

The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) presents New York-based artist Lisa Yuskavage's first solo museum exhibition in the United States in over fifteen years, comprising key paintings that chart her emergence in the early 1990s to the present. On view January 15 through April 3, 2016, *Lisa Yuskavage: The Brood* comprises twenty-five years of Yuskavage's work, espousing her bold vision for contemporary figurative painting. Merging the grand tradition of portraiture with the expansive vocabulary of female transgression and empowerment, Yuskavage's sensuous palette, refined paint application, and confrontational subject matter provoke the imagination and create a sometimes polarizing space: the artist presents the female body as a site of defiance and decadence.

*The Brood* is not so much a comprehensive survey as it is a thorough account of Yuskavage's development and identity as an artist, presenting her signature paintings in three compositional formats: diptychs, triptychs, and what the artist calls "symbiotic portraits." While the first two categories conventionally describe artworks in two and three parts, the third—symbiotic portraits—refers to single-panel paintings that feature multiple figures, often elaborately intertwined. This overarching structure allows viewers to focus on relationships between panels, figures, and the works and their own bodies. *The Brood* positions Yuskavage as one of the most significant painters of her generation and presents a cogent argument for figuration's importance, promise, and renewed agency. The exhibition is accompanied by a large-scale, comprehensive publication by Skira Rizzoli, created in close collaboration with the artist.

Lisa Yuskavage (b. 1962, Philadelphia) lives and works in New York City. Solo exhibitions include David Zwirner, New York (2006, 2015); Zwirner & Wirth, New York (2006); Museo Tamayo Arte Contemporáneo, Mexico City (2006); Royal Academy of Arts, London (2002); Centre d'Art Contemporain, Geneva (2001); and the Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia (2000). Yuskavage's work is housed in numerous museum collections, such as the Art Institute of Chicago; the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D.C.; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; and the Museum of Modern Art, New York.

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