



Alison Crocetta: A *Circus of One* May 18 – August 19, 2018

**Organized by the Contemporary Arts
Center; Curated by Steven Matijcio**

for IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CINCINNATI (APRIL 2018) – The CAC is organizing *A Circus of One*, Alison Crocetta's first solo museum exhibition and a survey of her career to date. A New York-born, Columbus-based artist and professor at The Ohio State University, Crocetta works in an interdisciplinary fashion to merge performance, sculptural form, film and sound into hybrid artworks. This exhibition will provide an overview of her multi-layered practice. Photographs, film and video from past performance projects will be included in this exhibition as a way to expand our understanding of her nuanced and beautifully documented performances. These works involve subtle, but highly consider performance clothing, related objects and Crocetta's resonant vocals which evolve through her actions.



Alison Crocetta, *A Circus of One*, a 16mm black and white film in collaboration with composer Jason Treuting, 2011. Photo credit: 16m black and white film still

At the heart of this exhibition will be the premiere of *A Circus of One (Act II)*, a 30-minute event comprised of seven performance actions that occur within the intimate setting of a 20-foot-wide ring. For this project, she has joined forces with composer/musician Zac Little of the band Saintsenecca. Little's haunting and spacious music creates the soundscape for Crocetta's mesmerizing performance that runs the gamut from the absurd to the trance-inducing as she interacts with a large, shape-shifting wooden horse. In close proximity to this work, the CAC will present a large-scale projection of her 16mm black-and-white film, *A Circus of One* (scored by Jason Treuting), and related wooden sculptures that were used in the film's actions.



Alison Crocetta, *A Circus of One*, a 16mm black and white film in collaboration with composer Jason Treuting, 2011. Photo credit: 16m black and white film still

This exhibition will also mark the premiere of a new durational performance entitled, *Resonator* and a performance video called *A Passage*. *Resonator* features the artist singing a cappella from within a sculpture that accommodates the proportions of her body and amplifies her voice as she sings for as long as two hours. This work was inspired by the Italian futurist Luigi Russolo's work, *Intonarumori* and his related manifesto, *The Art of Noise*. *A Passage* continues Crocetta's history of making filmed performances in the landscape and built environment. This short video records her somewhat perilous walking meditation across the handrail of a bridge in Norway.



Alison Crocetta, *Fill*, 2003, part of the Super 8mm film trilogy, *Clear / Fill / Reveal*. 35mm production photo.
Photo © David Pardoe

Taken as a whole, this exhibition will celebrate the delicate resonance of Crocetta's voice in both song and action as well as the unique marriage between objects and their shared lives as subjects and performance supports. "Alison Crocetta has accrued recognition within the art world, collecting a robust list of awards, grants, accolades, fellowships, and residencies that have garnered great respect amongst artists, curators, critics and those that know this field well," says Curator Steven Matijcio. "This exhibition shares her poignant work with a broader audience so that it can be properly celebrated - gathering works and documentation from her most formative projects to craft a survey of a truly singular artist."

EXHIBITION RUN:

May 18 – August 19, 2018

OPENING CELEBRATION:

May 18, 2018 – 8PM

**Alison Crocetta Performance
Schedule:**

A Circus of One (Act II)

May 19, 3–4PM

June 26, 7–8PM

July 24, 7–8PM

August 18, 3–4PM

Resonator

May 18, 8:45–9:45PM

August 19, 3–4PM

Each performance of A Circus of One (Act II) has 14 seats: tickets can be reserved through the CAC website. They are free of charge, but it is crucial that each reservation be honored so that the intimate performance may proceed.

Cover Image: Alison Crocetta, *A Circus of One (Act II)*, a performance in collaboration with composer Zac Little, 2018. Photo credit: Jo McCulty

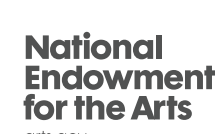
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More about the Contemporary Arts Center

Founded in 1939 as the Modern Art Society, the CAC was one of the first U.S. institutions dedicated to exhibiting the art of our time. In 2003, the Center moved to its free-standing home, the Lois & Richard Rosenthal Center for Contemporary Art, designed by Zaha Hadid. The CAC exhibits new developments in painting, sculpture, photography, architecture, performance art and new media.

The CAC is supported by the individuals and businesses that give annually to ArtsWave, the Ohio Arts Council the City of Cincinnati and the National Endowment for the Arts as well as contributions and grants from generous individuals, corporations and foundations.

For more information visit contemporaryartscenter.org



Contemporary Arts Center

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