

# JESSICA STOCKHOLDER

## *FOR EVENTS*



Jessica Stockholder. *The Guests All Crowded Into the Dining Room* (featuring an earlier iteration of *For Events* at center), Mitchell-Innes & Nash, New York, 2016. Courtesy of the artist & Mitchell-Innes and Nash, New York.

**FEATURING *PLATFORM***  
**A SERIES OF PROGRAMS**

**APRIL 1 – MAY 5, 2024**

**HUTCHINSON COURTYARD**  
**THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO**

**Media Contact**

Jan Brugger  
Exhibitions Manager,  
Reva & David Logan Center  
for the Arts  
[janbrugger@uchicago.edu](mailto:janbrugger@uchicago.edu)

**(CHICAGO – MAR 7, 2024)** The University of Chicago will open the exhibition *Jessica Stockholder: For Events* accompanied by the programming series, PLATFORM, to honor world-renowned artist and faculty member Jessica Stockholder on the occasion of her retirement.

The exhibition is anchored by a single sculpture, *For Events* (2015), which encapsulates the artist's decades-long consideration of how objects encounter one another: how they support themselves and are in turn supported. *For Events* is an elevated, s-shaped platform comprised of plywood and fiberglass—materials at once ordinary,

vivid, and “perhaps even beautiful”, as the artist has suggested. The sculpture can be taken in and appreciated at a remove or engaged as a functional stage, scalable by steps on either end. In this way, it invites viewers to enter the work, to be put on display.

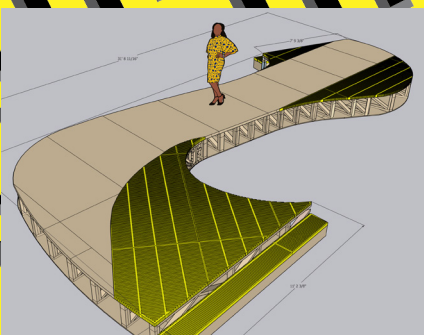
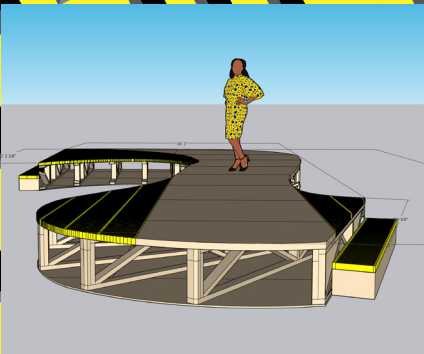
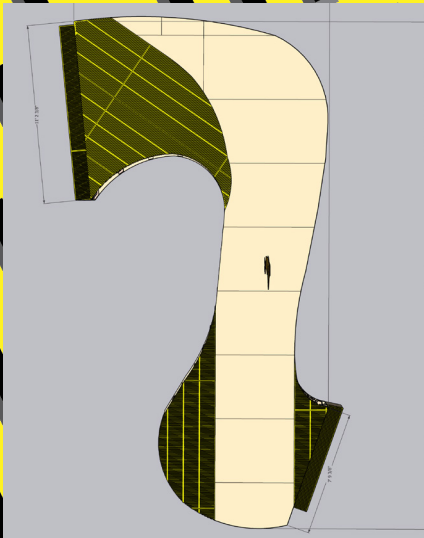
“I’m interested in conveying an experience having to do with the difficulty of having things cohere,” Stockholder has stated, “a lack of definition, or a possibility for expansion lurking in the background of everything we make.”

*For Events* raises questions about categories: sculpture and architecture, artwork and viewer, object and performance, art and institution. Devised by a single artist, it asks us to consider the complexity inherent in making art independently while living, working, and thinking in relation to others. In keeping with the invitational “For” in the work’s title, the sculpture will be periodically activated by Stockholder’s former students and colleagues, including Kevin Beasley, Devin T. Mays, Josiah McElheny, Gabriel Moreno, and Anna Tsouhlarakis. It will also host various forms of engagement by University of Chicago students, faculty, and staff, ranging from impromptu meetings, course discussions, and daily rehearsals to poetry readings, music concerts, and voguing workshops.

*Jessica Stockholder: For Events* is curated by Jenny Harris, Clara Nizard, and Michael Stablein, Jr. in partnership with Logan Center Exhibitions and Art in Public Spaces and with the support of colleagues across the University. “This graduate student-driven project brings together colleagues from across the University who are inspired by Jessica Stockholder’s work,” said Catriona MacLeod, Vice Provost for the Arts. “We invite the University community to join us in celebrating Jessica’s career around this richly interactive installation.” Please find an evolving schedule of PLATFORM events below.

Part of the collection of the Smart Museum of Art, *For Events* is installed in Hutchinson courtyard, a hub of student life grounded by the neighboring Reynolds Club student center. Situated at the heart of the University’s campus, the sculpture engages directly with its academic setting and community, instigating a campus-wide conversation around the intersection of public sculpture, experimental performance, and scholarly research.

In conjunction with *Jessica Stockholder: For Events*, visitors are invited to explore two related installations. The artist book-cum-sculpture *Led Almost by My Tie* (2007), a collaboration between Stockholder and poet Jeremy Sigler will be displayed in the Hanna Holborn Gray Special Collections Research Center in the Joseph Regenstein



Digital renderings of *For Events*, 2015.  
Courtesy of the artist.



Library. CWAC Exhibitions will present a video by artist Alex Da Corte in the Cochrane-Woods Art Center.



Jessica Stockholder. *The Guests All Crowded Into the Dining Room* (featuring an earlier iteration of *For Events* at center), Mitchell-Innes & Nash, New York, 2016. Courtesy of the artist and Mitchell-Innes & Nash, New York.

Jessica Stockholder: *For Events* is curated by [Jenny Harris](#), [Clara Nizard](#), and [Michael Stablein, Jr.](#) in partnership with Logan Center Exhibitions and Art in Public Spaces. Additional support provided by anonymous donors, Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality, Chicago Center for Contemporary Theory (3CT), Chicago Forum for Free Inquiry & Expression, the College at The University of Chicago, Committee on Theater and Performance Studies, Department of Art History, Division of the Humanities, Franke Institute Fund, Jack and Sandra Guthman, Institute for the Formation of Knowledge, Open Practice Committee in the Department of Visual Arts, Reva & David Logan Center for the Arts, Smart Museum of Art, UChicago Arts, UChicago GRAD, UChicago Student Centers, University of Chicago Library, and the Visual Resources Center.

## ABOUT JESSICA STOCKHOLDER

Over the past four decades, Jessica Stockholder's energetic, cacophonous, and idiosyncratic works have expanded the dialogue between painting and sculpture. Often incorporating the surrounding architecture, Stockholder juxtaposes everyday objects—electrical cords, plastic bags, discarded furniture—defining new and ambiguous situations that draw attention to their formal and aesthetic qualities. Stockholder has exhibited widely in North America and Europe at such venues as Centre Pompidou, Paris; MoMA PS1; Kunstmuseum St. Gallen; the Whitney Museum of American Art; the Renaissance Society; and the Venice Biennale. Her work is represented in the collections of The Museum of Modern Art, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, and the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, among others. Stockholder received her B.F.A from the University of Victoria in Canada in 1982, her M.F.A. from Yale University in 1985, and honorary Doctor of Fine Arts degrees from the Emily Carr College of Art in 2010 and Columbia College in 2013. She has received numerous grants including the Lucelia Artist Award from the Smithsonian American Art Museum, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and an Anonymous Was A Woman award. In 2018, she was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. After serving as Director of the Sculpture Department at the Yale School of Art, Stockholder joined the University of Chicago's Department of Visual Arts faculty where she served as Chair from 2011-2018.



Map of exhibition site, Hutchinson Courtyard, University of Chicago.



## PLATFORM PROGRAMS

### Opening Celebration

Monday, April 1  
5:00 PM

### Josiah McElheny

*Imaginary Modernism: Hilma af Klint and Blinky Palermo*

Tuesday, April 2  
7:00 PM

### Kevin Beasley

Saturday, April 6  
6:30 PM

### Anna Tsouhlarakis

*VOX CLAMANTIS IN CHICAGO*

Monday, April 8  
12:00 PM

### Devin T. Mays

*In Concert #1: Hold, Weight*

Tuesday, April 9  
5:00-7:00 PM

### An Evening of Poetry

Saturday, April 27  
5:30 PM

### Hansel and Gretel,

a collective tribute to Pope.L by DoVA alumni

May 4-5

**Please check our [website](#) for an evolving list of activations by faculty, students, and staff.**

For more information and details, visit [loganexhibitions.uchicago.edu](http://loganexhibitions.uchicago.edu) or follow Logan Center Exhibitions on Facebook and Instagram [@logancenterexhibitions](#)

**Hutchinson Courtyard,**  
The University of Chicago  
1131 E 57th St, Chicago, IL 60637  
*entrances on 57th Street and University Avenue, or via the central quads and the 1st floor of the Reynolds Club*

**General Information**  
The Reva and David Logan Center  
for the Arts,  
University of Chicago  
915 E 60th Street  
Chicago, IL 60637

**Contact**  
(773) 834-8377  
logancenterexhibitions@uchicago.edu  
[loganexhibitions.uchicago.edu](http://loganexhibitions.uchicago.edu)  
Facebook/Instagram  
[@LoganCenterExhibitions](#)