



RADIANT GAMBIT

CURATED BY SHANNON BAILEY & EMILY ALLRED

THE HARVING



*J. Bailey*

Chief Curator, World Chess Hall of Fame

The World Chess Hall of Fame is honored to present the work of Keith Haring in this exhibition, which includes work spanning the entirety of his career. *Keith Haring: Radiant Gambit* includes original Haring prints from a private collector and the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum in Saint Louis, two chess sets created posthumously by the Keith Haring Foundation, photography of the famed artist from Allan Tannenbaum, four bespoke chess sets created by prominent street artists through Purling London, and newly-commissioned work by four regional artists inspired by chess and Keith Haring.

Vilac, a century-old French company that specializes in wooden toys that has worked closely with the Foundation on making Haring-inspired products, created the set. These proceeds continue to promote Haring's legacy including children's hospitals and AIDS research. These dynamic wooden chess pieces feature imagery from Haring's work and harken back to centuries of craftsmen and artists who have created chess pieces representing artistic figures and a simple language that anyone can relate to or play with—another goal that Haring had with his own artwork.

*Keith Haring: Radiant Gambit* is the WCHOF's third collaboration with Pan Art Connections, Inc. The WCHOF has previously worked with them to present shows of artwork by renowned artists Victor Vasarely and M.C. Escher. This will mark only the third time that there has been a solo exhibition of Haring's work in Saint Louis.

During Haring's lifetime, he created work addressing important issues including racism, the gay rights movement, and the AIDS pandemic. Many of these subjects are represented in this exhibition alongside exuberant depictions of contemporary culture filtered through his system of familiar symbols: dancing figures, crawling radiant babies, UFOs, and dogs. We hope that you enjoy this selection of his work and feel inspired.



*Emily Allred*

Curator, World Chess Hall of Fame

The mission of the World Chess Hall of Fame is to make chess accessible to everyone, especially children, and to make the game fun for all. Keith Haring believed "Art is for everybody," creating chalk drawings in New York's subway system and establishing his Pop Shop, where anyone could obtain some of his artwork at an affordable price. He loved children and their raw imagination and worked with kids all over the world on art projects. He also completed numerous commissions in children's hospitals and orphanages, where his playful murals and sculptures still exist today.

Two chess sets have been created posthumously through the Keith Haring Foundation. The most recent one is sold by the Museum of Modern Art.

# KEITH HARING

(By Shannon Bailey, Chief Curator.

Special thanks to the Keith Haring Foundation and Katherine Wright, PhD, for providing content for this biography.)



## KEITH HARING

Keith Haring (1958-1990) emerged as the shooting star of the New York art scene in the 1980s. Becoming world famous almost overnight, his simply drawn figures were soon to be found on watches and cars, T-shirts, and shopping bags, turning Haring into one of the best-known artists of his generation.

He was born in Reading, Pennsylvania, on May 4, 1958, and was raised in nearby Kutztown. As a child, Haring developed a love for drawing. He was fascinated by the cartoon art of Walt Disney and Charles Schultz and the illustrations of Dr. Seuss. He graduated from high school in 1976 and studied at the Ivy School of Art in Pittsburgh, a commercial arts school. After dropping out, after two semesters, he continued to create art and had a solo exhibition at the Pittsburgh Arts and Crafts Center in 1978.

In 1978, Haring moved to New York City to attend the School of Visual Arts. He then discovered a thriving alternative art community that was developing outside of the formal museum and gallery

setting but rather in the streets of downtown New York, clubs, and the subways. He became friends with fellow artists Kenny Scharf and Jean-Michel Basquiat, musicians such as Madonna, and other performance and graffiti artists who comprised the burgeoning art community. Haring thrived with this crowd and energy and began exhibiting in and organizing exhibitions and performances in alternative spaces.

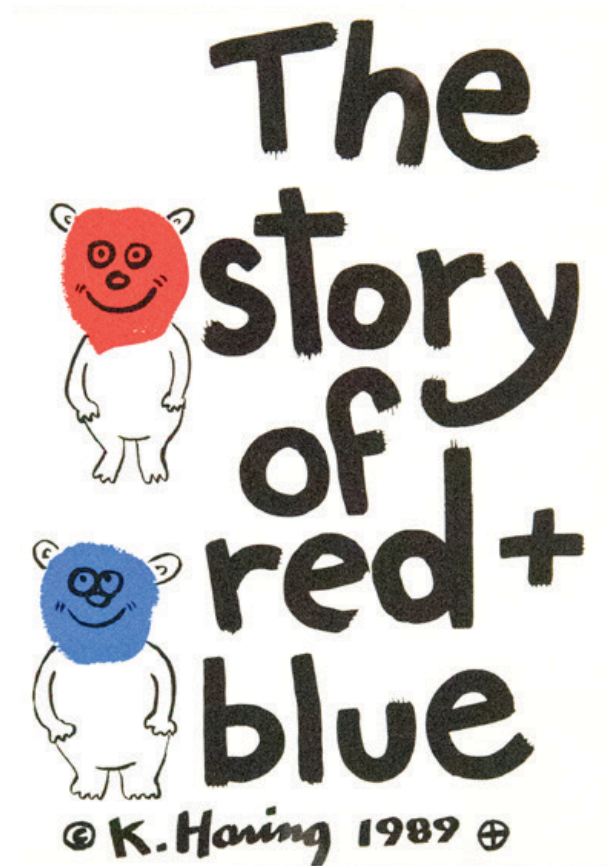
In addition to being impressed by the innovation and energy of his contemporaries, Haring was also inspired by the work of Jean Dubuffet, Pierre Alechinsky, William Burroughs, Brion Gysin, and Robert Henri's manifesto *The Art Spirit*, which asserted the fundamental independence of the artist. With these influences Haring was able to push his own youthful impulses toward a singular kind of graphic expression based on the primacy of the line. Also drawn to the public and participatory nature of Christo's work, in particular *Running Fence*, and by Andy Warhol's unique fusion of art and life, Haring

Keith Haring  
**Self Portrait, edition 7/25**  
1986  
6 x 6 in.  
Silkscreen  
Private Collection

Art Merchandising & Media AG  
**Chess Set**  
2001  
King size: 1 7/16 in.  
Board: 18 5/16 x 18 in.  
Resin and cardboard  
Collection of the World Chess Hall of Fame

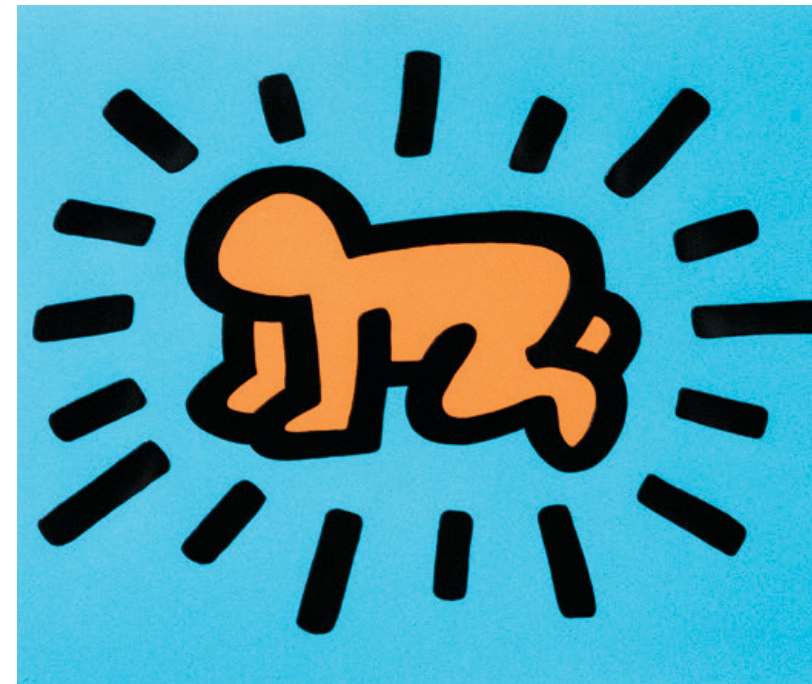


Keith Haring  
**Untitled**  
c. 1980-1985  
38 x 27 in.  
Chalk on paper  
Private Collection



Keith Haring  
**The Story of Red and Blue,**  
**edition 86/90**  
1989  
22 x 16 ½ in.  
Lithograph  
Private Collection

## KEITH HARING



Keith Haring  
**Untitled (from the Icons print series), edition 157/250**  
1990  
21 x 25 in.  
Silkscreen  
Private Collection

was determined to devote his career to creating a truly public art.

In 1980, Haring received public attention with his public art in subways. He had found a highly effective medium that allowed him to communicate his work with a wider audience, and he created white chalk drawings on the unused advertising panels covered with matte black paper in subway stations. He considered the subways to be his "laboratory." Between 1980 and 1985, he produced hundreds of

these "subway drawings." His signature images included dancing figures, a "radiant baby" (a crawling infant emitting rays of light), a barking dog, a flying saucer, large hearts, and figures with televisions for heads. These graffiti drawings became familiar to New York commuters, who would often stop to engage with the artist. He also attracted the attention of the city authorities which arrested him for vandalism on numerous occasions. Between 1980 and 1989, Haring achieved international recognition



## KEITH HARING

and participated in numerous group and solo exhibitions. His first solo exhibition in New York was held at the Westbeth Painters Space in 1981. In 1982, he made his Soho gallery debut with an immensely popular and highly acclaimed one-man exhibition at the Tony Shafrazi Gallery. During this period, he also participated in renowned international survey exhibitions such as Documenta 7 in Kassel, the São Paulo Biennial, and the Whitney Biennial. Haring completed numerous public projects in the first half of the 1980s as well, ranging from an animation for the *Spectacolor* billboard in Times Square, designing sets and backdrops for theaters and clubs, developing watch designs for Swatch and an advertising campaign for Absolut vodka; and creating murals worldwide.

In 1986, Haring opened a retail store called the Pop Shop in Soho, New York in order to provide people greater access to his art at a low

price point. The shop sold T-shirts, posters, magnets, toys, and buttons bearing his images. Haring believed that the entire shop was a piece of his art and painted black and white murals throughout the entire space.

Throughout his career, Haring devoted much of his time to public works, which often carried social messages. He produced more than 50 public artworks between 1982 and 1989, in dozens of cities around the world, many of which were created for charities, hospitals, children's day care centers and orphanages. The now famous *Crack is Wack* mural of 1986 has become a landmark along New York's FDR Drive. Other projects include: a mural created for the 100th anniversary of the Statue of Liberty in 1986, on which Haring worked with 900 children; a mural on the exterior of Necker Children's Hospital in Paris, France, in 1987; and a mural painted on the western side of the Berlin Wall three years

Keith Haring

**Untitled (from the Icons print series), edition 157/250**

1990

21 x 25 in.

Silkscreen

Private Collection

**KEITH HARING**

Keith Haring  
**Untitled (from the Icons print series), edition 157/250**  
1990  
21 x 25 in.  
Silkscreen  
Private Collection

before its fall. Haring also held drawing workshops for children in schools and museums in New York, Amsterdam, London, Tokyo, and Bordeaux, and produced imagery for many literacy programs and other public service campaigns.

Throughout his brief career, Haring was featured in more than a hundred solo and group exhibitions and produced more than 50 public artworks in cities around the world many of which were created for charities, orphanages, hospitals and children's day care centers. He also designed around 85 posters. These included advertisements for

exhibitions of his own work as well as cultural events or political issues. Haring's drawings themselves incorporate the clear cut lines and reduced features needed for effective posters, which have to stand out and be understood at a glance. The uni-colored backgrounds help to make the outlined figures and drawings even clearer. The content of the advertisement is apparent in the illustration—the text being of secondary importance. Haring's colorful posters, with their precise pictorial language, direct messages, and universal appeal, still exert an incomparable fascination on us to this day.

Keith Haring  
**Untitled, edition 5/24**  
1986  
54 x 98 in.  
Aquatint  
Private Collection



## KEITH HARING

Haring was socially conscious, and his murals often reflected his position on social issues. He sought to raise awareness of AIDS and fought against the proliferation of illegal drugs.

In 1988, he was diagnosed with AIDS. The following year, he created the Keith Haring Foundation in order to raise awareness of AIDS and to provide funding to AIDS organizations and children's programs, which is still in operation today. They continue to promote his artwork and his messages through the support of exhibitions, like this one at the World Chess Hall of Fame, various publications, and the licensing of his images.

Keith Haring died of AIDS-related complications on February 16, 1990, at the age of 31. During his very brief career his work was featured in over 100 solo and group exhibitions. In 1986 alone, he was the subject of more than 40 newspaper and magazine articles. He was

highly sought after to participate in collaborative projects, and worked with artists and performers as diverse as Madonna, Grace Jones, Bill T. Jones, William Burroughs, Timothy Leary, Jenny Holzer, Yoko Ono, and Andy Warhol.

By expressing universal concepts of birth, death, love, sex, and war, using a primacy of line and directness of message, Haring was able to attract a wide audience and assure the accessibility and staying power of his imagery, which has become a universally recognized visual language of the 20th and 21st centuries. His work is part of significant private and public collections including the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, the Carnegie Museum of Art, The Andy Warhol Museum, and the Stedelijk. His murals still exist throughout the world.

Vilac

### Keith Haring Chess Set

2019

King size: 2 ½ in.

Board: 7/16 x 11 ¾ x 11 ¾ in.

Wood

Collection of the World Chess Hall of Fame

Photo by Austin Fuller

# ALLAN Tannenbaum (Keith Haring Photographer)

## ALLAN TANNENBAUM

Born in Passaic, New Jersey, in 1945, Allan Tannenbaum has been photographing since the 1960s. He graduated from Rutgers University and later taught photography and filmmaking there. Gravitating to the nascent art scene in the SoHo district of Manhattan, Tannenbaum worked as a taxi driver and bartender while looking for work as a photographer. When the *SoHo Weekly News* commenced publication in 1973, Tannenbaum became the photo editor and chief photographer. The newspaper started out as an eight-page free paper, but soon became a popular newsstand seller that rivaled the established *Village Voice*. Tannenbaum relentlessly covered the art world, music scene, politics, show business, and nightlife. This lasted until 1982 when the *SoHo News* folded.

After the *Soho News* closed in 1982, Allan started photographing as a freelancer for Sygma Photo News.

His interest in the art world continued, and he realized that Keith Haring was a phenomenon and that he would make a very visual photo story. Tannenbaum knew Haring's art dealer, Tony Shafrazi, and approached him about photographing Keith. Tannenbaum states: "So I had good access, especially to be able to photograph Keith working in his studio, I brought my lighting equipment and photographed him painting, and I also made some nice portraits. He was very open and cooperative. I don't recall much in terms of conversation, but he was a pleasure to work with, and I think the photographs show that."

Tannenbaum's work has appeared in many photo books and exhibitions, as well as appearing regularly in *Newsweek*, *Time*, *LIFE*, and *Rolling Stone*.

Tannenbaum lives with his wife Debora in Manhattan.



Patrick McMullan

**Allan Tannenbaum and  
Vivienne Westwood**  
2006

Photograph ©Patrick McMullan





Allan Tannenbaum  
**Keith Haring in his Studio**  
1983  
Photograph  
Courtesy of Allan Tannenbaum

Allan Tannenbaum  
**Keith Haring Painting an Untitled Mural on Houston Street**  
1982  
Photograph  
Courtesy of Allan Tannenbaum

Allan Tannenbaum  
**Keith Haring at Work in his New York Studio**  
1982  
Photograph  
Courtesy of Allan Tannenbaum

Allan Tannenbaum  
**Keith Haring Solo Exhibition at the Tony Shafrazi Gallery in SoHo**  
1982  
Photograph  
Courtesy of Allan Tannenbaum



# Art Chess

(By Purling London)

The World Chess Hall of Fame is once again collaborating with the critically-acclaimed games maker Purling London. Art Chess by Purling London are sets individually hand-painted by specially-commissioned British and international artists. For *Keith Haring: Radiant Gambit*, Purling Founder Simon Purkis chose these four artists to participate because of the influence that Keith Haring had on their careers.

## ART CHESS BY PURLING LONDON



**Darren John**

Darren John

### **Parallax Intervention 4.0**

2019

King size: 4 in.

Board: 21 5/8 x 21 5/8 in.

Boxwood, acrylic paint, lacquer,

Nappa leather, and 18-karat gold

Courtesy of Purling London

## **BIOGRAPHY**

Darren John is a London-based artist known for his bold, visceral paintings that explore and celebrate the untamed creative spirit. John's work embraces the bright colors and forms of childhood creativity—vibrant imagery that is universally recognizable and impossible to ignore.

John has had solo exhibitions at Proof Gallery, London; Upstairs Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent; Boxpark, London; as well as solo presentations at Moniker Art Fair (2016) and Clerkenwell Design Week (2017). His work has been included in the group exhibitions *Save Your Selves*, Stour Space, London (2016); *Pick Me Up*, Somerset House, London (2016); *California Soul*, Royal Academy of Arts, London (2015); *Stay Sharp*, Station, Denver (2015); *Interior Exterior*, Square & Friends, Queensland (2015); and *Ich Bin In Berlin*, Urban Spree, Berlin (2014).

## **ABOUT THE ARTWORK**

"What I enjoy most about fusing artwork with a chess set is the hide and seek dynamic that is created with the black squares...In using 'portals' or 'windows' as tools to transport the imagination, viewers can decipher what they see on their own terms. This mirrors a powerful mindset that I champion in my work—the more you look, the more you see. When we re-imagine our surroundings, we open doors to new thoughts and creative opportunities."

"I remember having seen Keith Haring's work long before knowing much about it. Visually, I was an instant fan...It wasn't until much later...that I felt a really special bond with his output. Keith's passion towards making art accessible...is so inspiring for me...I often like to think that great artists from history who are no longer with us in body, are very much with us in spirit. When an artist's output comes from a true reflection of their being, they can empower many others to continue to fly the flag for the same values and ideas."



## ART CHESS BY PURLING LONDON

## BIOGRAPHY

LA2/LAROC is the tag of a graffiti extraordinaire from the Lower East Side of New York City. His tags can be found all around the city and are always a part of his creations. In his early teens, LA2 befriended Keith Haring, an up-and-coming artist, who was attending The School of Visual Arts in NYC. Interpreting LA2's thick intermingling contours as completely original homage to ancient eastern calligraphy, Haring was determined to find the person behind the tag. After he did, the two collaborated for six years, influencing each other's work.



After meeting LA2, Haring's career took off. With his characters and LA2's styles, graffiti was now accepted in galleries and museums around the world. They created artwork on found objects such as canvases, sculptures, vases, and walls. LA2 has also collaborated with other accomplished artists such as Richard Hambleton, Alexander Calder, Kenny Scharf, Stik, and Mark Kostabi. LA2 continues to exhibit his work around the world and lives in New York City, where he has his gallery.

## Angel Ortiz aka LA2/LAROC

## ABOUT THE ARTWORK

"I just love colors, and Keith loved colors too...I love the rich blend of gold and black...I wanted a good drip, therefore, with a thick white marker, I did a nice heavy tag. And then let it all drip. I knew it'd pop out. I want the chess pieces to be beautiful, so whoever plays chess with it can also enjoy my creation."

LA2

### Fire & Ice

2020

King size: 4 in.

Board: 21 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 21 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> in.

Boxwood, acrylic paint, acrylic spray paint, lacquer, Nappa leather, and 18-karat gold

Courtesy of Purling London

"I always think of Keith. I thank him for seeing something different in my tags...and somehow he knew that it would enhance his art. I was only 14 [when we met], and I was tagging since I was eight. On the first piece we collaborated (*Taxi Hood*) he sold it for \$1,400 and gave me half. He told me he wanted to continue collaborating with me. From then on we got our first show at Tony Shafrazi and traveled to Europe to exhibit. If it wasn't for Keith Haring, may he rest in peace, I would have never known of my artistic talent. He inspired my creativity. I learned through him that I can exhibit, and that collectors liked my style. I love Keith's style. His characters are so awesome; it was a perfect match. I miss him every day!"



## ART CHESS BY PURLING LONDON

Sickboy

### Table of Contents

2019

King size: 4 in.

Board: 21 5/8 x 21 5/8 in.

Boxwood, acrylic paint, lacquer,

Nappa leather, and 18-karat gold

Courtesy of Purling London

## BIOGRAPHY

A leading artist to emerge from Bristol's infamous graffiti scene, Sickboy's humorous works have cemented his place in the upper echelons of the British street art movement. He is one of the first UK artists to use a logo in place of a tag, and his red and yellow street logo known as 'The Temple' and his 'Save the Youth' slogan can be seen on walls and dumpsters worldwide. Sickboy has built up one of the largest bodies of street art works in UK history, which has led to him being tipped by the leading financial press as one of the movement's most bankable artists.



His work hit the big screen in Banksy's Oscar-nominated film, *Exit Through the Gift Shop* (2010). His major London solo show in 2008 and audacious stunts—including the caged heart installation dropped outside the Tate Modern—have landed him global recognition.

## ABOUT THE ARTWORK

"I wanted to create a comic abstraction of my canvas works that could be applied to a three-dimensional piece. To me, aside from chess being a game, there is artistry and message in the sculptural elements of the pieces...whilst playing the game, the positions of the pieces constantly change. I see the individual pieces such as the king, queen, and pawn as moving 'highlights' on a two-dimensional painting. Combining both three- and two-dimensional elements for *Table of Contents* has been an exciting and interesting process."

"Keith Haring has been a huge inspiration. I feel that acknowledging and honoring early train painting graffiti in New York, which was largely part of the black and Latino culture, inadvertently led him to create what became the embryonic stages of street art culture. His ability to transform his imagery into a visual language that attracted many and grew in popularity was a huge inspiration to my own street art style. Without a doubt, my early 'LOGOPOP' shows in London and the painting of my 'Temple' logo on the streets around the world were conceptually spring-boarded by Keith Haring's pop iconography."



## Thierry Noir

Thierry Noir

### **Chess Noir II**

2020

King size: 4 in.

Board: 21 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 21 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> in.

Boxwood, acrylic paint, lacquer,  
leather, 18-karat gold

Collection of Robert Kalisiak

### **BIOGRAPHY**

Thierry Noir was born in 1958 in Lyon, France, and went to Berlin in January 1982. In April 1984, Noir began to paint the Berlin Wall and is credited as being the first artist to do so. His objective was to perform one real revolutionary act: to paint the Berlin wall. Since the 1980s, Noir's exploits and highly distinctive visual language have become world famous and immortalised in popular culture such as Wim Wenders' 1987 film *The Wings of Desire* and the cover of U2's album *Achtung Baby*. Today, He is increasingly recognized as a key forerunner of the modern street art movement.

### **ABOUT THE ARTWORK**

"Chess is more than a game. If you consider that life is a game, then chess is like life; complicated and simple at the same time. Everything is in chess: sport, strategy, politics, warm and cold feeling, tragedy, error, joy and sadness, doubt and certainty. This piece looks like street painting and especially the Berlin Wall painting that started my life as an artist in April 1984."

On July 4, 1986, Thierry Noir and Christophe Bouchet painted a series of images of the Statue of Liberty on the Berlin Wall near Checkpoint Charlie in honor of the sculpture's 100th anniversary. "On October 23, 1986...I heard on the radio that Keith Haring was in Berlin to paint the Wall at Checkpoint Charlie. I went there and I saw that my statues were all gone...I talked with Keith about this, and he was embarrassed and apologised to me. He said that 'in New York you can get killed for that.' He was invited over for just a couple of days and the section of Wall had been prepared for him with a yellow base that went over the statues that I had painted...I was angry but it was not his fault. Keith was a great guy and a great artist."



**STL**  
**ARTISTS**  
 (Haring and his Legacy)



As part of *Keith Haring: Radiant Gambit*, the World Chess Hall of Fame invited four Saint Louis artists to contribute to the exhibition. They took inspiration from the art and life of Keith Haring and the game of chess to create a diverse array of artwork, ranging from murals to an illuminated chess set.

Austin Fuller  
**Saint Louis Artists**  
 2020



**SAINT LOUIS ARTISTS**

**BIOGRAPHY**

Dail Chambers is a visual artist and creative consultant. Her visual art practice is a multimedia exploration in genealogy, women's narratives, and social art. Chambers received her BFA with a concentration in ceramics from the Memphis College of Art in 2007 and completed Postgraduate Studies in Women's Studies at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. As a homeschooling, teaching artist, she has traveled internationally, implementing lesson plans to enhance and motivate intergenerational learning environments.

In 2010, Chambers founded Yeyo Arts Collective, which is dedicated

to women's art and topics surrounding women's issues, including family, youth, and community. She has exhibited her work locally, across the country, and internationally, at locations including the Memphis College of Art Gallery, Intersect Arts Gallery, a Prospect New Orleans Satellite site, the Arcade Contemporary Art Projects Gallery, and in Arusha, Tanzania. Chambers has also received numerous awards and fellowships throughout the United States. Her work is in the permanent collection of the Missouri Historical Society.

Austin Fuller  
**Dail Chambers**  
2020





## IN THE SHADOWS OF THE QUEEN'S THRONE

### SAINT LOUIS ARTISTS



#### ARTIST STATEMENT

*In the Shadows of the Queen's Throne* explores the history of chess through symbolism, abstract expressionism, and African-centered aesthetics. Dail Chambers uses polyrhythm, or the layering of different rhythms, to tell the stories of "the many," countless individuals who collectively are one. Here they are represented in repeated patterns arranged in registers, reflecting the aesthetics of ancient Egyptian art.

Like Haring, Chambers reaches to the imagery of ancient Egypt to make connections between contemporary and historical events.

The piece contains references to senet, one of the world's oldest board games, which emerged in Egypt 5,000 years ago. Originally a secular game, senet soon gained associations with the soul's journey through the afterlife. In the left and right panels are Seshat and Thoth, two figures from ancient Egypt who are associated with writing, wisdom, and language. Flowing like a scarf from the queen's neck is a river, representing both the Nile in Egypt and the Mississippi in the United States, connecting the experiences of people in ancient Egypt and Nubia with those of the African diaspora.

Dail Chambers

#### **In the Shadows of the Queen's Throne**

2020

10 x 8 ft.

Paint, cotton, and wood panels  
Collection of the World Chess Hall of Fame

Austin Fuller

#### **Dail Chambers**

2020

# STAN CHISHOLM



## SAINT LOUIS ARTISTS

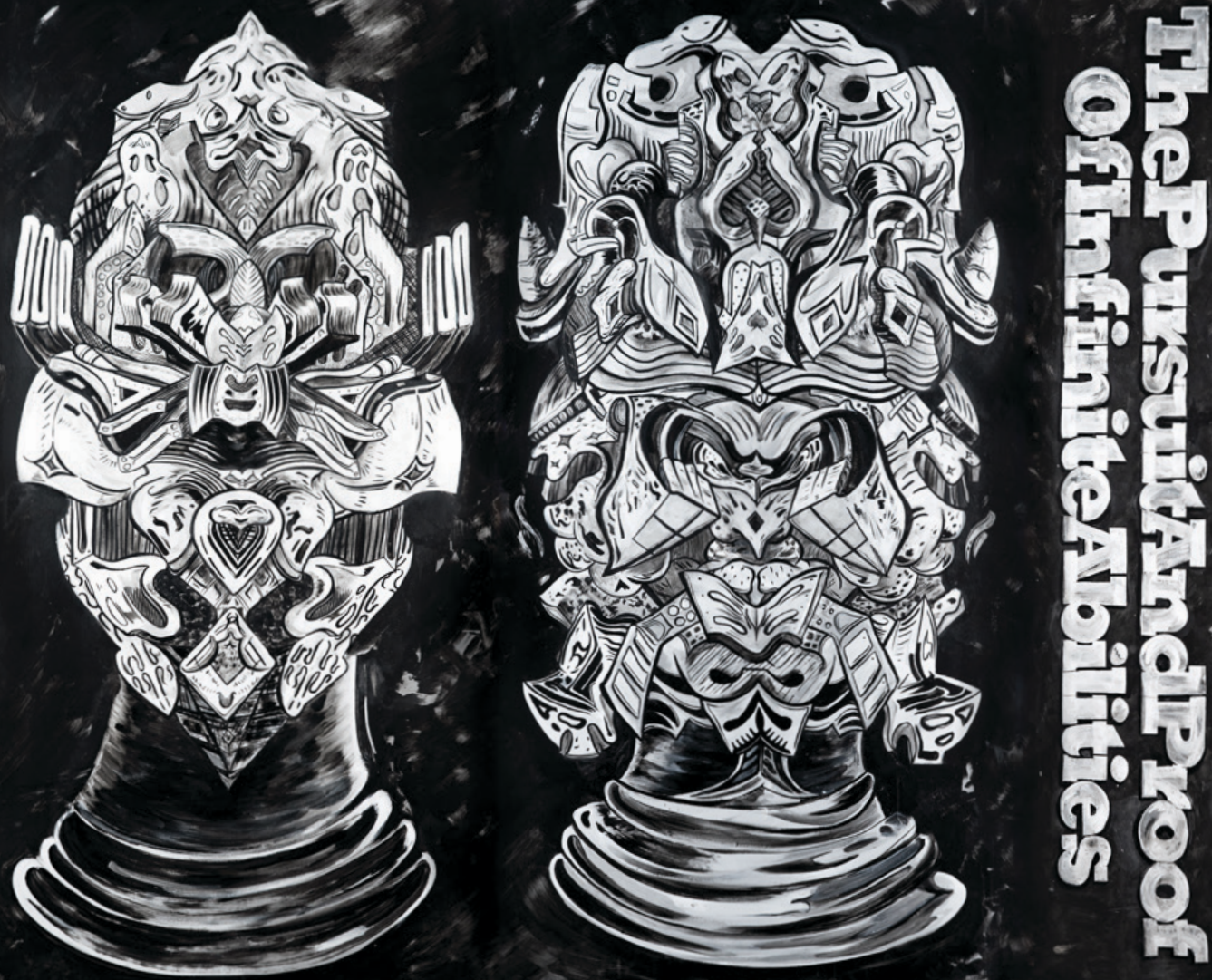
### BIOGRAPHY

South Saint Louis native Stan Chisholm works under the alias 18andCounting, building himself as an experimental music producer and multidisciplinary visual artist and educator. In 2009, he earned his Bachelors of Fine Arts from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Chisholm's visual work takes an abstracted or socio-critical perspective using an ever-changing array of themes including character design, graphic abstraction, and text. Sonically, he produces hardware-driven tones of electronic and hip-hop genres with low tolerance for pop tactics.

During any given week, one may catch Chisholm's boisterous, strictly-vinyl DJ sets. In 2018, he served as the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis' first ever DJ-in-residence. Chisholm was the first Regional Arts Commission: Artists Count Fellow, and he has painted two murals at City Museum. He was a founding member of Blank Space and has served as an arts educator for children through Art Scope and Kairos Academies. Chisholm has exhibited at Laumeier Sculpture Park, The Hyde Park Art Center, 1st Amendment Gallery, and Hoffman-LaChance Contemporary, among other venues.

Austin Fuller  
**Stan Chisholm**  
2020

# THE PURSUIT AND PROOF OF INFINITE ABILITIES



The Pursuit and Proof of Infinite Abilities

## SAINT LOUIS ARTISTS



### ARTIST STATEMENT

It's simple meets exponential. A hypervision of Chisholm's distinct graphic abstractions mutated by symmetry then wedged like an interruption onto the base of two Staunton chess pieces. This chemistry allows the viewer's choice of placement, purpose, and/or appreciation. The unabashed luxurious flow and format is akin to knight's armor, tribal patterns, gaudy chessboards, civic and sacred symbols, architecture, digital design, and appropriation within nearly every level of fashion. Perhaps they are ornate and flashy as a form of intimidation, in the name of juicy competition or self expression.

Chisholm's bias towards a black and white palette lays naturally into the poetics of the game.

Like Keith Haring, improvised decisions define Chisholm's playbook. That process engages with the pursuit and proof of infinite abilities. In this painting, are there two individuals attempting to represent the rest of the board? Or one that went on to create its own identity then decided it could only be respected with an opponent? Soak in the inspiration to find and flex your freedom, while knowing the power of being well-timed, concise, and consistent.

Stan Chisholm

### The Pursuit and Proof of Infinite Abilities

2020

8 x 10 ft.

Acrylic paint, enamel paint, and wood panels

Collection of the World Chess Hall of Fame

Photo by Austin Fuller

Austin Fuller

### Stan Chisholm

2020



**SAINT LOUIS ARTISTS**

**BIOGRAPHY**

Born in Tel Aviv, Edo Rosenblith received his BFA in painting in 2011 at the Rhode Island School of Design and his MFA in Visual Art at Washington University in 2017. Rosenblith has exhibited throughout Saint Louis at The Contemporary Art Museum: Gallery 210 at the University of Missouri St. Louis; The Luminary; Fort Gondo; projects+gallery; Parapet Real Humans, and Center of Creative Arts. He has exhibited nationally at Ortega Y Gasset Projects in Brooklyn; The International Print Center, New York;

The Elmhurst Museum, Chicago and internationally, at Jenifer Nails Gallery, Frankfurt and Weserburg Museum, Bremen, Germany. His first book, *PINK*, was published by Fort Gondo Press in 2013. Rosenblith has been awarded the Cite Residency Artist Grant, Regional Arts Commission Artist Support Grant, and The Rauschenberg Foundation "Power of Art" Grant. In 2019 Rosenblith joined Monaco, an artist-run gallery located on Cherokee Street. Rosenblith lives and works in Saint Louis.

Austin Fuller

**Edo Rosenblith**  
2020



## FLESH & FIRE (CHESS IN HELL)

### SAINT LOUIS ARTISTS



### ARTIST STATEMENT

*Flesh & Fire (Chess in Hell)* was inspired by two of Rosenblith's favorite Haring works, *Once upon a Time* and *Untitled, 1984*. The general public tends to think of Haring only as a kind of fun-loving pop artist. In reality author Alexandra Kolossa notes that a "not insignificant proportion of his paintings are concerned with violence and threats, death and sexual oppression." Rosenblith states that in *Untitled, 1984* you see Haring visualizing Hell, a biblical construct that historically has given artists free reign to render the most grotesque scenarios they can imagine. With that in mind, I

created an image of two figures trapped in an endless chess match with only one major piece to play with, the white king."

Like many muralists, Rosenblith's work is informed by Haring's brief but intense legacy. Writer and curator Jessica Baran spoke about Haring's influence on Rosenblith's work, writing in 2018, "Rosenblith's murals, in my mind, fall in the tradition of someone like Keith Haring, whose own cosmology and graphic public works acted as visionary beacons for a minority community beset by illness, rising conservatism and state-sanctioned brutality."

Edo Rosenblith  
**Flesh & Fire (Chess in Hell)**  
 2020  
 8 x 10 ft.  
 Acrylic paint, house paint, and wood panels  
 Collection of the World Chess Hall of Fame  
 Photo by Austin Fuller

Austin Fuller  
**Edo Rosenblith**  
 2020

# PEAT EYEZ WOLLAEGER



## SAINT LOUIS ARTISTS

### BIOGRAPHY

Saint Louis native Peat EYEZ Wollaeger is an internationally-known stencil graffiti artist famous for his signature EYEZ. They can be found around the city of Saint Louis, bringing life to inanimate objects on the streets, his murals, galleries, and the clothing in his EYEZbrand line. Wollaeger believes in public art as a way to beautify a community, to shape people's lives, and to introduce art to people who may never step into a gallery. Most importantly, he believes art transforms cities and improves people's quality of life. He documents the

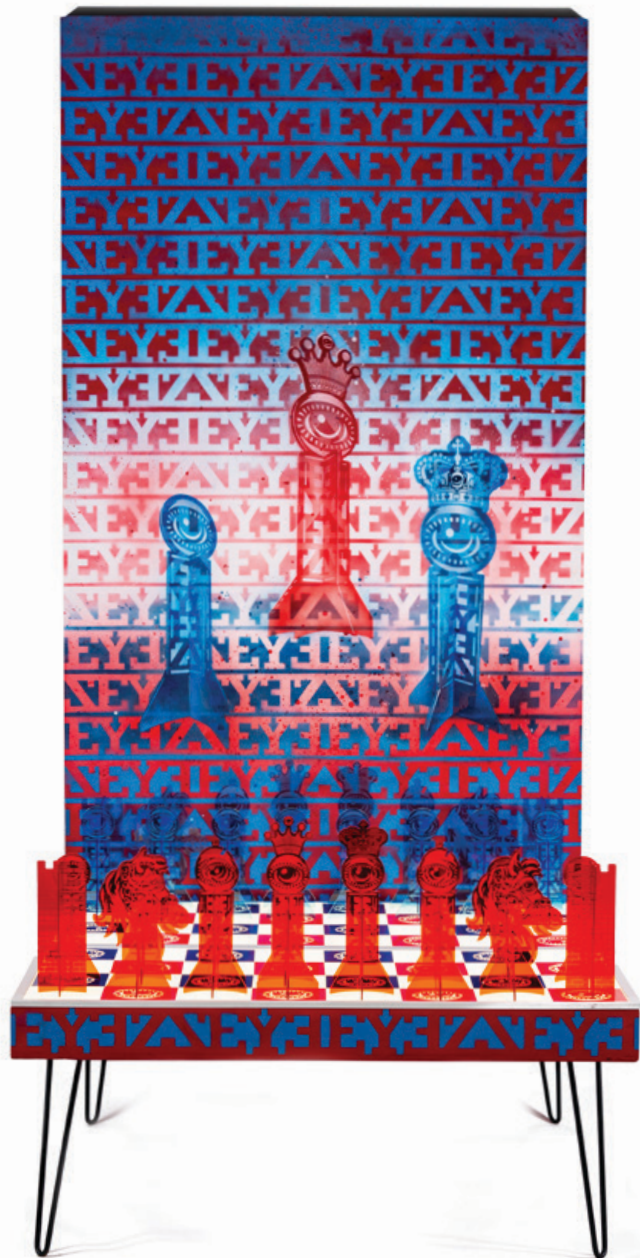
process of creating his artwork in short time-lapse videos, helping his audience understand the stencil process and his creative passion to wake up this world.

Wollaeger has created and exhibited artwork in Melbourne, Australia, as well as in the United States from the Welling Court Mural Project in Queens, New York; to Art Basel in Miami, Florida; and the Hotel des Arts In San Francisco, California. He has also created murals throughout the Saint Louis region, from Old North to Carondelet.

Austin Fuller  
**Peat EYEZ Wollaeger**  
2020



## EYEZ ON CHESS...ILLUMINATED



## SAINT LOUIS ARTISTS



### ARTIST STATEMENT

Peat EYEZ Wollaeger created *EYEZ on Chess*, a chess set featuring transparent red and blue pieces cut from sheets of plexiglass and engraved using his laser cutter. He also built the board with two LED light panels with the help of electrician Steve Whetstone, illuminating the plexi for a one-of-a-kind chessboard experience.

Keith Haring serves as a major influence for Wollaeger, shaping his color palette and motivation to beautify the streets. He discovered

Haring's work while attending a summer art program at Pratt Institute when he was in high school. Wollaeger dressed as Haring and painted a tribute to him at Art Basel in honor of his 50th birthday, and he helped save the last surviving Haring mural in Australia from demolition by painting a tribute to the artist nearby. The Keith Haring Foundation saw the article, purchased the building and restored the mural, and invited Wollaeger to visit Haring's studio as a thank you for his efforts.

Peat EYEZ Wollaeger

**EYEZ on Chess...Illuminated**  
2020

King size: 13 ½ in.

Board: 48 x 48 x 20 ½ in.

Engraved acrylic, vinyl, wood, metal, and LED system

Collection of the World Chess Hall of Fame

Photo by Austin Fuller

Austin Fuller

**Peat EYEZ Wollaeger**  
2020

# **Keith Haring: Radiant Gambit** November 19, 2020 - May 16, 2021

The World Chess Hall of Fame acknowledges Dr. Jeanne Cairns Sinquefield and Rex Sinquefield, whose generous support makes our exhibitions possible.

## **Special Thanks to:**

The World Chess Hall of Fame would like to thank all of the talented and generous people who contributed to this exhibition including:

Our lenders and artistic contributors, Paul and Anna Belinda Firos and Nicholas T. Kondoprias with Pan Art Connections, Inc.; Allan Tannenbaum; Muna Tseng Dance Projects, Inc.; Sabine Eckmann PhD. of The Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, Washington University in St. Louis; and Consulting Curator, Katherine J. Wright, PhD.

Our partners and artists at Purling London: Simon Purkis, Founder and Director; Colm Mulligan, Operations Manager; Nette Robinson; and Darren John; LA2; Thierry Noir; and Sickboy.

Our Saint Louis Artists: Dail Chambers, Stan Chisolm, Edo Rosenblith, and Peat EYEZ Wollaeger.

Curated by Shannon Bailey, Chief Curator, and Emily Allred, Curator, World Chess Hall of Fame.



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Donations support our exhibitions, education, outreach, and events.

**Cover image:** Allan Tannenbaum, **Keith Poses with Models Wearing Clothing Painted Keith Haring and LA2 (Angel Ortiz) at his Solo Exhibition Opening at the Tony Shafrazi Gallery in SoHo**, 1982, Photograph Courtesy of Allan Tannenbaum

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# KETH HARING

RADIANT

GAMBIT