

Glenn Kaino is a multi-faceted artist who has been called a shape-shifter, chameleon and "an amalgam of many different parts" for his eclectic practice spanning art, entrepreneurialism, media, activism and involvement in an array of subcultures. At various times and in various combinations he has inhabited and interacted with the worlds of art and performance, music and magic, biology and astronomy, theatre, food, architecture and more. Such alchemy has become a signature of Kaino's practice as he habitually brings together disparate systems of being, making and thought to amplify the possibilities of their synthesis. To do so he employs and adapts the classic model making technique known as "kit-bashing" where parts of different toy models are assembled into something unique. In this re-combinatory arena where idea and process merge, Kaino forges an imaginary space where art and action coalesce, multiple vantage points meet, and fields traditionally external to art expand its possibilities. Cultivating experimental

ecologies rather than assimilation, Kaino covets contradiction to produce, in his words, "an irrational theoretical space were impossible problems can be contemplated." Turning friction into opportunity, he has found especially fertile terrain in the meeting of art and illusionism. Locating the means to more effectively confront the misdirection, deception and machinations endemic to today's political landscape, Kaino explains that "magic unlocked an entirely new conceptual and discursive mobility for me," allowing him to understand and confront "notions of the unseen in a very nuanced way." This exhibition samples works from the past 15 years of his practice that defy reality to interrogate it more intently – presenting objects, installations, video, drawings and performances that pose poignant questions regarding civil rights, military aggression, imperialism, colonialism and revolution.

Glenn Kaino: A Shout Within a Storm is curated by Steven Matijcio and is on view until April 22, 2018. This is Kaino's first mid-career survey, and it is generously supported by Gale & Dave Beckett, George & Linda Kurz, Jayne Menke, John Mocker, Jeff Ahrnsen and Artswave Corporate Partner: Cincinnati Bell.