

**CONTACT:** Nicole Chism Griffin, PR – The Contemporary Austin  
ncgriffin@thecontemporaryaustin.org / 512 453 5312 x 119 (P) / 206 947 2312 (C)

## **THE CONTEMPORARY AUSTIN COLLABORATES WITH SXSW FILM AND SXSW MUSIC THROUGH THE EXHIBITION *TOM SACHS: BOOMBOX RETROSPECTIVE 1999–2015***

*Museum to host official SXSW Music programs, along with other events in conjunction with current exhibition of artist Tom Sachs.*

MARCH 5, 2015, Austin, Texas – For the second year, The Contemporary Austin and SXSW will collaborate on events linking the museum’s exhibitions with the Festival. The current exhibition at the museum, *Tom Sachs: Boombox Retrospective 1999–2015*, is a natural fit for collaboration with SXSW Music, as many of the works on view incorporate boomboxes and other sound systems controlled by a central “DJ booth,” which is also a work of art.

For three days of official SXSW Music events, this piece, entitled *Presidential Vampire Booth* (2002), will be used as it was originally intended. On March 18, 19, and 20, *Presidential Vampire Booth*, along with the 12 sound-emitting sculptures it controls, will be activated by hip-hop and electronic DJs chosen by SXSW staff and Tom Sachs. These include both upcoming and legendary producers who share an affinity for sound system and hip-hop culture, such as Young Guru, Hank Shocklee, Just Blaze, and more (full schedule below). Each will use Sachs’s artworks as “instruments” and sound systems as they spin unique sets for the venue. Each event will also feature a cash bar on the museum’s stunning Roof Deck overlooking downtown Austin. London-based online radio station NTS will broadcast live from the events, which will be aired at [ntslive.co.uk](http://ntslive.co.uk) as part of the station’s unique programming that aims to be a “platform for inspired people to present their findings, passions, and obsessions.” Priority admission will be given to SXSW badge and wristband holders with the public invited to attend at the museum’s regular admission price of \$5 (limited capacity).

In addition to these official SXSW Music events, artist Tom Sachs will premiere his film *A Space Program* during SXSW Film, among other festival-related events. In addition, all SXSW badge holders will receive free admission to The Contemporary Austin throughout SXSW Interactive, Film, and Music.



# The Contemporary Austin

A full list of SXSW-related programs follows. All information is subject to change. Up-to-date information can be found at [SXSW.com](http://SXSW.com) or [thecontemporaryaustin.org](http://thecontemporaryaustin.org).

Please note: In order to accommodate official SXSW Music events on March 18, 19, and 20, the museum's Jones Center will have limited public access from 12–5P with priority admission for guests attending the music event. The museum will be open to the public from 5–7P on these days.

---

## SUN, MARCH 15, 2P

### Tom Sachs Zine Signing

The Contemporary Austin – Jones Center,  
700 Congress Ave.

Artist Tom Sachs often accompanies his exhibitions with handmade zines that both chronicle and amplify his projects. These zines exist as stand-alone works of art mirroring the DIY aesthetic of his sculptures. Zines produced in conjunction with *Boombox Retrospective*, as well as zines and other paraphernalia from the artist's *Space Program* works, will be available for sale on-site, with the artist on hand to sign them amid his immersive installations at The Contemporary Austin.

---

## MON, MARCH 16, 9P

### Premiere: A Space Program

Official SXSW Film Screening  
Stateside Theatre, 719 Congress Ave.

*After the premiere, attendees are invited to a private viewing of Tom Sachs: Boombox Retrospective 1999–2015 at The Contemporary Austin – Jones Center, 700 Congress Ave.*

#### Additional screenings:

Tue. March 17, 2:15P  
The Marchesa Theatre, 6226 Middle Fiskville Road

Thurs., March 19, 3P  
Alamo Drafthouse South Lamar, 1120 S. Lamar Blvd.

In *A Space Program*, Tom Sachs takes us on an intricately handmade journey to the Red Planet, providing audiences with a first-person look inside his studio and methods. The film is both a piece of art in its own right and a record of Sachs's incredible installation *Space Program 2.0: MARS*, which opened at New York's Park Avenue Armory in 2012. For *Space Program 2.0: MARS*, Sachs and his team built an entire space program guided by the philosophy of bricolage: a process of constructing and creating from a diverse range of available things. The team ultimately sent two female astronauts to Mars in search of the answer to humankind's ultimate question: Are we alone? (2015, 72 min.)

---

## MARCH 18, 19, 20, 1–5P

(doors open at 12P)

### Official SXSW Music Events

The Contemporary Austin – Jones Center,  
700 Congress Ave.

*Admission: SXSW badge and wristband holders receive priority and free access; general admission \$5. Limited capacity.*

*Cash bar on the Roof Deck*

The SXSW Music Festival returns to The Contemporary Austin as part of *Tom Sachs: Boombox Retrospective 1999–2015*. For three days, some of the most acclaimed and influential DJs and producers in electronic and hip-hop music—selected by SXSW Music and artist Tom Sachs—will use the functional, boombox-inspired sculptures in the artist's immersive installation as their instruments to create music.

#### Musicians include:

	Wed, March 18	Thurs, March 19	Fri, March 20
1P	Young Guru	Suicidyear	Just Blaze
2P	Redinho	DJ Sliink	Knxwledge
3P	Nadus	Dream Koala	IAMNOBODI
4P	Hank Shocklee	J. Rocc	Peanut Butter Wolf

# The Contemporary Austin

## **TOM SACHS: BOOMBOX RETROSPECTIVE 1999–2015 AT THE CONTEMPORARY AUSTIN**

The Contemporary Austin presents the first Texas exhibition of work by New York-based artist Tom Sachs at both of its locations, displaying the artist's unique and rigorous DIY aesthetic centered on ritual, symbolism, and the theme of the "boombox," an iconic emblem of 1980s street music culture. A music lover and connoisseur, Sachs has created many functional boombox and sound system sculptures over the years, including a recent series of ceramic boomboxes produced at the museum's Art School, each of which features a curated playlist. Other objects include an interactive bodega, a sculpture from the artist's Hello Kitty series, and large-scale oratory speakers. The downtown venue is complemented by an installation of large-scale bronze works at the museum's Betty and Edward Marcus Sculpture Park at Laguna Gloria.

### **MUSEUM HOURS DURING SXSW**

#### **The Contemporary Austin – Jones Center, 700 Congress Avenue**

- March 13–14: 11A–7P
- March 15: 12–5P
- March 16: CLOSED
- March 17: 11A–7P
- March 18–20: Official SXSW events 12–5P (limited public access). Open to the public 5–7P
- March 21: 11A–7P
- March 22: 12–5P

#### **The Contemporary Austin – Betty and Edward Marcus Sculpture Park at Laguna Gloria, 3809 West 35th Street**

- March 13–15: Gallery open 10A–4P; Sculpture Park and Grounds open 9A–4P
- March 16: CLOSED
- March 17–18: CLOSED for private event
- March 19–21: Gallery open 10A–4P; Sculpture Park and Grounds open 9A–4P
- March 22: Gallery open 10A–4P; Sculpture Park and Grounds open 10A–5P

### **THE CONTEMPORARY AUSTIN**

The Contemporary Austin reflects the spectrum of contemporary art through exhibitions, commissions, education, and the collection. The museum has two distinct yet complementary sites, the Jones Center in downtown Austin at 700 Congress Avenue, and Laguna Gloria, a fourteen-acre site on Lake Austin at 3809 W. 35th Street, which is home to the Driscoll Villa, the Art School, the Betty and Edward Marcus Sculpture Park at Laguna Gloria, and the Gatehouse Gallery.

# # #

**Please note additional Tom Sachs–related programming in Austin during SXSW:** March 12–April 25: Lora Reynolds Gallery will present Tom Sachs: Nuggets. The exhibition features Sachs's conspicuously handmade re-creations of objects such as a boombox, a Barbie doll, a cleaver, and more, cobbled together from wood, epoxy, ceramic, and sometimes electrical components. Opening reception March 12, 6–8P; artist talk at 7P. Information at [www.lorareynolds.com](http://www.lorareynolds.com).

#### **IMAGE CREDIT:**

**Tom Sachs, Toyon's**, 2002. Mixed media. 97 x 148 x 30 inches. Installation view, The Contemporary Austin – Jones Center, Austin, 2015. Courtesy Tom Sachs Studio. Photograph by Genevieve Hanson.