

“The Art of Finding Common Ground”

An Exhibition about Exhibition Making

With contributions by Greg Fadell, Trevor King, Greg Tom and others

May 14 – June 25, 2016

Background

“The Art of Finding Common Ground” is an exhibition about exhibition making. In constructing it we will create a collection of exhibitions that could be made but probably never will, display maquettes of exhibitions that have been made, and talk about fundamental topics such as the audience and the psychology of the exhibition space.

The premise of the show is that exhibition making is a series of negotiations, including those that take place between the conceptual boundaries of the exhibition and the conceptual basis of the exhibited work, between the conceptual boundaries of the exhibition and the interests of the potential audience(s), between the exhibition and other bodies of knowledge, and between the exhibited work and the exhibition space. The show will work on the basis that these negotiations are generative not reductive.

It is well known that Detroit is a city of makers, with a lively arts-based social scene. This show will explore the proposition that between these two poles there lies a missing middle, the absence of which is a limiting factor on the relevance of art made in the city.