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**2016 Art in the Loop Project: Connect**

Published by the Art in the Loop Foundation

Photography provided by:  
Amber Webster and various artists

Catalog designed by Amber Webster

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Art in the Loop seeks to contribute to the visual identity of Downtown Kansas City while creating new opportunities for local artists to grow their practices and expand their audiences. We also seek to offer Downtown residents, workers and visitors the opportunity to interact with new art of excellence presented in the public realm.

We're pleased to present this catalog summarizing the 2016 Art in the Loop Project: Connect, a curated outdoor exhibition of temporary artwork and performances. The project infuses the center of Downtown Kansas City with innovative, engaging and refreshing art for a 3-month period. During this period, local artists stretched out of their studios and galleries, and off the stage into the public Downtown environment for the consideration and enjoyment of the passerby.

The project is in a continual process of evolution and refinement as we listen, lead and respond to the artist participants, their audiences and our community partners.

In 2016, we expanded to new sites, worked with new partners, supported more artists and diversified our audience. Our partnership with the Kansas City Streetcar Authority in particular provided a new opportunity for the community to experience the work of local artists embedded in the fabric of Downtown.

None of this would have been possible without the support of the Downtown community, the Downtown Council, the Kansas City Art Institute, and the City of Kansas City, Missouri, our sponsors, contributors and many partners. We greatly appreciate their encouragement, collaboration, and active participation.

Ann Holliday  
Art in the Loop  
Downtown Council

## PROJECT overview

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Art in the Loop: Connect was an incredible fusion of installation, interaction, and performance designed for public spaces within downtown Kansas City. This year, we showcased 27 local and emerging artist projects that invigorated the urban landscapes of Oppenstein Park, Illus Davis Park, and the Kansas City Streetcar. Each year, Art in the Loop assists artistic vision and development, while simultaneously, providing new aesthetic experiences for the downtown audience. Selected artworks encouraged viewers to reconfigure their environment by way of diverse musical styles, spoken word, improvisational theatre, indigenous and contemporary dance; while installations along the streetcar route created new conversations about transit, movement, and interpersonal connectivity.

Kansas City is home to an exciting aesthetic culture; one that invites dialogue between static and ephemeral media. This year's theme "Connect" exemplified this discussion: offering local artists new ways of developing and implementing ideas and engendering new forms of visual communication within and among our cityscape. Lunchtime performances occurring in Illus Davis Park, Oppenstein Park, and at streetcar stops created the chance for viewers to reexamine the city by way of sound, movement, interaction.

Colorful and playful installations along the streetcar route reframed ways in which we look (or call attention to how we don't look) at our concrete canyons. Projects this year examined the endless aesthetic possibility for drawing inspiration from, and creating new content about, the downtown landscape; and newly, how we now move through on the Streetcar. In this way, Art in the Loop: Connect provided artists and audience alike an opportunity to reflect and reimagine our downtown milieu and its new and exciting potentialities in form, architecture, movement and connectivity.

Jessica Borusky  
Art in the Loop, Curator



## ART IN OPPENSTEIN PARK

Oppenstein Brothers Memorial Park is a small pocket park located at 12th and Walnut. The park is managed by the Downtown Community Improvement District on behalf of Jackson County. The park is also home to the Celestial Flyways & Star Disk artwork by Laura DeAngelis and Draw Architecture.



## BETSE & CLARKE

### Traveling Tunes

**Date:**

July 21, 2016

**Location:**

Oppenstein Brothers Memorial Park

[betseandclarke.com](http://betseandclarke.com)



Musical adventurers Betse & Clarke presented historical and modern songs about transportation inspired by the new KC Streetcar. Performing on fiddle and banjo, the duo roved the park on a very hot day finding shady spots to create a connection between past and present.

## ANNETTE BILLINGS

### A Net Full of Hope

**Date:**

August 11, 2016

**Location:**

Oppenstein Brothers Memorial Park

[anetfullofhope.com](http://anetfullofhope.com)



Billings brought her poetry to the park - connecting threads of human experience, love, loss, anger, hunger for justice, grief by weaving in hope. While there seems to be a frequent urge to cast stones at one another, her poetry demonstrated the casting of hope in spoken form.

ALISON MOYNA GREENE

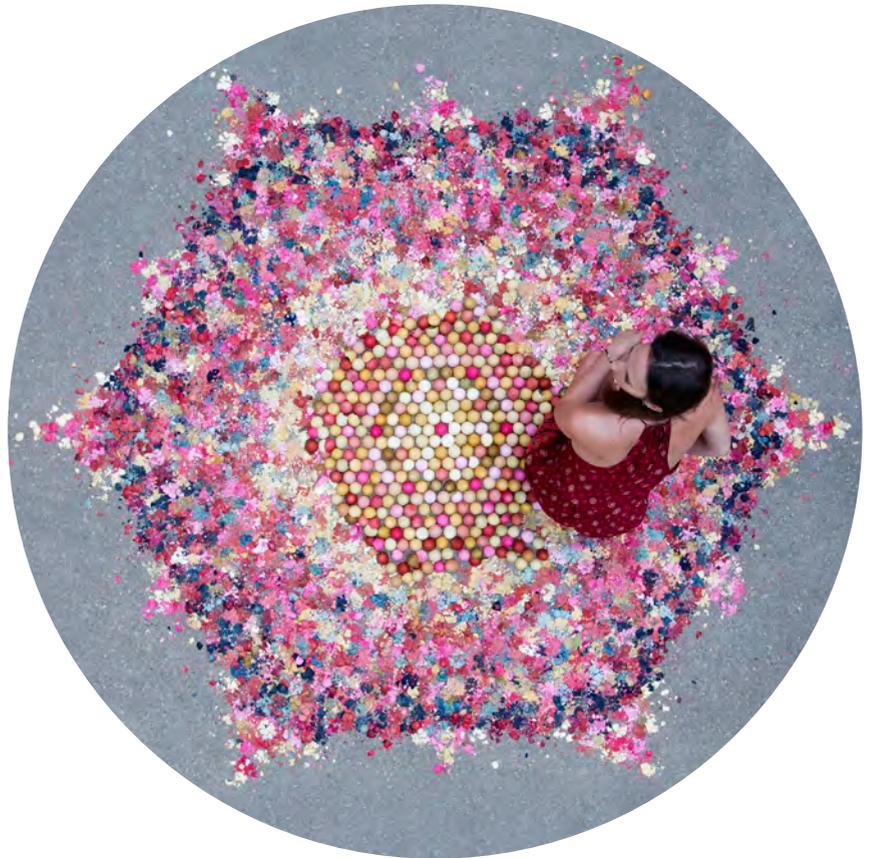
## Walking on Eggshells

**Date:**

August 18, 2016

**Location:**

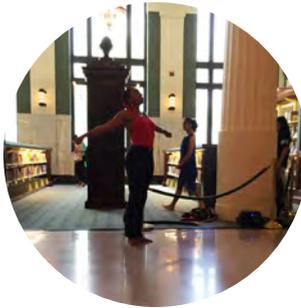
Oppenstein Brothers Memorial Park

[alisonmoynagreene.com](http://alisonmoynagreene.com)

Greene's first public performance of *Walking on Eggshells Mandala* flipped the traditional metaphor to present a perspective where walking on eggshells changes an uncomfortable feeling into a liberating artistic expression. Throughout the morning, Greene placed eggshells to form a large colorful mandala. This was followed by a walking meditation, crushing the eggshells and transforming the piece yet again. In the end, the eggshells, were swept away. Filmed by Drew Martin, directed by Justin Gardner; and, photographed by Josh Hof-fine and Mikal Shapiro.

## ART AT **KC PUBLIC LIBRARY, CENTRAL LIBRARY & PRAIRIE LOGIC ON THE GREEN ROOF**

The Kansas City Public Library acted as the rain location for the project. Performances were held in Kirk Hall at Central Library. Prairie Logic is a public art installation by Janet Zweig and el dorado architects consisting of a box car modified into a performance space set in prairie grass on the rooftop park accessible from 1261 Main Street.



**Date:**

July 28, 2016

**Location:**Kirk Hall, Kansas City Public  
Library Central Library[turkeycreekinstitute.tumblr.com](http://turkeycreekinstitute.tumblr.com)

The Turkey Creek Diversion Tunnel, located directly beneath I-35, near Downtown, is passed over frequently by commuters, yet remains unknown to most. These photographs taken at the creek and then printed on curved flags display fragmented views of an artificially lit waterfall and man-made cavern. Exhibition of the flags culminated with a virtual tour performed in Kirk Hall with the addition of an immersive soundscape and artifacts gathered at the creek.

## MAURA GARCIA DANCE

### Ahwisgvsgo'i

**Date:**

August 25, 2016

**Location:**

Kirk Hall, Kansas City Public  
Library Central Library

[ahwisgvsgoi.blogspot.com](http://ahwisgvsgoi.blogspot.com)



*Ahwisgvsgo'i* is a multi-media dance performance about Indigenous planting traditions, the elements and our places in the world. *Ahwisgvsgo'i*, a Cherokee word meaning "she/he is always planting", features dance, poetry, performance art, live music and an original score. It explores cultivation as a process and a ceremony. Through performance, Maura Garcia Dance seeks to strengthen our connections to the natural world and with one another.

**Date:**

June 23, 2016

**Location:**

Prairie Logic on the Green Roof

[paulrudy.com](http://paulrudy.com)

Paul Rudy led the students of the UMKC Summer Composition workshop through an evening of free improvisation in the prairie like setting of a rooftop park in Downtown Kansas City. Select musicians provided a central core while others migrated around the entire space, reacting to the audience, the wind and each other.

## DANIEL MOREL

with the Jibrish Horn Quartet and UMKC Conservatory Horn Studio

### Kansas City Calling

**Date:**

September 20, 2016

**Location:**

Prairie Logic on the Green Roof

[danmorel.com](http://danmorel.com)



*Kansas City Calling* was an evening-length musical happening evoking both the bustling past and thriving current day of Kansas City tailored to the urban oasis of Prairie Logic. The entire rooftop came alive with historical sounds, virtuosic solos, displaced melodies, and an ambient hum.

River Market North  
3RD & GRAND

River Market West  
4TH & DELAWARE

City Market  
5TH & WALNUT

North Loop  
7TH & MAIN

Library  
9TH & MAIN

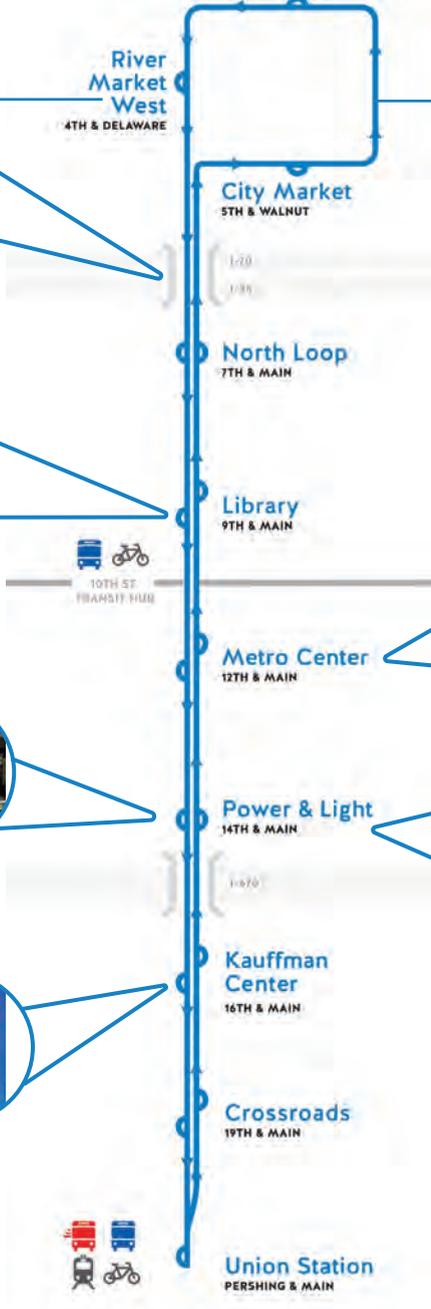
Metro Center  
12TH & MAIN

Power & Light  
14TH & MAIN

Kauffman Center  
16TH & MAIN

Crossroads  
19TH & MAIN

Union Station  
PERSHING & MAIN



## ART ON THE KC STREETCAR LINE

Art in the Loop partnered with the KC Streetcar Authority to present temporary artworks and performances at streetcar stops during the streetcars' inaugural year.



**Materials:**

Photographs of dancer Cat Mahari by Jeff Evrard printed on vinyl banners, plywood

**Location:**

Main Street/Delaware Bridge, south of Independence Avenue

[thrivepilateskc.com](http://thrivepilateskc.com)



*Life Turning* was a lateral zoetrope intended to be viewed from the Kansas City Streetcar. A zoetrope is an animation toy developed prior to film animation. The artwork connected streetcar patrons to an interactive experience and exposed them to multiple mediums of artistic expression.

m.o.i, MINISTER OF INFORMATION

## Rail<Bike>Rail

**Materials:**

B-Cycle bicycle, tablet, video

**Location:**

KC Streetcar Library Stop, Southbound

[theministerofinformation.blogspot.com](http://theministerofinformation.blogspot.com)



*Rail<Bike>Rail* was an interactive sculpture connecting viewers to the city, to Kansas City's new streetcar, and to an active lifestyle. Pedaling the stationary B-Cycle powered a video about bike safety, bike sharing, and how cycling extends transits options.

**Materials:**

Red and white vinyl

**Location:**

KC Streetcar Metro Center Stop, Northbound, City Center Square, Missouri Bank Building, Commerce Bank Building, and Streetcar 802

[andrewlattner.tumblr.com](http://andrewlattner.tumblr.com)



Using red and white vinyl adhesives at multiple locations, the artist highlighted connections between the pre-existing landscape and the new installation of the streetcar system. It encouraged Downtown viewers to take a fresh look at their city.

## RACHELLE GARDNER-ROE

### I See You



**Materials:**  
Drawing reproduced on vinyl adhesive

**Location:**  
KC Streetcar Power & Light  
District Stop, Northbound

[gardner-roe.com](http://gardner-roe.com)



*I See You* references a series of drawings created from the artist's desire to transcribe consciousness into visual form. The appearance of a figure is the result of layering text as an act of meditation.

**Materials:**

Stainless steel, PVC and interactive LED lights

**Location:**

KC Streetcar Power & Light  
District Stop, Southbound

[whiteartstudio.com](http://whiteartstudio.com)



*Soundshapes* was an interactive site-specific sculpture that highlights the currency of creativity and fosters friendship and collaboration. Activated by touching the metal disks, the series of colored tubes represent voices, synapses, chemical and conceptual synergy.

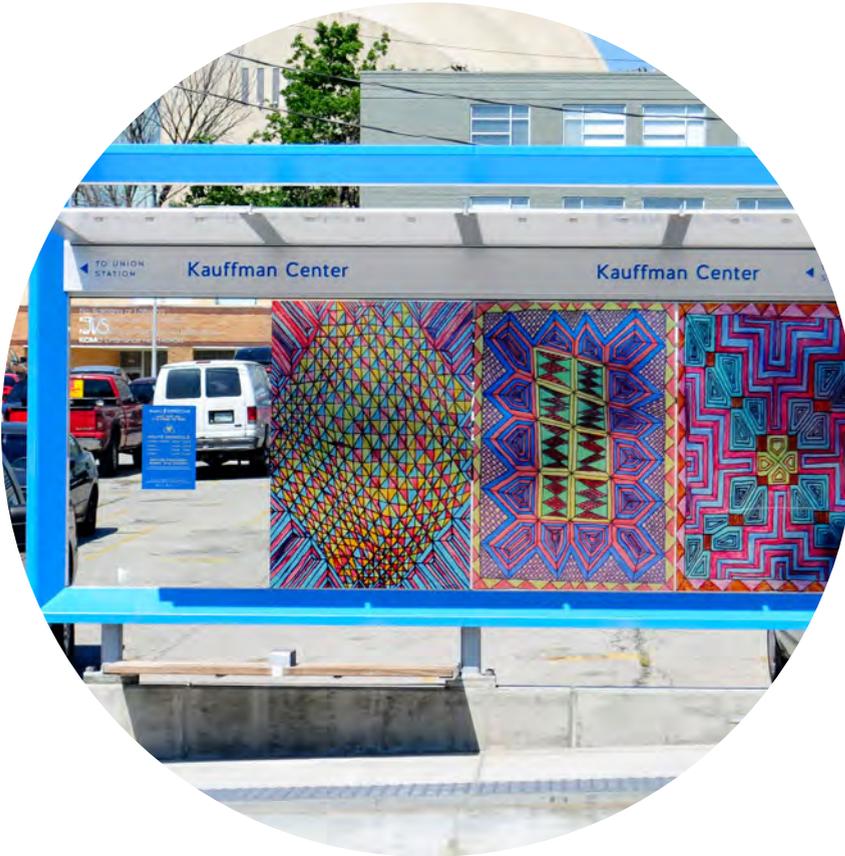
## RICKEY MOSS, IMAGINE THAT

### Intersections

**Materials:**  
Drawings reproduced on vinyl

**Location:**  
Kauffman Center  
Streetcar Stop, Northbound

[imaginethatkc.org](http://imaginethatkc.org)



*Intersections* investigated the qualities between the colorful geometric drawings and the cool, rigid palette of the cityscape. The bright and eccentric colors of the artwork created a bold focal point against the grays and dark silhouettes of the surrounding area.

With Kansas Ballet dancers Joshua Bodden, Ivan Braatz, Miranda Dafoe, Tempe Ostergren and Molly Wagner. Additional photography by Steve Snell.

## The Inspired Pedestrians

**Date:**

July 15, 2016

**Location:**

KC Streetcar Union Station Stop

[elizabethstehling.com](http://elizabethstehling.com)



*The Inspired Pedestrians* was a video and performance project capturing an idealized dance of pedestrian traffic. The intention was to relax distinctions between life and film, dance and community.

## STACY BUSCH

### Soundtrack for the City

**Date:**

August 8, 2016

**Location:**

Kiosks at KC Streetcar Stops

[soundcloud.com/stacybusch](https://soundcloud.com/stacybusch)



*Soundtrack for the City* was a musical experience designed specifically for the Kansas City Streetcar. Busch composed 9 new and original songs inspired by the various stops along the streetcar route. The performance consisted of the music playing through the smart kiosks at the streetcar stops.

## AMADO ESPINOZA &amp; KAREN LISONDRA

## Recycled World Instruments Duo

**Date:**

August 12, 2016

**Location:**

KC Streetcar Metro Center Stop,  
Northbound

[amadoespinoza.com](http://amadoespinoza.com)



Multi-instrumentalists Amado Espinoza and Karen Lisondra, surprised pedestrians and streetcar commuters alike with their cosmopolitan playfulness, performing music from around the globe. The instruments, handmade by Espinoza from found objects, included a classical Arabic flute made from a broom, an Andean pan-flute made from markers, a Bolivian guitar made from a cookie tin, and more.

JON JOHNSON

Connections

**Date:**

August 19, 2016

**Location:**

Onboard KC Streetcar



*Connections* was a site-specific performance event created for the KC Streetcar. The improvisational talents of nine KC actors played out on board the streetcar. One main character rode the entire route as each stop resulted in a new character or situation -- a "connection." These connections explored how we often influence one another as we progress through our daily lives.

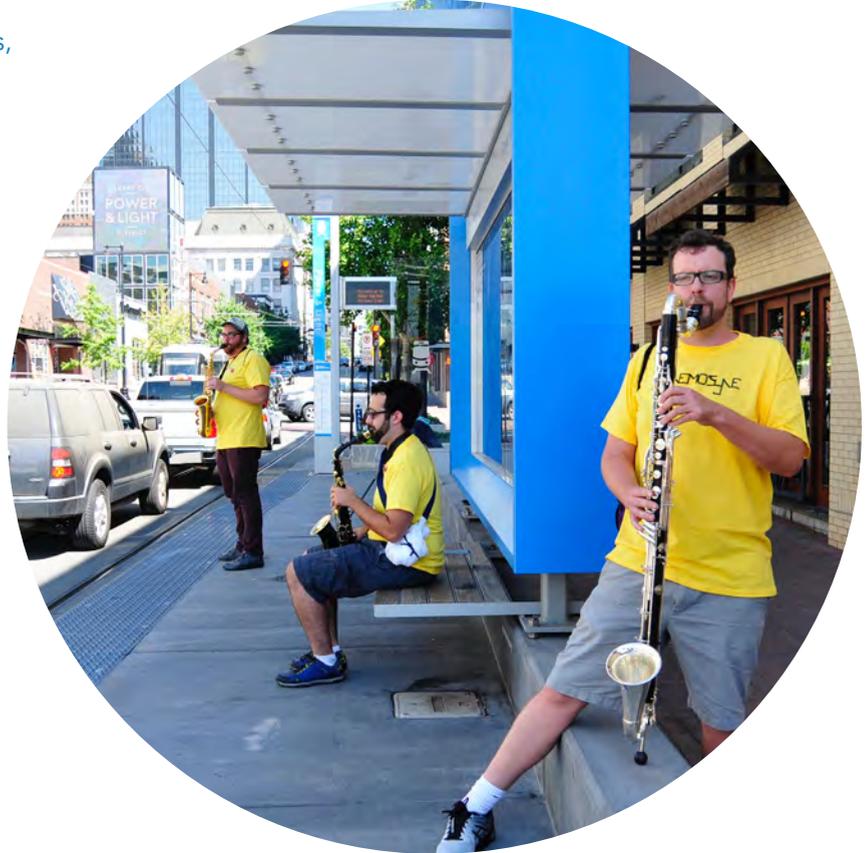
## MNEMOSYNE QUARTET

(Eli Hougland, Ted King-Smith, Michael Miller, Russell Thorpe)

## Transient Harmony

**Date:**

September 2, 2016

**Location:**KC Streetcar Power & Light District Stops,  
Library Stop and onboard[mnemosynequartet.com](http://mnemosynequartet.com)

*Transient Harmony* was a sound installation and performance that encompassed the streetcar line from 9th to 14th street. Members of the quartet traveled with passengers presenting live music, while a newly created mobile app allowed them to connect with participants both on and off the streetcar.

## ENSEMBLE IBERICA

(Michael McClintock, Beau Bledsoe, Jordan Shipley, and Brandon Draper)

### Cubanisms

**Date:**

September 9, 2016

**Location:**

KC Streetcar River Market  
West Stop and onboard

[ensembleiberica.org](http://ensembleiberica.org)



*Cubanisms* was an acoustic performance of traditional Cuban "son" music onboard a KC streetcar and outside in a park near the streetcar stop at 5th and Delaware.



## ART IN ILUS DAVIS PARK

The City of Kansas City's Municipal Art Commission worked with Art in the Loop, Parks and Recreation Department, and JE Dunn Construction to present temporary art installations and performances in Ilus Davis Park. This 2-block park, completed in 2001, visually connects City Hall and the Federal Courthouse.



**Materials:**

Historic photos printed on fabric, clothespins, rope, metal poles.

**Location:**

Illus Davis Park

[chrisdahlquist.com](http://chrisdahlquist.com)



*Laundry Day* was an oversized iconic clothesline displaying large historic photographs of Kansas City's colorful past. Historic photos from the Missouri Valley Special Collections at the Kansas City Public Library were printed on fabric designed to fade over the summer. The pictures of our history faded as the elements "washed" the linen, just as time washes away the past.

MATTHEW ELSOM & GARTH BRITZMAN

## Superfurniture

**Materials:**  
Foam pool noodles and wire cables

**Location:**  
Ilus Davis Park

[garthbritzman.com](http://garthbritzman.com)



*Superfurniture* explored the materiality of perhaps the most iconic and silly summertime toy – the pool noodle. Chairs, lounges, ottomans, and chaises carved from the packed noodles stretched across the lawn providing opportunities for park visitors to recline in a remarkably comfortable array of furniture sporting a likeness to iconic modern furniture.

## Hempen Support: Vines of Passion

**Materials:**

Hemp, wool, bamboo, tree limbs, passion flowers, ceramic pots

**Location:**

Ilus Davis Park

[neilgoss.com](http://neilgoss.com)



This series of six large-scale totemic weavings was grounded in ceramic pot planted with passionflower vines. Throughout the project's duration, the weavings faded and decayed while the passion flowers thrived and ascended up the weavings - serving as a metaphor for the life cycle of birth and death.

KATI TOIVANEN

## Hopscotch



**Materials:**

Photographs rendered on alumigraphic print

**Location:**

Illus Davis Park

[katitoivanen.com](http://katitoivanen.com)



*Hopscotch* provided park visitors an opportunity to reflect on the role of parks in childhood. A larger-than-life rendition of the game grid filled with photographic imagery merged into the sidewalk, inviting audience interaction and engagement. Visible from City Hall, the installation provided moments of surprise and playful delight in a primarily professional business environment.

**Date:**

June 24, 2016

**Location:**

Ilus Davis Park



We are the Landscape, a newly formed theatrical collective, performed traditionally-influenced dances and original music from the pre-colonized Americas and beyond in honor of the summer solstice.

## HEMA SHARMA & NRITYA SCHOOL OF DANCE

### Dances & Music of India

**Date:**

July 29, 2016

**Location:**

Ilus Davis Park



The dance company connected with the public in Ilus Davis Park through a versatile performance of South Indian Classical and folk dances.

**Date:**

August 26, 2016

**Location:**

Illus Davis Park

[www.mattbennettviolin.org](http://www.mattbennettviolin.org)

This performance featured American music from the Colonial period to the present performed on period-appropriate instruments.

LAUREN THOMPSON, JONATHAN ROBERTSON & TOM HIPPI

## Downtown Replay

**Date:**

September 30, 2016

**Location:**

Illus Davis Park

[thrivepilateskc.com](http://thrivepilateskc.com)



Art imitates life, life imitates art — this is the feedback loop that *Downtown Replay* explored through movement and sound. Microphones and dancers captured naturally occurring sounds and movement in real time and folded back that sensory experience for the public to reinterpret; creating an interactive and generative feedback loop that was site specific.

## Artist Impact

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**“When embarking on an event that involves city property or services, there can frequently be a penchant for red tape and resistance. This was not apparent in Kansas City. There is an unusual openness and a most welcoming attitude from both the arts community and the local officials.”**

Jon Johnson  
Connections

“This newfound way of working pushes me to think of my work differently...Laundry Day is proving to be a powerful first step down a brand new path...”

Chris Dahlquist  
Laundry Day

*“...programs like Art in the Loop help to build your confidence in producing quality works for our community. Life Turning would never be possible if I were to have attempted to build this on my own.”*

Lauren Thompson  
Life Turning

*“One of the most amazing parts of this project was getting to meet and work with the building managers and the KC Streetcar Authority. They were all truly amazing! Everyone was so open and willing to work with me, allowing me to change things as needed. I am so grateful to have been able to work on the streetcar.”*

Andrew Lattner  
Alternating Currents

***“The reaction and turnout were everything I was hoping for...many thanks to Art in the Loop for giving me the opportunity to finally perform this piece in a public space.”***

Alison M. Greene

Walking on Eggshells Mandala

***“My commitment to finding ways to bring art to the people, rather than the reverse, has increased due to this experience”***

Annette Billings

A Net Full of Hope

***“The Inspired Pedestrians project allowed me to explore the uncommon and aim for the transcendent. I went beyond my artistic boundaries and developed my collaborative creative process.”***

Elizabeth Stehling

The Inspired Pedestrians

***“Our experience performing music in an unusual setting, brought us insight into the effects of music outside the concert hall or festival stage.”***

Betse & Clarke

Traveling Tunes

***“By being a part of Art in the Loop, my work has been further validated as important within the context of the Kansas City artscape.”***

Maura Garcia

Ahwisgvsgo'i

## Sponsors

### Presenting



### Platinum



Missouri Arts Council  
*The State of the Arts*



### Gold



### Silver

- ArtsKC, Regional Arts Council
- McCownGordon Construction
- UMB Bank

### Bronze

- BNIM
- East 9 at Pickwick Plaza
- Global Prairie
- Henderson Engineers, Inc.
- HNTB
- JE Dunn Construction
- LISC of Greater Kansas City
- Missouri Bank
- Park University

### In-Kind Partners

- Downtown Community Improvement District
- Downtown Council of Kansas City
- Kansas City Art Institute
- Kansas City Public Library

## Special Thanks

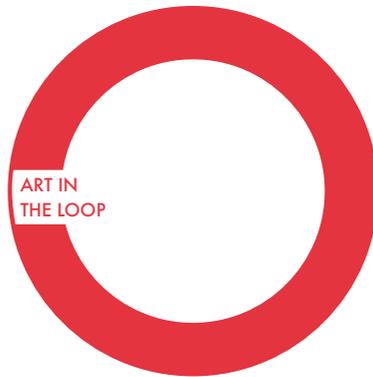
Nedra Bonds, textile artist  
 Marcus Cain, Kansas City Art Institute  
 Xiong Chang, Food Truck Mafia  
 Charlotte Street Foundation  
 Carrie Coogan, Kansas City Public Library  
 Lisa Cordes, Artist Inc.  
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 Kreshaun McKinney, Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art  
 Laura Pastine, BNIM  
 John Reeves, BNIM  
 Darcy Stewart, JE Dunn Construction  
 Robin Trafton, Commerce Bank  
 Union Station

### Downtown Community Improvement District

Ronell Bailey, Alex Bland, Arthur Chatman,  
 Tamara Chatman, Brian Duncan, Santos  
 Ramirez, Jeff Tubbs, Marvin Williams, and  
 the entire staff of ambassadors

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