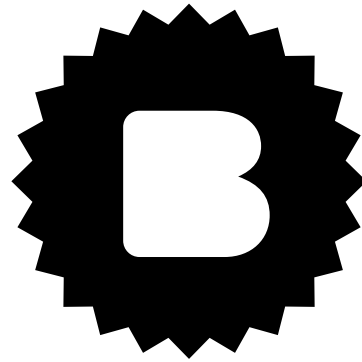


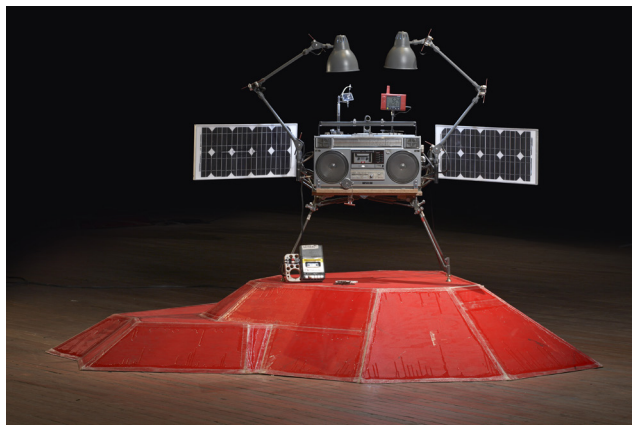
# Press Release



February 2016

## ***Tom Sachs: Boombox Retrospective, 1999-2016* goes live at the Brooklyn Museum, April 21–August 14**

The Brooklyn Museum is pleased to announce *Tom Sachs: Boombox Retrospective, 1999-2016* has been added to the spring 2016 exhibition schedule. Paying tribute to a defining symbol of street music culture, Tom Sachs will transform the Brooklyn Museum's Martha A. and Robert S. Rubin Pavilion into a living sound system through an installation of eighteen sculptural boom boxes. Hovering somewhere between art and science, functional and mythological, *Tom Sachs: Boombox Retrospective, 1999-2016* will go live on April 21 and run through August 14, 2016. Other spring exhibitions include *Agitprop!*, *Disguise: Masks and Global African Art*, and *This Place*.



**Tom Sachs (American, born 1966). Phonkey, 2011. Mixed media, 49 x 34 x 13<sup>3/4</sup> in. (124.5 x 86.4 x 34.9 cm). Courtesy of the artist. (Photo: Genevieve Hanson)**

Tom Sachs's highly personalized use of materials and processes is rooted in *bricolage*, the construction of art from a range of available, everyday objects, and *Boombox Retrospective, 1999-2016* demonstrates the artist's unique DIY aesthetic centered on ritual and symbolism. Using a specialized language of construction and working inventively with a wide range of materials such as plywood, foam core, batteries, duct tape, rudimentary wires, hot glue, and solder, the artist and his assistants fabricate and modify hardware, objects, and architectural constructions.

The boom boxes will activate the Museum's entrance through a scheduled series of eclectic sound experiences curated by the artist and drawing from his own musical community and the rich history of music in Brooklyn. Public programs to be announced will feature live DJ sets. Each stereo has been used in support of an activity, ritual, or event. "From dance party, to road trip, to *poche vide* (a place to empty your pockets as you enter your home), to laboratory, to bachelor pad, to iPhone dock, sounds systems have always been a part of my work and will be as long as I continue to love music," said Sachs.

## **Brooklyn Museum**

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Eighteen works will be on view, including *Toyen's* (2002), a group of speakers 8 feet tall by 12 feet across inspired by Jamaican sound systems; *Presidential Vampire Booth* (2002), complete with a stocked bar and Presidential seal; and *Phonkey* (2011), which is made of steel, hardware, Gaffers tape, and a JVC Stereo Radio Cassette Recorder RC-M50C and was part of the series *Space Program: Mars*, a massive installation at the Park Avenue Armory in 2012. The boom box sculptures reveal Sachs's passion for crafting better versions of things that already exist. "His skill and inventiveness in transforming everyday materials are on display here along with his wit and humor," said Eugenie Tsai, the Museum's John and Barbara Vogelstein Curator of Contemporary Art.

Coinciding with the Brooklyn Museum installation, the Noguchi Museum will present *Tom Sachs: Tea Ceremony*, an irreverent but respectful take on traditional tea ceremony rituals, through July 24.

New York–based sculptor **Tom Sachs** is best known for work that engages with politics and the history of Modernism. Remixing and recycling elements of culture, Sachs's work demands that his audience question the pervasive messages disseminated so effectively by modern media. In often elaborate installations that restage icons of modern design and engineering using incongruous materials, from a model of Le Corbusier's infamous 1952 *Unite d'Habitation* made from foam core to a plywood McDonald's, he creates unexpected juxtapositions that are both humorous and politically-minded.

Sachs's work has been exhibited widely, including in solo shows at the Park Avenue Armory (2012), the Fondazione Prada in Milan (2006), the Astrup Fearnley Museet for Moderne Kunst in Oslo, and the Deutsche Guggenheim in Berlin (2003). The Brooklyn Museum presentation follows Contemporary Austin's *Tom Sachs: Boombox Retrospective 1999–2015*, which opened in January 2015.

This exhibition is organized by Eugenie Tsai, John and Barbara Vogelstein Curator of Contemporary Art, Brooklyn Museum.

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#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

##### **Admission:**

Contribution: \$16; students with valid I.D. and seniors \$10. Ages 19 and under FREE. Also FREE: Thursday nights, 6–10 pm, and first Saturday of the month (except September), 5–11 pm. Group tours or visits must be arranged in advance by calling extension 234.

##### **Museum Hours:**

Wednesday and Friday, 11 am to 6 pm; Thursday 11 am to 10 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 11 am to 6 pm; first Saturday of each month (except September), 11 am to 11 pm. Closed Monday, Tuesday, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

##### **Directions:**

Subway: Seventh Avenue express (2 or 3) to Eastern Parkway/Brooklyn Museum stop; Lexington Avenue express (4 or 5) to Nevins Street, cross platform and transfer to the 2 or 3. Bus: B41, B69, B48. On-site parking available.