THE CANYON • 1999-2017

In a field traditionally dominated by men, machismo and activities often deemed illegal, Caledonia Dance Curry –

better known as Swoon – is a pioneer who has overcome every barrier to redefine what "street art" means today. She is a tireless artist, activist and humanist who both orchestrates and participates in grassroots revitalization projects around the world marrying art, place and community. By humble means of drawing, linocut, printmaking, wheatpaste and cut paper, Curry has given life to an ever-growing family of faces and figures who take on extraordinary presence when placed in public space. To bring people closer, physically and emotionally, she explains "I make [the figures] human-scale and close to the ground, so you have a one-on- one experience. I like to think of them as vessels of empathy. " Curry congregates equally colorful communities of real life characters when joining teams to build musical architecture in New Orleans, earth-bag houses in Cormier, Haiti, and rafts out of refuse that floated magically down the Grand Canal in Venice. In the process, Swoon has transcended the pseudonym of an individual artist to become an evolving group platform that aspires to change the world. To celebrate the breadth of Curry's work and mark the next dynamic chapter this exhibition surveys the career of an era-defining artist. It showcases the many dimensions of her multi-faceted art-making, including new site-specific installations, re-stagings of past landmark projects, deep personal catharsis, an immersive recollection of her radical seafaring, and a colorful archive of her socially-driven work in countries like Mexico, Kenya and Sweden as well as cities like Braddock, PA and Philadelphia.

Swoon: *The Canyon (1999-2017)* is curated by Steven Matijcio and is on view until February 25, 2018. This is her first career survey exhibition, and it is generously supported by Formica Corporation, U.S. Bank Private Wealth Management, Alice Weston, Harvey C. Hubbell Trust, 1919 Investment Council, LPK, Alex and Jason McCaw, Rosemary and Mark Schlachter, Dionysia Savas and Martin Wilz, Dewey's Pizza, and Artswave Corporate Partner: GE Aviation. The CAC also partnered with the Cincinnati Ballet to pair Swoon with choreographer Jennifer Archibald in the performance Never. Nest, which was part of the New Works series that ran April 20-29, 2017.