

OSTILLO

PRESS RELEASE

**OSTILLO a new space for art and culture in Austin, Texas,
set to open in September 2026**

OSTILLO will open to the public on September 19, 2026, in the Rosewood neighborhood of East Austin. The new art foundation will debut with a program of monographic and thematic exhibitions drawn from a collection spanning the 1980s to the present.

Set within a landscaped park, OSTILLO features an exhibition space, a public library, and a site for open-air performances, which will serve as the permanent home of the East Side Kings Festival. Together, these spaces build on Rosewood's rich musical and community heritage, an area once shaped by segregation-era policies that became a vital center of cultural expression.

The foundation, an initiative by Austin-based developer and art collector René Campos, is conceived as a space for exchange, presenting performances, conversations and public programs that connect Austin's cultural history with international artistic perspectives. "We developed this ambitious and thought-provoking collection with the intention of sharing it with the public" says Founding Director Sacha Zerbib. "At a time when many are seeking connection and inspiration, our goal is to create a welcoming space with a program that addresses pressing social issues through artistic expression and resonates with both local audiences and visitors from around the world."

OPENING PROGRAM

OSTILLO will inaugurate its program with *Masquerade*, curated by Sacha Zerbib. The exhibition brings together painting, assemblage, sculpture and photography to explore the enduring image of the mask across contemporary artistic practices. *Masquerade* takes its title from a silkscreen by Glenn Ligon, presented in the exhibition, incorporating fragments from James Baldwin's 'Stranger in the Village'. First published in *Harper's Magazine* in 1953, the essay recounts Baldwin's experience in a remote Swiss village. In this unfamiliar setting, as the only Black visitor, Baldwin evokes a local carnival tradition of racial masquerade and reflects on the shifting meanings of Black experiences on both sides of the Atlantic.

From ancient theater to minstrel shows, the mask has long haunted the Western stage, shaping how bodies are seen, performed and interpreted. Across ritual practices, social gatherings, and theatrical forms, it oscillates between concealment and revelation. Detached from the actor's face and removed from the collector's wall or ethnographic display, it is reimagined in the studio as a device through which artists probe the unstable terrain of identification, self-fashioning, estrangement and conflict.

Masquerade features work by: Kader Attia, María Berrío, Marlene Dumas, Evan Holloway, Sanya Kantarovsky, Glenn Ligon, Paolo Nazareth, Damián Ortega, Adam Pendleton, Mohammed Sami, Thomas Schütte, Sylvia Snowden, Salman Toor, and Christopher Wool.

Alongside the exhibition, OSTILLO also presents a public lecture series led by art historian Dr. Jean Capeille, Director of Exhibitions, exploring the relationship between art history and modern entertainment. The program, drawing on Capeille's doctoral research on American vaudeville, examines how artistic practices intersect with traditions of spectacle. Each lecture concludes with a guided tour of the exhibition, offering participants an opportunity to engage more directly with its themes.

Press contact:

Matthew Brown | matthew@sam-talbot.com | 07989 446557

NOTES TO EDITORS

About OSTILLO

Ostillo's mission is to provide public access to ambitious contemporary art and ideas through exhibitions, events, research, education, cultural programs that inspire curiosity, encourage critical thinking and foster meaningful engagement with the world around us.

Key information:

OSTILLO is located at 2600 Rosewood Avenue, Austin TX 78702

Opening hours

Friday 11 AM–8 PM

Saturday-Sunday, 11 AM–7 PM

Free admission

For general inquiries, please contact us at info@ostillo.com

For the latest program, please visit www.ostillo.com

Follow Ostillo on Instagram [@ostilloartfoundation](https://www.instagram.com/ostilloartfoundation)