

**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT

Chris Delisle
Curatorial Assistant and Registrar
507-424-3318
cdelisle@rochesterartcenter.org
High-resolution images available upon request.

TEAKI GARCIA: *URHEIMAT* (GUARDIAN)

FEBRUARY 18 – MAY 1, 2016

**OPENING RECEPTION:
FEBRUARY 18, 5 – 6 PM
PEOPLE'S FOOD CO-OP CAFÉ**



Teaki Garcia. *Marathon Runner*, 2015. Courtesy of the artist.

Please note: this exhibition is off-site at the People's Food Co-op Café, 519 1st Ave SW, (507) 289-9061

Building on her previous 2014 RAC2 exhibition *Urheimat* at Rochester Art Center, artist Teaki Garcia continues to explore themes of medicine, nature, and community. As a multi-media artist, she examines American life and culture, looking critically at celebrity culture, art, fashion, movies, spirituality, and popular psychology. Embodying a practice informed by the world in which she lives, her work provides social commentary through textiles, photography, and other media to present a visual lexicon with genuine intent to inspire American culture.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

I was born in Methodist Hospital to a Mayo Clinic psychiatrist. I grew up on Mayowood Road and graduated from Mayo High School—always in close proximity to medicine, nature, and community. William and Charles Mayo informed me about how a legacy is created and carried on. They were celebrities before the current saturation of celebrity culture. The Mayo Brothers had initiative, spirit, and vision. They earned their status from professional and social endeavors. Most current celebrities have little to teach us, as actors, models, and politicians. Their main function is entertainment and promotional activities. My work as a multi-media artist explores American life and culture. It is easy to mock, insult, and criticize the current celebrity culture. America is much more than a surface mix of sound bytes, chaotic politics, and skinny fashion models. I am immersed in American culture: art, fashion, movies, spirituality, and popular psychology. I am not above it. I live with it. My work creates social commentary in textiles, photography, and other media to present a visual lexicon with genuine intent to inspire and aspire American culture, not degrade it. I find the journey of self-creation and our identity, within the greater community, a puzzle to deconstruct.

Locally Grown

Artist Exhibition Series

ROCHESTER ART CENTER

ABOUT LOCALLY GROWN

Rochester Art Center (RAC) and People's Food Co-Op (PFC) are pleased to partner to present the exhibition initiative Locally Grown. This curated series presents artists who have exhibited in Rochester Art Center's local artist series RAC2 (Rochester Area Collaborative) in a second exhibition. Annually, four artists will have the opportunity to create new exhibitions in the Co-Op's welcoming dining space as an innovative outgrowth of their presentation at RAC2.

As the community's appetite for local art and food expands, PFC is an ideal business and space for Rochester Art Center to continue to support artists and reach yet another audience, helping to broaden and shape the cultural landscape of Rochester. This partnership recognizes the many ways in which healthy food and contemporary art are good for you. Together we are serving our community the best in local art and food.

ABOUT ROCHESTER ART CENTER

A leading center for contemporary art, Rochester Art Center is a non-collecting institution located in the heart of Rochester's historic downtown on the Zumbro River. Designed by Hammel, Green and Abrahamson (HGA), the Art Center's simple and clean design works harmoniously with nature – linking the indoors to the outside to create a shimmering complement to the river below. The Art Center shares a connection to Mayo Park with Mayo Civic Center and Rochester Civic Theatre. Founded in 1946, Rochester Art Center presents an ongoing schedule of exhibitions, across a broad spectrum, of new and innovative work by local, regional, national, and international artists; dynamic education programs for all ages; and an active program of community partnerships and visitor engagement initiatives. Rochester Art Center is located at 40 Civic Center Drive SE, Rochester, MN, 55904.

ROCHESTER ART CENTER IS ADMISSION FREE FOR 2016.

Hours are Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday: 10 am – 5 pm, Thursday: 10 am – 9 pm; Sunday: 12 noon – 5 pm.

For more information, please call 507-282-8629 or visit www.rochesterartcenter.org.