

Johnson County Community College Press Release

- Third Thursday • Visiting Artists Presentation

11/08/13

Story by Katherine Morse, education coordinator, Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, [913-469-3000](tel:913-469-3000)

Third Thursday • Visiting Artists Presentation

The Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art at Johnson County Community College will host a **Third Thursday • Visiting Artists Presentation** from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Nov. 21 in the museum's Hudson Auditorium, with guest artists Miki Baird and Judith G. Levy and JCCC faculty moderators Mark Cowardin, associate professor of fine arts, and Larry Thomas, professor and chair of fine arts and photography. The program is free and open to the public. No tickets or reservations are required.

Miki Baird's assemblages and installations are explorations of details gathered from ordinary experiences. They are built through a process of photography, accumulation, deconstruction and strategic reorganization of layered imagery. Of her work, Baird states that she is "assembling a trail of detail and perceivable recollections abstracted through a history rooted in repetition, color, pattern and texture." Baird's work has recently been shown in Kansas City exhibitions at The Studios Inc, PLUG Projects, Dean's Gallery at Miller Nichols Library at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and with Eric Fischl's *America: Now and Here* project. Baird is the recipient of a 2012-2014 Studios Inc work fellowship, and she was named an American Institute of Architects-Kansas City Art Through Architecture finalist in 2010. She was awarded an ArtsKC Fund Grant for *Tow Lot Vanitas*, Paragraph Gallery, an Urban Culture Project. Baird earned her bachelor of fine arts in sculpture and her master of fine arts from the University of Kansas in Lawrence. She donated artworks to the Nerman Museum biennial fundraiser *Beyond Bounds*.



Miki Baird
Photo by E.G. Schempf

Judith G. Levy is a multidisciplinary artist whose installations, video, two-dimensional work and performance pieces explore the subtle nature of private and public memory. Levy's recent film *NV in KC: a story about artists and envy in Kansas City*, is set in the vibrant art world of present-day Kansas City. She blends invented narrative with documentary-like interviews to tell a story that seeks to capture the complexity of a challenging emotion. Levy's work has been exhibited in numerous museums and galleries, including the Memorial Art Gallery at the University of Rochester in New York, The Indianapolis Museum of Art, Soo



Judith G. Levy, left, with Jaimie Warren in her film *NV in KC: a story about artists and envy in Kansas City*,

Visual Arts Center in Minneapolis, the Epsten Gallery at the Kansas City Jewish Museum of Contemporary Art in Overland Park, Kan., and the NavtaSchulz Gallery and Woman Made Gallery, both in Chicago. She was the recipient of a 2011-12 Rocket Grant, administered by the Charlotte Street Foundation and the Spencer Museum of Art, and funded by the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. Levy received her bachelor of arts in drawing and painting from Hunter College in New York and her master of arts in social work from Adelphi University,



Miki Baird
between earth and sky...altered exit detail, 2012
archival pigment prints, 29 x18

48 minutes, 2013
Minneapolis College of Art and Design.

also in New York, and she attended

Third Thursday programs will resume in February. These free programs typically feature two artists working within the Kansas City region, with each artist giving a 20-minute presentation followed by discussion in the museum's Hudson Auditorium. Museum staff facilitate conversation and audience participation by pairing each artist with a JCCC faculty moderator. **Third Thursday** programs are designed to promote student interface with professional artists working within our community and beyond.

The Nerman Museum is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday; and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. The museum is closed Mondays and all JCCC holidays.



Miki Baird
*between earth and
sky...altered exit*, 2012
archival pigment prints, 29
x18