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PRESS RELEASE

2 New Exhibitions Celebrate Creativity, Local Industry, Animation and 3D Printing

For Immediate Release: St. Joseph, Michigan

Exhibition Dates: January 29 – April 24, 2016

Free & Open to the Public

FACTORY MADE BY MICHAEL HAMBOUZ

Artist Michael Hambouz was born and raised in Niles, Michigan. However, he has resided in Brooklyn, New York for the past 15 years. Upon the recent death of his mother, Hambouz used art to reconnect to his hometown from afar. He accomplished this using the rich papers and factory aesthetic of the French Paper Company, an independently-owned, family-operated company located just one mile from his childhood home.

In *Factory Made*, Hambouz hand-cuts paper stock from the French Paper Company to create vibrant, abstracted scenes of the factory where the paper is produced. The series provides a glimpse into the operations of the 145-year-old American paper mill by showcasing the production process and machinery – from pulp to the final paper product – in intricately layered collage format.

Factory Made had its debut in New York City in 2014. Unique to the exhibition at the Krasl Art Center, the artist has created an animation that includes imagery from the *Factory Made* series and sound recordings from the factory itself. These new elements mark new perspectives about the factory, his hometown and his practice as an artist.

PIECES FROM THE WEIGHT BY JONATHAN BRAND

Jonathan Brand has always wanted a motorcycle, but awareness of his accident prone nature helped him resist the urge. For this Canadian-born, New York artist, it was in fact a past injury that led to innovative new practices in his studio. A torn ligament and successive surgeries on his drawing arm led him to blend mechanical hobbies with sculptural practice. *The Weight* by Brand is a 1970s era Honda motorcycle made of thin pieces of plastic generated from a 3D printer. Brand used downloaded design files and lo-res video game renderings to build the piece. Modifications were made as he went, making the bike an amalgamation rather than a specific model. In addition to *The Weight*, a handful of ink drawings utilizing the design files for its construction, and paper constructed auto parts by Brand will be on view.

EXHIBITION RELATED EVENTS

SCREENING IN THE artlab

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 7 PM

Michael Hambouz premieres his brand new *Factory Made* animation in the artlab. Dialogue with the artist after.

OPENING PARTY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 6-8 PM

Celebrate the opening of two outstanding exhibitions in one night. Artist Michael Hambouz will be present; the vibe will be lively with mixed music, local wine and craft beer, and the opportunity to mingle and enjoy the evening.

The KAC offers a *Children's Art Workshop* in our classroom studios featuring make-and-take art projects for youth to enjoy during the opening party. Free for members/\$10 per non-member family.

GALLERY TOUR & ART ACTIVITY WITH MICHAEL HAMBOUZ

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 11 AM

Join featured artist Michael Hambouz in the galleries for a tour of *Factory Made*. In the lobby, make your own artwork using papers from the French Paper Company. All ages are welcome for both.

COFFEE WITH THE CURATOR: A KAC MEMBER'S ONLY EVENT

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 9 AM

Join KAC Curator Tami Miller for an intimate tour of the exhibition.

FAMILY TIME IN THE GALLERIES WITH JONATHAN BRAND

MARCH 12, 11 AM-12:30 PM

Explore all things 3D printed in this gallery tour and art-making event for all ages.

KRASL ART CENTER

The Krasl Art Center is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. The Krasl Art Center is located in downtown St. Joseph, Michigan overlooking Lake Michigan. The KAC has three public galleries, five studios, a library/lecture room, a black and white wet darkroom, a gift shop, and a permanent collection of 42 works of sculpture. Through its mission to bring people and art together, the KAC offers thoughtful exhibitions, engaging classes and camps, community events such as Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff and the Artisan Market, outreach opportunities, and cultural exploration. The Krasl Art Center is funded in part by the Michigan Council for the Arts & Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Krasl Art Center galleries are open Monday-Wednesday, Friday & Saturday from 10-4; Thursday from 10-9; and Sunday 1-4. Admission to the galleries is free of charge. For more information, please contact the Krasl Art Center at 269.983.0271, or visit www.krasl.org.

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