

t r a n s f o r m e r

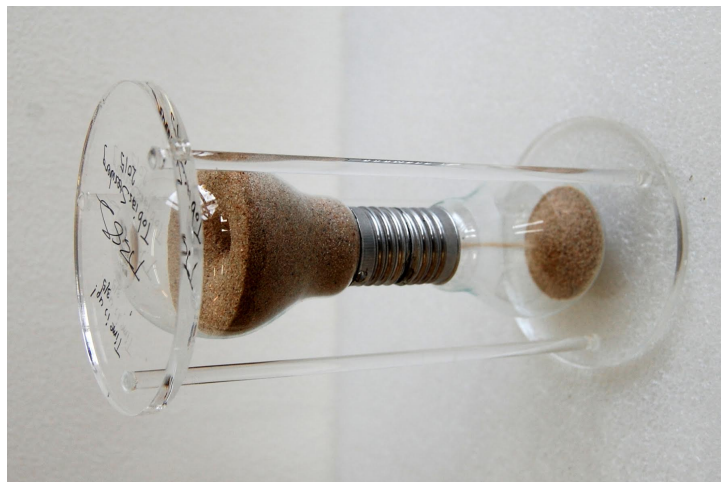
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Temporary Art Repair Shop October 3 – October 31, 2015

Opening Reception:
Saturday, October 3, 6:00 – 8:00pm

FRAMEWORK PANEL #22:
Practice as Product
October 7, 6:30-8:30pm
Goethe Institute
812 7th St NW
Washington, DC 20001



Transformer is pleased to present *The Temporary Art Repair Shop*, an ongoing project conceived of and run by Berlin-based artist **Tobias Sternberg**. Throughout October, Sternberg will reinvent Transformer as an art repair shop and sculptural studio, encouraging the public to drop off an object for repair to be transfigured into a sculptural object by Sternberg.

Hosted by various art institutions and galleries across the world, *The Temporary Art Repair Shop* only appears when an agreement has been reached between Sternberg and a suitable host. In this way, it will surface in different parts of the art world for limited periods of time, perform its function, and then disappear again.

A mix between a simple repair shop and a sculptor's studio, the workshop will take-over Transformer's 1404 P St, NW location and will be staffed by Sternberg and various assistants. DC audiences are invited to come in and present the artist with an object that is broken, faulty, disproportionate, ugly, unsuccessful, inappropriate, and/or in some way not suitable for its intended purpose. Tobias will then use his skills as a sculptor to turn the received objects into artworks.

Recording the objects' faults as a starting point, Sternberg will in no way necessarily attempt to repair the objects, but will instead explore the nature of the problem, allowing it to reveal something about the relationship between its owner and the object. When, and if, finished, the object will be documented and subsequently displayed in the *Temporary Art Repair Shop* until its closing day. There are no guarantees that Tobias will have time to turn every received object into an artwork, but in previous editions, more than half of the visitors got their objects back transformed into art.

On the last day, all participants are invited to collect their sculptures for free. All they need to do is show up with their receipt, and if they feel like it, contribute their impressions of their newly acquired artwork. Photographs of before and after, together with the comments and descriptions collected, are posted on Sternberg's blog for anyone to partake: <http://artrepairshop.com/wordpress/>

The Temporary Art Repair Shop is supported by American University Department of Art, in collaboration with Andy Holtin, Associate Professor of Art and Director of AU's MFA Studio Berlin program.

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Tobias Sternberg is a multidisciplinary visual artist who for the last decade has been active in the European art scene. His prolific output spans installation, sculpture, video, collage, performance and text pieces, all approached however from the dual perspective of a sculptor and a storyteller. Breaking with traditional art market demands to stick to one easily recognizable style, Tobias Sternberg is part of an emerging generation of artists defining themselves by the core interests of their practices rather than the visual surface of their output. At the heart of all his projects lies a playfulness and a dark humor paired with the desire to communicate this with his audience. Sternberg's full artist bio is available at <http://www.tobiassternberg.com>

Image credit: *Time Is Up!*, 2014, Tobias Sternberg

EXHIBITION HOURS: Wednesday-Saturday, 12-6pm and by appointment.

t r a n s f o r m e r is a Washington, DC based 501 (c) 3 artist-centered non-profit visual arts organization, providing a consistent, supportive, and professional platform for emerging artists to explore and present experimental artistic concepts, build audiences for their work, and advance their careers. A catalyst and advocate for contemporary artists and emergent expression in the visual arts, Transformer connects and promotes emerging visual artists within regional, national and international contexts through exhibition and programs partnerships with artists, curators, commercial galleries, museums and other cultural institutions.

t r a n s f o r m e r's 2015/16 Exhibition Series and programs are supported by: The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities/ NEA, The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, The Bernstein Family Foundation, The Robert Lehman Foundation, The CrossCurrents Foundation, The S&R Foundation, The National Endowment for the Arts' Access to Artistic Excellence Award, and The Visionary Friends of Transformer – individual donors, members of our Annual Auction Host Committee, and Corporate Sponsors.