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**Media Contacts**  
Dervla McDonnell, Executive Director  
futuretenant@gmail.com  
443-519-6256

**UPCOMING EXHIBITION AT FUTURE TENANT HIGHLIGHTS INNOVATIONS IN COLLAGE AND ASSEMBLAGE ART**

*New Order: Collage Now features the work of Pittsburgh local artists exploring diverse topics through a common medium*

PITTSBURGH—Since the modernist works of Kurt Schwitters and Georges Braque, collage has expanded from paper and glue to mixed media art, utilizing a wide array of materials in innovative ways. When textures are layered, printed images are torn, and objects are assembled together, ideas collide and new stories can be told. Collage artists have the unique ability to connect the past with the present to create complex narratives that reflect and interpret our current moment.

*New Order: Collage Now*, opening June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 at Future Tenant, features the work of eight professional artists whose work prominently features the medium of collage, each with a distinctive approach. All of the artists in this exhibition are local to Pittsburgh, where old and new exist side by side in a landscape that boasts every kind of architecture, is varied by hills and valleys and rivers, and changes with all four seasons. These artists are creating new meanings through juxtapositions, finding relationships and contrasts in the world around them to form fresh ideas. From Ron Copeland's works made from reclaimed signs and found objects to the subtle collage elements within the drawings of artist Seth Clark, *New Order: Collage Now* brings together artists who approach this method of art-making in diverse and creative ways, with new, exciting and often unexpected results.

*New Order: Collage Now* is on view from June 3<sup>rd</sup> to July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016, with an opening reception on June 3<sup>rd</sup> beginning at 6:00pm. Additional information about gallery hours can be found on Future Tenant's website, <<http://futuretenant.org>>

**About the Curators**

**Mundania Horvath** is an artist, designer, and founder of the popular blog "Steeltown Anthem", which she launched in 2009 after moving back to Pittsburgh, PA. "Steeltown Anthem" aims to capture the creative energy of Pittsburgh's burgeoning arts scene by showcasing local design, architecture, craft, furniture, decor, and interiors. Mundania's interest in architecture and urban exploration also recently inspired her to launch *Pittsburgh Digs*, a series of illustrations of Pittsburgh residences.

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**Sonja Sweterlitsch** has curated dozens of exhibitions and coordinated large-scale art events in her hometown of Pittsburgh, PA, including the Artist Market and gallery exhibits for the Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival, and gallery exhibits and window displays for First Night Pittsburgh. She served as Curator for the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust's 709 Penn Gallery for over four years (2010-2014). An artist and teacher, Sonja has taught studio art classes at the Smithsonian Institute, the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, and the Trust Arts Education Center.

### **Participating Artists**

**Crystala Armagost's** work is driven by memory, history, pop culture and nostalgia. She uses wax, iron, steel, patinas, debris and photographs collected from nature and "urban spelunking." A graduate of Carnegie Mellon University, Amragost's work has been shown in the Pittsburgh area for over fifteen years.

**Stephanie Armbruster's** piece in *New Order: Collage Now* draws on myths and memories of music culture and nightlife. Her work layers elements both real and imagined in a fiction about the vivid world that unfolds after dark. Born in 1983 in Cleveland, Ohio, Armbruster moved to Pittsburgh in 2001 to attend Carnegie Mellon University where she received a BFA in 2006. Stephanie maintains a studio at the Mine Factory in Pittsburgh's East End. She is a Flight School for Artists Fellow, and her work has been exhibited in venues including the Carnegie Museum of Art, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, James Gallery, Mattress Factory Museum of Art, Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, 709 Penn, and others.

**Matthew Buchholz** creates narrative images using historic images that incorporate pop culture and science fiction. His "Alternate Histories" have been shown in Paris, Chicago, NY, Holng Kong, Tuscon, and Pittsburgh, and in 2013 a book of his work, titled *Alternate Histories of the World*, was published by Perigee/Penguin. His piece *The Street Collage* takes a 1900 photochrom from the Detroit Publishing Company and alters it with monsters, UFOs, zombies, robots and creatures that pop in and out of the still frame along with additions and subtractions in a humorous way.

**Seth Clark's** piece, *Collapse XXXII*, uses paper collage, charcoal, pastel, acrylic, and graphite on wood to depict a large architectural structure, once designed to be a force of permanence, now deteriorating and collapsing in on itself. Clark grew up in Seekonk, Massachusetts and studied in Providence at the Rhode Island School of Design. He discovered collage while earning his BFA in Graphic Design, focusing primarily on print design and alternative typography. His method of hands-on, spacial development took a major role in his digital work as well as his physical works on wood and paper. Clark currently works as a print designer for many local, arts-based organizations in Pittsburgh while pursuing his artistic practice.

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**Ron Copeland** is a self-taught multi-disciplinary artist based in Pittsburgh. His work takes salvaged materials from the Rust Belt region and reconstructs them into new and progressive compositions. His work has taken the form of three-dimensional murals, light box sculptures, and site-specific installation. In 2012, Copeland transformed the interior of Fukuda, a hip local sushi restaurant, into an on-going rotating art installation. Copeland's work has been exhibited internationally as well as having gallery representation by BE Galleries in Pittsburgh and Galerie F in Chicago.

**Kim Fox** presents a large scale patchwork tin map of the USA using vintage tins and reclaimed wood. Fox's work has been featured on Pittsburgh Today Live!, in *Exposures* at the Andy Warhol Museum, several fine craft fairs, as well as various magazines and print publications including the Communication Arts Illustration Annual. Her tin art and signage can be seen in many prominent venues in and around Pittsburgh including Beekman and Churchview Farms, Butterjoint and Legume. Her tin collages made her a finalist for Marta Stewart's American Made Awards in 2014.

**Mary Dorfner Hay's** series of collages, titled *Dislocation*, explores the idea of disrupting a set order or system. A visual diary of the artists' relocation from one city to another, her work is inspired by assimilation into new environments and personal transformation brought about by changes. A wife and mother of two young boys, Hay's former profession as a graphic designer strongly informs her artwork today. She holds a BFA from Edinboro University.

**Stephen Knezovich's** background is in English and creative writing. He earned his MFA in creative writing from Eastern Washington University's Inland Northwest Center for Writers and has worked in publishing since 2006. His collage work has been shown both in Pittsburgh and abroad, and has been featured as editorial and cover illustrations in various books and publications. Knezovich's collages are inspired by language and history and the remnants of our (once) print-obsessed culture. Every piece is an attempt to recreate meaning, tell a story, and resurrect a piece of our printed past. He says, *"To me, images are like words: if you arrange and rearrange them vigorously enough, eventually small narratives begin to appear."*

### **About Future Tenant**

*FUTURE TENANT is a non-profit art space located in downtown Pittsburgh at 819 Penn Avenue dedicated to showcasing the work of emerging artists through exhibitions that offer a cutting edge perspective on the Pittsburgh art scene.*

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