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## M E D I A   R E L E A S E

### **2014-2015 Visual Art Series at Portland Center Stage: Courtney Kemp's *Youth & Progress* On Exhibit January 18 – March 15, 2015**

#### **"Sunday Art Brunch" Opening Reception on February 1, 2015**



**December 22, 2014 – PORTLAND, OR.** The new body of work by Portland-based artist Courtney Kemp, *Youth & Progress*, will be on view in the Armory Gallery from January 18 through March 15, 2015. *Youth & Progress* is an exhibition in parts, spanning two galleries: Portland Center Stage's Armory Gallery in Portland, OR and the Umpqua Valley Arts Center in Roseburg, OR. PCS will host a "Sunday Art Brunch" to celebrate the exhibition's opening; a chance to meet the artist and enjoy a short talk on this new work.

The "Sunday Art Brunch" for Courtney Kemp's *Youth & Progress* will be held on February 1, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Light hors d'oeuvres and mimosas will be provided in the Armory Gallery.

#### ***YOUTH & PROGRESS***

*Youth & Progress* explores the narratives of youth, transition, and rebellion through fragmented architectural spaces and objects. The piece attempts to live in the in-between spaces of adolescence and adulthood; color and texture harkens to our experiences in the home, highlighting the ways by which we decorate our lives as children and our relationships with our objects as we explode into the teenage years. These home structures have seen arguments and parental advice, spills and furious exits, even missed curfews. They reflect, conceal, and ooze what they've touched and held; they expose their secrets as thoughtful observers. For more information about the exhibition at the Umpqua Valley Arts Center please visit <http://uvarts.com/>. For more

information about PCS's Armory Gallery, please visit <http://www.pcs.org/gallery/>.

### **ARTIST COURTNEY KEMP**

Courtney Kemp currently lives and works in Portland, Oregon. Her work has been exhibited in both national and international galleries, including Disjecta (Portland, Oregon), SOFA New York 2011, Galleri Puls (Norheimsund, Norway) and Heidi Lowe Gallery (Rehobeth, Rhode Island). She has recently served as the gallery manager of Disjecta Contemporary Art Center in Portland, Oregon, and is an alumni member of Ditch Projects, an artist run studio and collective. For more information about Courtney, please visit: <http://courtneykemp.com/>.

Portland Center Stage is proud to support its third year of visual art programming curated by Elizabeth Spavento. Spavento is an independent curator and creative talent who organized exhibitions at Open Source Gallery (Brooklyn, NY) and Disjecta (Portland, OR). She is currently curating ALL RISE, an interdisciplinary public art project in Seattle, WA, that will run through the spring of 2015.

**Portland Center Stage** inspires our community by bringing stories to life in unexpected ways. Founded in 1988, PCS is the city's leading professional theater and one of the top 20 largest regional theater companies in the U.S. PCS attracts more than 150,000 theatergoers annually with its blend of classical, contemporary and premiere works, along with its summer playwrights festival, JAW. PCS also offers a variety of education and community programs tailored for patrons of all ages.

**The Gerding Theater at the Armory** houses the 590-seat U.S. Bank Main Stage and the 190-seat black box Ellyn Bye Studio. It was the first building on the National Register of Historic Places – and the first performing arts venue – to achieve a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum certification. The Gerding Theater at the Armory opened to the public on Oct. 1, 2006.

**Portland Center Stage's 2014-2015** season is funded in part by Season Superstars Tim and Mary Boyle and Lead Corporate Champion Umpqua Bank; Season Sponsors the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, Oregon Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts, the Regional Arts and Culture Council, Work for Art, and Season Supporting Sponsor KINK FM. The Mark Spencer Hotel is the official hotel partner for Portland Center Stage. Portland Center Stage is a participant in the Audience (R)Evolution Program, funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and administered by Theatre Communications Group, the national organization for the professional not-for-profit American theater.

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