

**MIKE**

**KELLEY**

**MOBILE**

**HOMESTEAD**

Exhibition Notes

Sat 8 September — Sun 25 November 2018

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**DCA**

Dundee Contemporary Arts

152 Nethergate  
Dundee, DD1 4DY

01382 432444

Scottish Charity No. SC026631

Open daily 10:00-18:00  
Open late Thu 20:00

Admission free

[www.dca.org.uk](http://www.dca.org.uk)



## INTRODUCTION

This exhibition marks the Scottish premiere of Mike Kelley's remarkable *Mobile Homestead* film trilogy, made between 2010 and 2011 in the artist's hometown of Detroit.

When invited to create a public art project with the internationally acclaimed commissioning organisation Artangel, Kelley suggested embarking on a long-term project in the city where he was born and spent his formative years before settling in Los Angeles in the mid-1970s. In 2009, discussions with the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit (MOCAD) led to the realisation of *Mobile Homestead*.

*Mobile Homestead* is a full-scale replica of the single-story ranch-style house that Kelley grew up in, located in the Detroit suburb of Westland. Replicating the artist's original family home, this new 'homestead' was conceived as a place to house a variety of community activities including a community gallery and meeting space. Kelley, who died in 2012, was determined that *Mobile Homestead* be relevant to the cultural interests of local people in the city. In that spirit, the structure was designed with a removable facade. When mounted on a lorry, it is close in size to a conventional mobile home, and can be driven around the city and its environs, offering public services and interacting with citizens on its travels.

On 25 September 2010, *Mobile Homestead* made its maiden voyage from the grounds of MOCAD to the 'mother ship', Kelley's original home in the suburbs.

The first two films projected in the gallery chart the homestead's journey along one particular street, Michigan Avenue, charting the historic 'white flight' movement of people that occurred in the mid-1960s in Detroit as the decline of the automobile industry and increasing racial tensions caused an exodus of middle-class white communities from the city centre. The footage of this extraordinary road trip is interspersed with interviews that chronicle the varied lives of those who had come to populate the area at a moment when the city was questioning its post-industrial prospects and future development.

On its way up and down Michigan Avenue, one of Detroit's main arteries and a passageway to the western suburbs, the homestead passes through some of the city's most historic neighbourhoods such as the old Irish area of Corktown; Dearborn, the home of the Ford motor company, the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village (containing Ford's personal collection of homes and structures associated with great Americans such as Thomas Edison, the Wright Brothers and Rosa Parks); Inkster; Wayne (where Kelley attended Catholic school); and finally Westland where the former Kelley family home still stands.

The third film work in the trilogy documents the ‘christening’ and launch of the work as a permanent fixture back at the museum, where it remains today. MOCAD’s Department of Education and Public Engagement continues to work with local organisations and individuals to make the ground floor of *Mobile Homestead* a flexible community centre which provides space for projects, events, gatherings, conversations and displays that are created by and for a diverse range of people in the city. Rather than projecting specific ideas out into the world, *Mobile Homestead* invites the community’s ideas in and visitors are encouraged to suggest events, projects and exhibitions.

Beneath the public rooms on the ground floor of the homestead at MOCAD, a complex basement area was built that mirrors the floor plan of the original family home. Unlike the ground floor community spaces and the mobile facade, the lower levels are intended, in Kelley’s words, “for private rites of an aesthetic nature.” The underground is therefore reserved for covert, private use and is not accessible to the public: it is used on an occasional basis by invited artists and art groups. You can see some details of this subterranean aspect of the project in the display of Kelley’s *Mobile Homestead Swag Lamp* in the gallery. Suspended from the ceiling, and functioning both as an architectural design model and domestic light, this sculpture is an aluminium and steel model of the plan for the three levels of *Mobile Homestead*, both above ground and below.

Finally, at the back of the gallery visitors can see a map of Detroit, charting the journey of the homestead across the city in 2010. Numbers on the map correspond to a series of photographs of the area taken at the time, giving a further glimpse into these neighbourhoods: the homes, businesses, monuments and public spaces making up this cross-section of a city.

We are delighted to be presenting this work at DCA in partnership with Artangel and the Mike Kelley Foundation, at a time when we as citizens of Dundee are looking to the future of our own city and the promise it holds.

## **FILM INFORMATION**

*Going West on Michigan Avenue from Downtown Detroit to Westland* and *Going East on Michigan Avenue From Westland to Downtown Detroit* are both 1 hour 20 minutes long and will be shown on a loop starting from 10:00 daily.

*Mobile Homestead Christening Ceremony and Launch* is 1 hour long and will be shown on a loop starting from 10:00 daily.

Please be aware that there are brief moments of adult content in these films. If you would like further information please speak to a member of staff.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

*Mobile Homestead* is part of The Artangel Collection, an initiative to bring outstanding film and video works, commissioned and produced by Artangel, to galleries and museums across the UK. The Artangel Collection has been developed in partnership with Tate, is generously supported by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and The Foyle Foundation and uses public funding from Arts Council England.

*Mobile Homestead* videos © Mike Kelley Foundation for the Arts.  
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Mike Kelley's *Mobile Homestead* is commissioned by Artangel in association with MOCAD, LUMA Foundation and Mike Kelley Foundation for the Arts with the generous support of the Artangel International Circle.

This exhibition has been generously supported by IAS Scaffolding Contractors.

Additional thanks to David Roberts Art Foundation.

## **MOBILE HOMESTEAD AT MOCAD**

Keep an eye on MOCAD's website and social media channels for upcoming programming connected to *Mobile Homestead*. Recently, the homestead hit the road again to bring a series of unique participatory performance events to the Sidewalk Festival and Dixieland Flea Market in Detroit.

[mocadetroit.org/mobile-homestead](http://mocadetroit.org/mobile-homestead)

## **DUNDEE AND DETROIT**

Dundee and Detroit both share the distinction of being named the first UNESCO City of Design in each of their respective countries; Dundee in 2014 and Detroit in 2015. To date, UNESCO have awarded this accolade to 30 cities around the world in recognition of their contribution to the global design industry.

## **ABOUT THE ARTIST**

Mike Kelley (b. 1954, Detroit, d. 2012, Los Angeles) is widely considered one of the most influential artists of our time. Irreverent but deeply informed, topical yet visionary, Kelley worked in a startling array of genres and styles, including performance, installation, drawing, painting, video, photography, sound, text, and sculpture. He also worked on curatorial projects; collaborated with many other artists and musicians; and left a formidable body of critical and creative writing.

Throughout his career Kelley sought to understand the cultures around him from the bottom up; he mined popular culture and both modernist and alternative traditions, which he set in relation to relentless self and social examinations.

He received his BA in 1976 from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and his MFA in 1978 from California Institute of the Arts, Valencia. Major exhibitions include *Categorical Imperative and Morgue*, Van Abbemuseum, Stedelijk, The Netherlands (2000); *Sod and Sodie Sock* (with Paul McCarthy), Biennale d'art contemporain de Lyon, Institut d'art contemporain, France (2003); *Mike Kelley—The Uncanny*, Tate Liverpool, England (2004, travelled to MUMOK, Museum of Modern Art, Vienna); *Profounders* vertes Musée du Louvre, Paris (2006); *Day is Done Judson Church Dance*, Judson Memorial Church, New York (2009); *Themes and Variations from 35 Years*, The Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (2012); *Mobile Homestead*, Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, Michigan (2013); Centre Pompidou, Paris (2013); *An Homage to Mike Kelley*, MoMA PS1, New York (2013); and Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (2014).

## **INFORMATION SPACE**

Visit the Information Space next to the galleries to learn more about the exhibition. Here you'll find a video interview with Eoin Dara, DCA Head of Exhibitions, alongside a selection of books relating to Kelley's practice.

## **GALLERY 1 – SANTIAGO SIERRA: BLACK FLAG**

Alongside Kelley's *Mobile Homestead*, we are showing the Scottish premiere of Spanish artist Santiago Sierra's ambitious project *Black Flag* in Gallery 1.

## TALKS AND EVENTS

For more information visit  
[www.dca.org.uk](http://www.dca.org.uk)

### Exhibition Tours

Daily at 11:00 and 15:00  
Gallery 2 Entrance  
Free, drop-in

Interested in knowing more about the exhibition? Join our friendly Visitor Assistants for daily guided tours.

### Senior Citizen Kane Gallery Tour and Workshop

Tue 18 September, 10:30 – 12:30  
Gallery 2 and Create Space  
Free, no need to book, just meet us at DCA Reception to start

Aged 60+? Come along to our Senior Citizen Kane Gallery Tour in our Activity Room. We will explore the exhibition with one of our friendly Visitor Assistants, then there's the chance to take part in a creative workshop making work inspired by *Mobile Homestead*. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be on hand to fuel your creativity and chat.

### Phoebe Roberts on Mike Kelley

Wed 26 September, 18:00 – 19:00  
Gallery 2  
Free, but please book in advance

Join us for a talk with curator Phoebe Roberts, who looks after The Artangel Collection, a body of moving image works commissioned by Artangel over the last 25 years. Roberts will be talking about the challenges and complexities of collecting, maintaining and disseminating innovative

contemporary art projects such as Kelley's *Mobile Homestead* film trilogy.

### Locating Mobile Homestead

#### A Talk by Laura Sillars

Thu 15 November, 18:00 – 19:00  
Gallery 2  
Free, but please book in advance

In 2010, Laura Sillars, Director of Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art, worked in Detroit with Mike Kelley and Executive Producer James Lingwood of Artangel over four months as Location Producer on *Mobile Homestead*. Join us for a talk with Sillars to hear about her first-hand experience of working on this remarkable project.

### Curator's Tour

Wed 21 November, 18:00 – 19:00  
Galleries  
Free, but please book in advance

On the last week of both *Black Flag* and *Mobile Homestead*, join our Head of Exhibitions, Eoin Dara, for a tour through the galleries where he'll talk about the development of both these projects as part of DCA's exhibitions programme, considering how they might link to both the past, present and future of a city like Dundee.

## FOR YOUNGER VISITORS AND FAMILIES

### Family Art Lab

Sat 24 November, 13:00 – 15:00

Create Space

Suitable for ages 5+. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Free, drop in activity

Join our artists to explore the exhibition in the gallery. There's time to chat about what you see and then to create your own art together. For inspiration we will be looking at colours, symbols and meanings in flags; and different kinds of homes and streets and who lives and work there. We'll be making wee animated scenes and designing flags for the future. Each session lasts two hours but you don't have to stay the whole time.

### Family Art Lab for Under 5s

Sat 10 November, 13:00 – 15:00

Create Space

Suitable for ages 0 – 5. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Free, no need to book but please arrive for the start time

Join us for an experimental, sensory play session especially for wee ones based around flags. We'll explore colours, shapes, patterns, materials and movement. We'll have lots of different materials on hand, from paints to sticky vinyl, fabric and fans to make a breeze. This is a joint workshop with the Division of Psychology, University of Dundee, where you can learn about their child development research into '*What happens when we make together?*'

### Create Space

Open daily unless being used for a workshop – *do phone ahead to check if you are making a special trip.*

Free, drop in.

### Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

DCA Create Space is a wee gem; a comfortable and imaginative space right next to the gallery designed for younger visitors and family groups to pop in and enjoy on a visit. You can have a go at DIY art activities, browse our excellent children's art library and make connections with the artists' work in the exhibition. Take your artwork home, leave it on display or photograph and share it online using #hellodca or #dcamakes – we love seeing what you've made!



## **JUST ASK**

Our friendly Visitor Assistants are always happy to help with your questions.

## **KEEP IN TOUCH**

Keep up to date with the very latest from DCA by visiting [www.dca.org.uk](http://www.dca.org.uk) or by following us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram. Tweet us your thoughts on the exhibition using **#helloDCA**.

**Interested to know what's coming up in DCA Galleries? Pick up one of our Exhibitions brochures to find out what's happening in our future programme.**

## UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

### Margaret Salmon

#### *Hole*

Sat 8 December 2018 – Sun 24

February 2019

Gallery 1

Might it be possible for film to transcribe something as ephemeral as human warmth? Human affection? Human presence, trust and submission? What about love? Can film bear witness to love? Teach us about love? Express love? How can a lens invoke these very personal, subjective experiences? These are some of the questions posed by Margaret Salmon in her newly commissioned work for Gallery 1 at DCA.

Margaret Salmon (b. 1975, New York) lives and works in Glasgow. She completed undergraduate studies at the School of Visual Arts, New York (1998), before going on to graduate from the MFA programme at the Royal College of Art, London (2003). Solo exhibitions of her work have been held at institutions including Staatsgalerie Stuttgart (2015); Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, USA (2011); Witte de With Centre for Contemporary Art, Rotterdam (2007); Whitechapel Art Gallery, London (2007) and Collective Gallery, Edinburgh (2006). Her work has been featured in film festivals and major international survey exhibitions, including the Berlin Biennale (2010) and Venice Biennale (2007). In 2006 Salmon won the inaugural MaxMara Art Prize for Women. She is represented by Office Baroque, Brussels.

### Lorna Macintyre

#### *Pieces of You Are Here*

Sat 8 December 2018 – Sun 24

February 2019

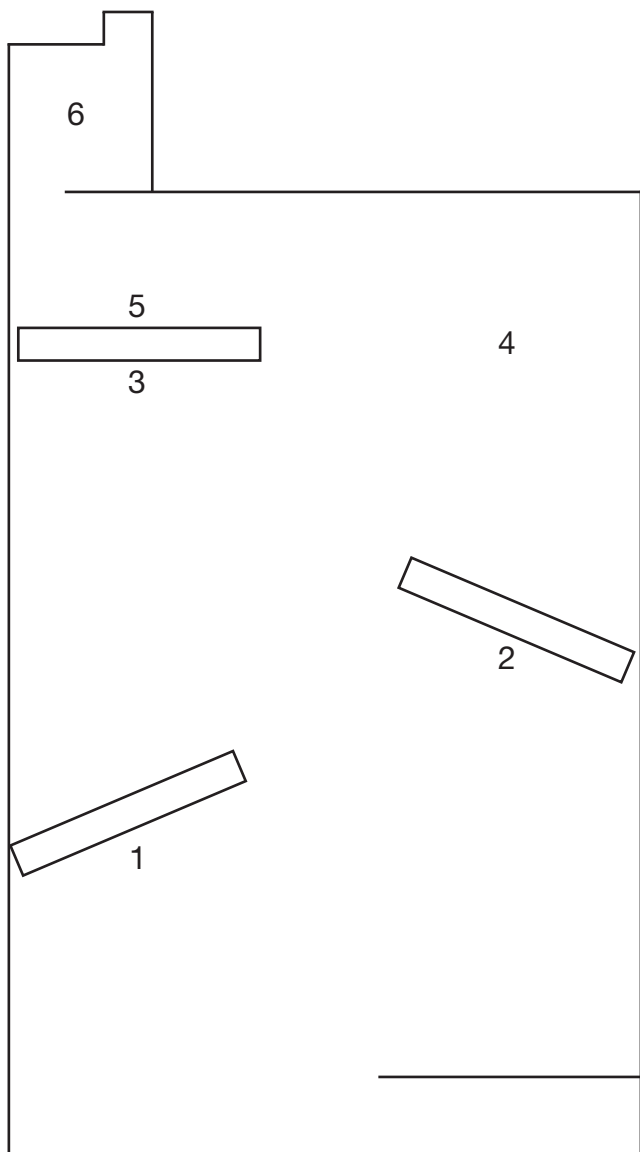
Gallery 2

Scottish artist Lorna Macintyre uses a broad spectrum of influential touchstones in her work, from poetry and literature to archaeology and symbolism. These references often create an oblique structure underlying her photographic and sculptural artworks, lending a form for a composition or providing the impetus behind her choice of materials. This exhibition will mark Macintyre's first solo exhibition in a major UK institution, debuting a new body of work commissioned for Gallery 2 at DCA.

Lorna Macintyre (b. 1977 Glasgow) is an artist based in Glasgow. Having studied for both a BA (1999) and MFA (2007) at the Glasgow School of Art, she now also works there as a visiting lecturer in Fine Art. Macintyre's recent solo exhibitions include: *Spolia*, Cample Line, Dumfriesshire (2017); *Much Marcle*, Chapter, Cardiff (2016); *Material Language or All Truths Wait in All Things*, Mary Mary, Glasgow (2015); *Solid Objects*, Glasgow Project Room (2015); and *Four Paper Fugues*, Mount Stuart, Isle of Bute, part of GENERATION, 25 Years of Contemporary Art in Scotland, (2014). She is represented by Mary Mary, Glasgow.



## WORKS IN THE EXHIBITION



Mike Kelley  
*Mobile Homestead*  
2010–11

1. *Going West on Michigan Avenue from  
Downtown Detroit to Westland*  
Single-channel video  
1 hour 16 minutes 15 seconds

2. *Going East on Michigan Avenue From  
Westland to Downtown Detroit*  
Single-channel video  
1 hour 16 minutes 17 seconds

3. Michigan Avenue locations map and  
accompanying photographs

4. *Mobile Homestead Swag Lamp*  
2010–13  
Aluminium, steel, lighting fixtures, wiring  
Courtesy of David Roberts Collection,  
London

5. *Mobile Homestead Christening Ceremony  
and Launch*  
25 September 2010  
Single-channel video  
55 minutes 1 second

6. Reading and resource area

Gallery 2