 2019

Reception Date:

March 29th, 2019 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Included artist:

Dylan Beck, Jonathan Fitz, Evan Hauser, Mitch Iburg, Ben Jordan, Dean Leeper, Crystal Morey, Catherine Schmid-Maybach, Paul Scott, Jason Walker, Paige Nicolet Ward

Directors:

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