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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Fourth annual 2nd Floor Rear festival  
34+ continuous hours, celebrating Chicago's DIY arts community.



Chicago, IL- 2nd Floor Rear will host its fourth annual weekend of DIY art happenings at various locations throughout Chicago's northwest side, beginning at **noon on Saturday, February 7th** and ending at **10:00 PM on Sunday, February 8th.**

**The curatorial premise for 2nd Floor Rear 2015** is part feeling, part idea; it's Chicagoans' annual substitution of "stay warm" for "see you later". It's also the hypnotic quiet at winter's core that makes the season's deep melancholy savorable. In the midst of another winter, we sought forms of art that might warm us, draw us in, and make us stay.

This year, we hope to bring audiences anti-spectacular wonder and radical tenderness. We want Chicagoans feel present and connected even in their winter fugue states. We want to carve out a safe place to be vulnerable and wildish. We want things to resonate—to find us all again days later while we're waiting in line at the Walgreens checkout counter. This year, we're offering utopic gestures, cathartic documents, collaborative making, rituals, immersion, hangouts, fem(me)inisms, forms of encounter, virtual hypnosis, and one freewheeling, sweaty dance party featuring DJ sets by Tess of Slo 'Mo.

**2nd Floor Rear is an annual festival** of art in experimental contexts, apartment galleries, and ephemeral and migrant projects, celebrating Chicago's vibrant community of alternative and DIY art spaces. The festival is comprised of 25 events scheduled concurrently and back-to-back. 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Rear 2015 will run continuously, late into Saturday night and throughout the following morning, afternoon, and evening. Expect visual art, theater, installations, new media, performances, puppetry, workshops, social practice, and more.

**2015 featured artists, collectives, and curators include** Society of Smallness, Elena Tejada-Herrera, Tegan Brace, Betsy Zacek, Juneer Kibria, Alfredo Salazar-Caro, Cooper Collier, Marya Spont-Lemus, Dao Nguyen, Jane Jerardi, Hideous Beast, JVG/WAR, HI typ/O, Grace Needlman, Will Bishop, Matthew Coleman, Brian T. Leahy, Sarah Bastress, Bryant Worely, J. Thomas Pallas, Katie Vota, Jessica Speer, Hannah Tarr, Third Object, Traci Fowler, Inside the Artist's Kitchen, Kiam Marcelo Junio, Ann Kreitman, Shaina Schrooten, Jeremiah Jones, Liz Ensz, Ali Aschman, Christina Doelling, Chelsea Coon and Carron Little.

Featured exhibition spaces include the I am Logan Square Gallery, Hume Gallery, Dreamland D, Kitchen Space, Corner, the Whistler Storefront Gallery, Tritriangle, and Autotelic Studios. Special thanks to our community partners: I am Logan Square, Crown Liquors, Uncharted Books, the Whistler, the Church of the Advent, and Slo 'Mo.

2nd Floor Rear is FREE and welcomes all audiences. Visit <http://2ndfloorrear.org/2nd-floor-rear-2015/> for complete event descriptions, locations, and times. To learn more about 2nd Floor Rear, visit: [www.2ndfloorrear.org](http://www.2ndfloorrear.org). Like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/2ndfloorrear](http://www.facebook.com/2ndfloorrear)

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### **About 2nd Floor Rear**

2nd Floor Rear is an annual festival of art in experimental contexts, apartment galleries, and ephemeral and migrant projects, celebrating Chicago's vibrant community of alternative and DIY art spaces. A practical exercise in conceptual play, or a conceptual exercise in playful practicality, 2nd Floor Rear aims to uphold Chicago's long history of scrappy, yet self-aware modes of creative production, and to embrace improvisation and makeshift solutions as a means of navigating the complexity of lived experience. Each February, this yearly festival connects artists with new audiences, helps underfunded and underappreciated alternative spaces get some exposure, and enlivens a dreary winter weekend at the peak of Chicago's bleakest season.