

# KC artists plug into a new gallery in the West Bottoms

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“The Remnants” (2011), a piece created from wood, acrylic, carpet and window blinds by New York artist Katie Bell, will be part of “Living Arrangements,” the inaugural show at Plug Projects.

Enter Plug Projects.

The new artist-run exhibition space has been percolating in the West Bottoms for months. This week and next, the gallery and the group behind it — artists Cory Imig, Amy Kligman, Misha Kligman, Nicole Mauser and Caleb Taylor — make their official public debut with an artists’ talk today at the Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art and the opening of Plug’s inaugural show on Sept. 23.

Plug Projects’ stated mission — to bring “fresh perspectives and conversation to the local art community”— will be carried out in a renovated space at 1613 Genessee St., a stone’s throw from the historic Livestock Exchange Building and around the corner from the Dolphin gallery. In addition to a 350-square-foot gallery, Plug Projects houses the studios of the five Plug artists.

The primary thrust of the group’s activities will be presenting bimonthly exhibits of national and international artists. The first one is a group show called “Living Arrangements.”

Opening with a reception from 6 to 9 p.m. Sept. 23, the exhibit will feature works that “reveal the hidden qualities of the mundane” by well-known Kansas City artist Tom Gregg, New York-based Katie Bell, Alike Cooper from California and

Julie Green from Oregon. All four artists have shown at prestigious venues nationally and abroad.

In addition to exhibits, Plug will hold critique nights with Kansas City critic Blair Schulman and engage with other artists through studio visits, curatorial collaborations and a curated blog.

Today's talk at the Nerman is an opportunity to get to know Plug's five founders, all of whom hold degrees from art schools in other states and have built substantial exhibition records.

Four are painters; Imig is an interdisciplinary artist. And she has a busy week ahead.

In addition to her Plug activities, Imig will open a two-person show on Friday, "Strangers Like Us," with artist Summer Farrar, at the Urban Culture Project's Project Space, 21 E. 12th St. The reception runs from 6 to 9 p.m. The two will give an artists' talk at noon Saturday at Project Space.

**Today** The Plug artists' talk, at 3:30 p.m., is part of the Nerman Museum's Third Thursdays Visiting Artists Presentation program. Moderated by Larry Thomas, professor of fine arts, it will be in the museum's Hudson Auditorium at Johnson County Community College, 12345 College Blvd., Overland Park. Admission is free.

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<http://www.kansascity.com/2011/09/14/3140640/kc-artists-plug-into-new-gallery.html#ixzz1YiatZobd>