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Scout Paré-Phillips, *Pants*, 2011, digital pigment print, 24 x 48 inches, Impressions series.

**HYDE PARK ART CENTER PRESENTS “WARM KITTY, SOFT KITTY”
SEPTEMBER 6 – DECEMBER 13**

Chicago – **Hyde Park Art Center** is pleased to present “**Warm Kitty, Soft Kitty**,” a group exhibition **curated by Camille Morgan** that brings together work by artists who explore the tactile sensation of touch. On view in the Kanter McCormick Gallery from Sept. 6 – Dec. 13, the show addresses the emotional and sensational experience of touch and how it can be documented outside of individual memory to influence the creation of collective perceptions.

“Physical touch can elicit a huge range of emotions, from awkward, terrifying or painful, to nurturing, invigorating or exciting,” says Morgan. “It is a reassurance of our existence. By acknowledging our need to connect physically, the exhibit encourages the viewer to step back and flex their individual sense of memory beyond their personal experience.”

Connections between touch and sight create visual assumptions that also influence how communities and societies communicate with one another. To challenge these visual assumptions and existing modes of communication, “Warm Kitty, Soft Kitty” reevaluates the role of individual memory and its potential to create collective empathy through imagination. “This exhibition aims to be a reintroduction for visitors to feel – both tactilely and emotionally,” adds Morgan.

“Warm Kitty, Soft Kitty,” features work by **D. Denenge Akpem, Eliza Bennett, Laci Coppins and Nakia Gordon, Alexandria Eregbu, Isaac Facio and Benedickt Diemer, Whitney Huber, Taylor Hokanson and Dieter Kirkwood, Cole Don Kelley, Barbara Layne, Hiro Murai for Flying Lotus, Tameka J. Norris, Betsy Odom, Scout Paré-Phillips, Jennifer Ray, Aileen Son and Fo Wilson.**

The exhibition will be celebrated during public reception on Sunday, September 13 from 3 – 5 p.m.

This exhibition is partially supported by the David C. & Sarajeon Ruttenberg Arts Foundation.

About Camille Morgan

Camille Morgan is an independent curator and arts administrator. Her exhibitions and writing projects blend contemporary art with fashion objects and theory, exploring their place in society at large, especially within the overlapping spheres of race, ethnicity and gender. From 2013-2014, Camille was on faculty at Columbia College in Fashion Studies, and developed a fashion/material culture curatorial practicum course. There she organized shows including “Versailles ’73: An American Sportswear Tradition is Born and Black Gossamer.” Morgan was the acting guest curator for the 2014-2015 traveling exhibition, “Inspiring Beauty: 50 Years of Ebony Fashion Fair,” at the Chicago History Museum and Milwaukee Art Museum. She is currently Curatorial Coordinator at the Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts.

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Hyde Park Art Center is a unique resource that advances contemporary visual art in Chicago by connecting artists and communities in unexpected ways. As an open forum for exploring the artistic process, the Art Center fosters creativity through making, learning about, seeing, and discussing art—all under one roof. The Art Center is funded in part by: Alphawood Foundation; Andy Warhol Foundation for Visual Arts; a City Arts III grant from the City of Chicago’s Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events; Field Foundation of Illinois; Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts; Harper Court Arts Council; Harpo Foundation; Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; Illinois Humanities Council; Irving Harris Foundation; Joyce Foundation; Lloyd A. Fry Foundation; MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at Prince; National Endowment for the Arts; National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Illinois General Assembly; Polk Bros. Foundation; David C and Sarajeon Ruttenberg Arts Foundation; Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust; and the generosity of its members and people like you.