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**For Immediate Release.**

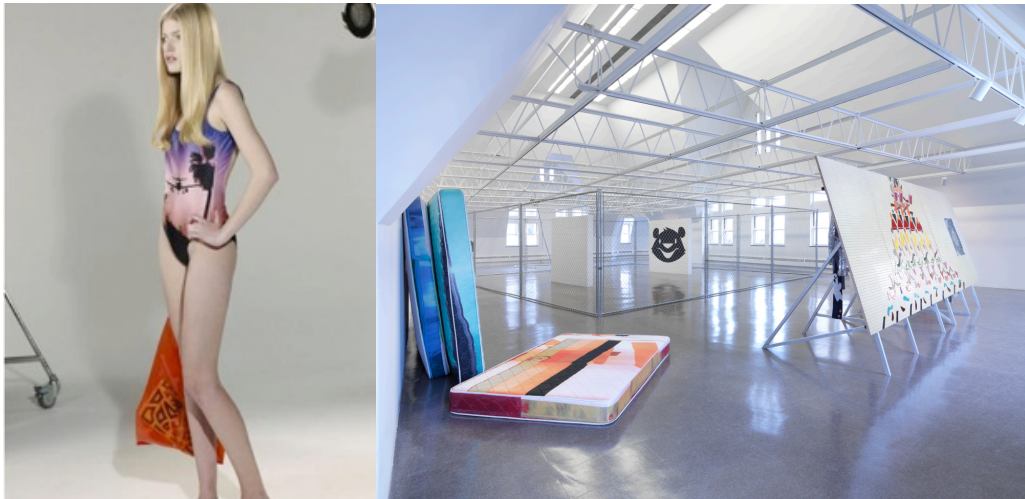
**Exhibition:** *Teen Paranormal Romance*: Kathryn Andrews, Ed Atkins, Chris Bradley, Roe Ethridge, Jill Frank, Guyton Walker, Anna Gray & Ryan Wilson Paulsen, Anna K.E., and Jack Lavender

**Opening reception:** Saturday, April 18, 2015, 6 - 8 pm

**Exhibitions on view:** April 19 – July 12, 2015

**ADMISSION IS FREE**

**West Coast Premiere of *Teen Paranormal Romance*  
at Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara (MCASB)**



**Left to right:** Roe Ethridge, *Louise with Red Bag*, 2011, C-print, 69 ½ x 52 ½ in., Courtesy the Artist and Gagolian Gallery, New York; *Teen Paranormal Romance* Installation View, 2014. Photo: Tom Van Eynde. Courtesy of The Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago.

***Teen Paranormal Romance***

This spring, Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara (MCASB) will host the West Coast premiere of *Teen Paranormal Romance*, a major traveling exhibition organized by Hamza Walker, Associate Curator for The Renaissance Society at The University of Chicago, Illinois. The exhibition features eleven artists whose works function in parallel to the repackaging of the “Teen Romance” genre into “Teen Paranormal Romance,” a pop culture phenomenon that is characterized by contemporary surrealism, psychosexual impulse, and dystopia.

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The exhibition is an indirect response to the popular demand for the Teen Paranormal Romance fiction genre, offering subtle commentary on the darkly influenced zeitgeist that has led to intensified adolescent drives and ideological positions—from aggressive religious prophecy to sexual politics. Exemplified by series such as *Twilight*, *The Hunger Games*, *True Blood*, and the *Divergent Trilogy*, the movement towards this dystopian fiction has rendered the unconscious a derelict playground sprouting weeds of escapist surrealism. *Teen Paranormal Romance* features sculpture, photography, and video works that resonate with the conceptual veins of this widely acclaimed genre. Participating artists include **Kathryn Andrews, Ed Atkins, Chris Bradley, Roe Ethridge, Jill Frank, Guyton Walker, Anna Gray & Ryan Wilson Paulsen, Anna K.E., and Jack Lavender.**

“Since becoming a museum in 2013, Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara seeks to work with highly regarded institutions doing some of today’s most significant curatorial work,” states Miki Garcia, Executive Director and Chief Curator, “and we are honored to host an exhibition from The Renaissance Society with an exhibition that is both timely and relevant to our audience and focus.”

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**About Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara:**

Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara (MCASB) is a non-profit, non-collecting museum dedicated to the exhibition, education, and cultivation of the arts of our time. Formerly Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum (CAF), MCASB is the premier venue for contemporary art between Los Angeles and San Francisco. MCASB is located at the Paseo Nuevo Shopping Center Upper Arts Terrace in downtown Santa Barbara, CA. Visit our second location, MCASB Satellite @ Hotel Indigo Santa Barbara at 121 State Street.

**Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara, 653 Paseo Nuevo, Santa Barbara, CA 93101**

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## **The Renaissance Society**

at The University of Chicago

Exhibition curated by Hamza Walker, Associate Curator at The Renaissance Society, Chicago, Illinois.

Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara (MCASB) exhibition and education programs are generously supported by the National Endowment for the Arts; Nordstrom, Inc.; Towbes Foundation; Dedalus Foundation; Ann Jackson Family Foundation; Community Events & Festivals Grant Program using funds provided by the City of Santa Barbara in partnership with the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission; Mosher Foundation in honor of Barry Berkus, recommended by Dr. Bruce McFadden; Montecito Bank & Trust; High Tide Foundation; and contributions from our Board of Trustees and many generous individuals. MCASB Curator’s Council is gratefully acknowledged for their support. Additional significant support is provided by The James Irvine Foundation; Getty Foundation; Williams-Corbett Foundation; Hutton Parker Foundation/Cox Communications Marketing Grant.

**Special thanks to:** Paseo Nuevo Shopping Center; *Santa Barbara Independent*; Artiste Winery; Sunstone Winery; Telegraph Brewery; and Wayne McCall & Associates.