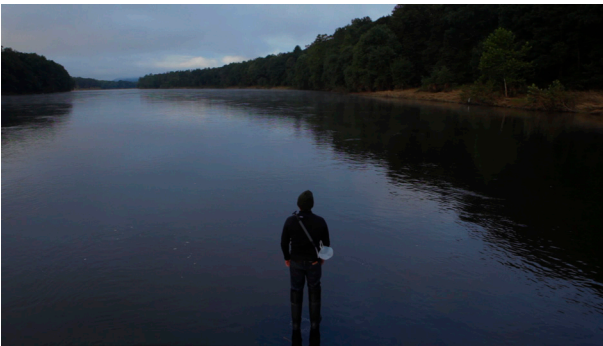


May 28, 2013
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Emily Smith, Executive Director
804.643.1708 or esmith@1708gallery.org

TO THE SOURCE: WILLIAM LAMSON AND STEVE GURYSH

JUNE 6 - JULY 13, 2013



1708 Gallery is pleased to announce its upcoming exhibition, **To the Source: William Lamson and Steve Gurysh**, on view June 6 through July 13. Join us for a gallery talk and opening reception on Thursday, June 6, from 6 to 8 p.m. The talk will begin at 6:30 p.m.

To the Source: William Lamson and Steve Gurysh considers notions of exploration, interdependence, and survival. Through video, sculpture, and installation, Gurysh and Lamson investigate our relationships with the natural world, using artistic inquiry to suspend cultural binaries separating what we consider scientific or spiritual, human or nature, aesthetic or functional. Dispensing with the trappings of orthodoxy, the artists suggest a present necessity for rigorous wonder.

William Lamson's video work **Action for the Delaware** features footage of the artist standing on the surface of the Delaware River. The video contrasts shots of Lamson's floating, slowly rotating figure, rigidly standing on a submerged vessel, against clips in which he has fallen into the river and desperately struggles to stand atop the floating base. Like an undiscovered extreme sport, **Action for the Delaware** simultaneously brings to mind the statuesque, land art, and natural history.

In the vein of artist predecessors who hybridized the languages of sculpture and biology like Mark Dion and Joseph Beuys, Steve Gurysh's **Projected Wetlands** is a sprawling solar-powered drawing machine that measures local air quality using living lichen, a fog machine, a custom-machined printer, and urine (among other errata). Off the grid and on a tangent, **Projected Wetlands** captures the imagination like the work of a visionary doomsday prepper.



William Lamson is a Brooklyn-based artist who works in video, photography, performance and sculpture. Since graduating from the Bard MFA program in 2006, his work has been shown at The Indianapolis Museum of Art, The Brooklyn Museum, MOMA P.S.1, and the Museum of Contemporary Art Denver, among others. In 2012 he completed two site-specific installations for Storm King Art Center in Mountainville, NY.

Based in Pittsburgh, PA, Steve Gurysh received his MFA from Carnegie Mellon in 2013. His work is concerned with contemporary encounters of energy-phenomena which emerge from the everyday to the miraculous, from the municipal to the mythological. His work has been exhibited in places such as La Société des Arts Technologiques in Montréal, the Center for the Study of the End of Things in Charlottesville, VA, the center

of the Allegheny River in Pittsburgh, as part of the floating exhibition platform **The Drift**, which Gurysh co-founded, and at extremely high altitudes.

For more information about the artists, please visit their websites:

www.williamlamson.com and www.stevegurysh.com.

1708 Gallery's current exhibition season is generously supported in part by Jay Barrows and Cindy Neuschwander, Page and Sandy Bond, Richard Douglas and Suzanna Fields, Josh and Sarah Eckhardt, John Freeman, Kathryn Henry-Choisser, Susan and John Jamieson, Jillian Krupski, Celia Rafalko and Rick Sample, Bill and Pam Royall, the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

1708 Gallery is a non-profit arts organization committed to presenting exceptional new art. 1708 Gallery is committed to providing opportunities for artistic innovation for emerging and established artists and to expanding the understanding and appreciation of new art for the public.

IMAGE CREDITS: William Lamson, video still from *Action for the Delaware*, HD video, 14:09, 2011; William Lamson, video still from *Action for the Delaware*, HD video, 14:09, 2011; Steve Gurysh, *Projected Wetlands*, backpack, flexible solar panel, lithium-ion battery, air pump, glass jug and dye made from urine and crushed lichen (*Umbilicaria Mammulata* species), rubber tubing, fuel tank outfitted with ultra-sonic fogger, water, collected granite and transplanted samples of *Umbilicaria* lichen, aluminum tripod and custom poles, hand-dyed silk, Mylar emergency blankets, reflective cord, custom data logging equipment: air quality sensors, Arduino, custom electronics, paper, pen, hand-made ink processed from lichen dye batch; hand-drawn replicas of Keuffel & Esser isometric orthographic paper, drawings on wall, and various tools, 2011; Steve Gurysh, *Projected Wetlands* (detail), 2011.

###