



For immediate release: September 30, 2013  
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**Charlotte Street Foundation presents  
*WE'LL MAKE OUT BETTER THAN OKAY*  
Charlotte Street Curator-in-Residence Danny Orendorff's inaugural exhibition**

**Exhibition:** *We'll Make Out Better Than Okay*  
**Opening Reception:** Friday, October 25, 6-9pm, FREE  
**Location:** la Esquina / 1000 West 25<sup>th</sup> Street  
**Exhibition runs:** October 25-December 20, 2013  
**Project tumblr:** better-than-okay.tumblr.com

**Public Programs:**

**Gallery talk with curator:** Saturday, October 26, 2pm  
**Performance:** Kansas City Electronic Music + Arts Alliance presents *Outskirts and Underworlds: Sights and Sounds from the Great Recession* – Sunday November 3, 7:30pm, \$10/Students \$5  
**Additional public programs to be announced**

**Featured artists:** David O. Alekhuogie (New Haven, CT), Jennifer Boe (Kansas City, MO), Andrea Bowers (Los Angeles, CA), Candy Chang (New Orleans, LA), Blake Fall-Conroy (Ithaca, NY), Theaster Gates (Chicago, IL), Honey Pot Performance (Chicago, IL), Steve Lambert (New York, NY), Persia ft. Daddies Plastik (San Francisco, CA), William Powhida (New York, NY), Public Media Institute (Chicago, IL), Alex Schaefer (Los Angeles, CA), Mike Simi (Chicago, IL), Brittany Southworth-LaFlamme (Chicago, IL), Stephanie Syjuco (San Francisco, CA), Cassie Thornton (San Francisco, CA), and Daniel Tucker (Chicago, IL).

Charlotte Street Foundation is pleased to present ***We'll Make Out Better Than Okay***, an exhibition of contemporary artworks that address everyday and street-level concerns of the economic recession (unemployment, debt, corporate greed, minimum wage rates, and more) with playfulness, aplomb, and an often bleak sense of humor. Financial lack, foreclosed property, exploitative labor policy, and high-priced healthcare are just a handful of the economic realities producing absurdist dilemmas for individuals and communities across the nation. Curated by **2013-14 Charlotte Street Foundation Curator-in-Residence Danny Orendorff** and featuring over 15 internationally exhibiting American artists working in medium



Mike Simi, *Mr. Weekend*, robotic arm, custom software, fabric, 2-channel audio, 2010



*(Fucking) Poor?* (2012). A series of oil paintings fictitiously depicting corporate banks on fire around Los Angeles by faux plein air painter **Alex Schaefer**, and a set of embroidered and giclee printed artworks by **Jennifer Boe** utilizing the brand logo of Always Save cigarettes respectively transform daily commonplaces into outrageously menacing visual phenomena.

*We'll Make Out Better Than Okay* will also feature artwork by **David O. Alekhuogie, Andrea Bowers, Steve Lambert, Brittany Southworth-LaFlamme**, and **Stephanie Syjuco**, and will be accompanied by a forthcoming citizen-journalist style catalog.

Public programs include a casual curator's talk on **Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2pm**, and a performance by Kansas City Electronic Music and Arts Alliance (KcEMA) on **Sunday, November 3, 7:30pm** titled *Outskirts and Underworlds: Sights and Sounds from the Great Recession*, which will feature a wide variety of electronic music responding to themes of recession-era humor, debt, unemployment, and working-class labor conditions. Additional public programs will be developed over the course of the exhibition's run, concluding **December 20, 2013**.

#### **ABOUT CURATOR-IN-RESIDENCE DANNY ORENDORFF:**

Recently heralded by Chicago Magazine as one of Chicago's "Six Young Art Curators You Should Know," Danny Orendorff has curated large-scale exhibitions for international contemporary art spaces, including; *All Good Things Become Wild & Free* at Carthage College (Kenosha, WI), *Learning to Love You More* at MU Gallery (Eindhoven, The Netherlands), and *There is Always a Machine Between Us* at SF Camerawork Gallery (San Francisco, CA), who also hosted his Andy Warhol Foundation supported exhibition *Suggestions of a Life Being Lived*, co-curated with Adrienne Skye Roberts in 2010.

Orendorff is currently a contributing writer to Art in America Online and Bad at Sports, and has previously written for NewCity Chicago, Camerawork Journal of Photographic Arts, and Shotgun Review. Formerly the assistant director of the Renegade Craft Fair's nationwide marketplaces of handmade goods, Orendorff has also held positions as curator-in-residence for Art2102 of Los Angeles and project manager for The Backroom, an internationally traveling exhibition of artist-ephemera. Orendorff received an M.A. in Modern Art History, Theory & Criticism from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2012, and a B.A. in Journalism and a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Humanities from Arizona State University in 2006. For more information, visit <http://dandannydaniel.com>

#### **ABOUT CHARLOTTE STREET'S CURATORIAL RESIDENCY PROGRAM:**

Charlotte Street Foundation's Curatorial Residency Program was launched in 2012 in order to engage outstanding emerging curators from around the country with the Kansas City region and its artists. Providing support and a public platform for an annually selected curator to develop and present original, community-responsive contemporary arts programming, the program seeks to nurture the work and careers of up-and-coming curators, bring fresh curatorial approaches and critical perspectives to the Kansas City region, and to expand opportunities and networks for Kansas City artists. Teaching partnerships with the Department of Art at University of Missouri-Kansas City and Kansas City Art Institute further connect the curator-in-residence

with area students.

**ABOUT CHARLOTTE STREET FOUNDATION:**

Over 16 years, Charlotte Street has challenged, nurtured, and empowered thousands of artists, distributed almost \$900,000 in awards and grants to artists and their projects, and connected individual artists to each other and to the greater Kansas City community. Charlotte Street—with its community of artists—strives to be a primary catalyst in making Kansas City a vibrant, creative metropolis, alive with collaboration, passion, ideas, and surprise. For more information about Charlotte Street, its awards, programs, and initiatives, visit [www.charlottestreet.org](http://www.charlottestreet.org).

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