

*Christian L. Frock Appointed 2015 – 2016 Scholar in Residence*

Wednesday, August 26, 2015

The Center for Art and Public Life at California College for the Arts is pleased to announce that independent curator and writer Christian L. Frock has been selected as 2015 – 2016 Scholar in Residence.

Frock's one-year appointment will begin in September 2015. Frock's practice focuses on art and politics, and the role of artists in public life and social justice. Invisible Venue, the alternative curatorial enterprise Frock founded and has directed since 2005, collaborates with artists to present art in public spaces, online and in the built environment. She has organized public programs, exhibitions, and special commissions with numerous organizations, including the British Arts Council, Headlands Center for the Arts, Kala Art Institute, Oakland Main Public Library, Pro Arts, San Jose State University, Southern Exposure, SOMArts Cultural Center, Emergency USA | Thoreau Center for Sustainability, Mills College Art Museum, Works/San José, and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, among others. She is a regular public speaker and has given talks for the Bay Area Society for Art & Activism, Berkeley Art Center, Kansas City Art Institute, Palo Alto Art Center, San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and Yale Radio, among others.

Her 2014 Priced Out essays for KQED Arts on new technology wealth and its impact on Bay Area artists were named among "The Most Important Art Essays of the Year" by Ben Davis, national critic for *artnet News* and author of *9.5 Theses on Art and Class*. Frock's writing has been featured in *Art&Education*, *art ltd.*, *Art Practical*, *Daily Serving*, *Fillip*, *The Guardian US*, *Hyperallergic*, *KQED Arts*, *NPR.org*, *San Francisco Arts Monthly*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *SFMOMA Open Space*, and *USA Today*. Chronicle Books published her first book, titled *Unexpected Art*, in March 2015. Her forthcoming historical survey exhibition *Public Works: Artists' Interventions 1970s – Now*, curated with Tanya Zimbaro for Mills College Art Museum, is accompanied by a publication of the same title.

The Scholar in Residence is appointed by Director Shalini Agrawal and is an annual residency for a scholar, artist, designer or activist to conduct research in conjunction with the Center for Art and Public Life. Agrawal expressed her delight with Frock's appointment: "It's clear that Christian is dedicated to making visible the work of artists who respond to social and political issues through their practice. Her commitment to social justice has raised awareness and positively impacted communities affected by those issues. Her work aligns with the Center's vision, mission and values - the staff and I are excited to work with her this year." Past Scholars include artist Chris Treggiari and designer, urbanist and social innovator Liz Ogbu.

Photo: Carter Dow

