

LIVE ART LOFT

When the **David Roberts Art Foundation** (DRAF) opened in 2007, both Roberts and director **Vincent Honoré** intended it to be more than merely a place to house the 1,800-work collection amassed by the property developer; they wanted it to be a generative space for London's arts community. With a roster of curatorial projects, solo and



Vincent Honoré

group exhibitions, live works, and talks, DRAF has now expanded its incubatory capacity, unveiling a 2,700-square-foot space dedicated to performance as well as educational projects in the foundation's Camden loft. "It is explicitly not conceived as a theater," explained Honoré, "but as a platform for hybrid actions, an additional step in our exploration of performativity, and a tool to challenge the identity of the museum." Its launch featured the U.K. premiere of Swedish choreographer Stina Nyberg's *Splendour*.



Nicole Wermers

ARTIST HOPS

San Francisco's Jessica Silverman Gallery recently added Turner Prize nominee **Nicole Wermers** to the gallery's roster, while L.A.'s **Susanne Vielmetter** picked up **Angel Otero**. In New York, Berry Campbell added **Mike Solomon**, while Gallery Nine 5 signed minimalist installation artist **Ryan Roa**. Gagosian Gallery now represents the estate of formative video artist **Nam June Paik**, and Blain | Southern of London and Berlin is now working with **Kishio Suga**, **Abdoulaye Konaté**, and **François Morellet**.

POWER MOVES

The **China Institute** will move to Lower Manhattan next spring, leaving the Upper East Side—where gallery **Voltz Clarke** just opened its brick-and-mortar home. Meanwhile, the **New Museum** appointed **Dennis Szakacs** associate director, while in Atlanta, **Randall Suffolk** will helm the **High Museum of Art**; and Washington, D.C.'s **Hirshhorn Museum** named **Lisa Gold** director of public engagement. Across the pond, **Lizzie Carey-Smith**, formerly senior curator at Tate Britain, is now head of programs at **Serpentine Galleries**.



Randall Suffolk

CLOSE-UP

After two and a half years in a 70-square-foot space in Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood, **Queer Thoughts (QT)** gallery has moved to New York, finding a new home in Tribeca in a still-compact location (yet vastly larger, at more than twice the size) at 373 Broadway. On the advent of its first New York show—a group featuring, among others, QT regulars Diamond Antoinette Stingily and Darja Bajagic—**Juliet Helmke** spoke with directors **Luis Miguel Bendaña** and **Sam Lipp** about the agenda of QT, and the recent move.

When was QT formed, and what was the impetus behind opening a gallery?

SL: We began the gallery in the summer of 2012, after we had both graduated from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, with a solo show by Puppies Puppies. It was really the space that inspired the project: There was a large closet in Miguel's apartment with high ceilings and its own entrance to the outside, so we thought it would make an interesting venue to show art.

Can you talk a little more about what it means to promote a "post-identity agenda" as you describe it in your mission statement?

SL: In a way, to have a post-identity agenda is tongue in cheek because such a nonlinear concept as identity contradicts itself as the basis for a political platform.

That being said, the name of the gallery and our statement of intent has continuously informed how we operate.

LMB: We promote voices that aren't always heard in the art community, working with artists who are forward thinking, and not letting the market over-affect our programming.

Tell me about the move to New York.

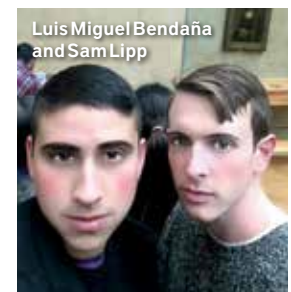
SL: The art community in Chicago is really grassroots, and, as an off-center art city, is a great place to develop artistically. But it's also interesting and exciting to exist within the center. As artists ourselves, we wanted to participate in a larger community. We're also excited to be on Broadway.

LMB: We were both in musicals and plays when we were younger, so it's a dream come true to tell people to come to our gallery on Broadway!

What can we look forward to from QT in New York?

LMB: In our two-person show in November, Mindy Rose Schwartz and David Rappeneau will each present a complete series of works, including Mindy's cast-bronze *Alien Head Keychains*.

SL: While David's paintings on paper often evoke manga and comic aesthetics, he has rarely worked in a serial format. **MP**



Luis Miguel Bendaña and Sam Lipp