



## ArtPrize 2015 Juried Grand Prize winner is 'Higher Ground' at SiTE:LAB

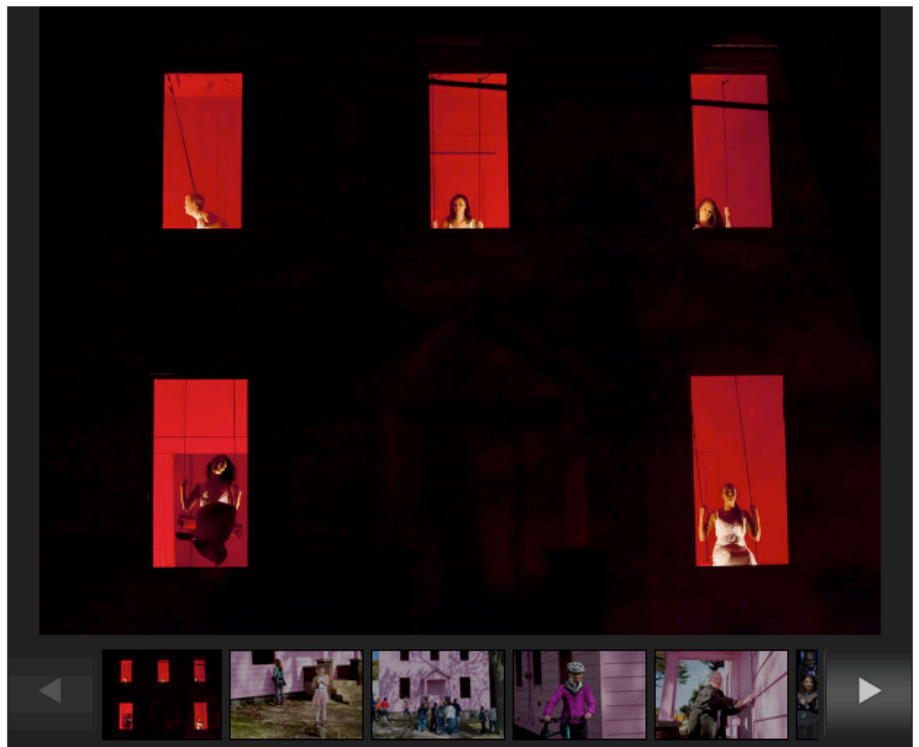
By Jeffrey Kaczmarczyk  
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GRAND RAPIDS, MI – ArtPrize 2015 \$200,000 Juried Grand Prize winner is pretty in pink.

"Higher Ground" by Kate Gilmore, a time-based entry featuring women in white dresses and red shoes, swinging on swings inside an empty house, painted hot pink on the exterior and lipstick red on the interior, was awarded the ArtPrize Juried Grand Prize, the fourth since the prize was launched in 2012.

Kate Gilmore's "Higher Ground" helped elevate SiTE:LAB's Rumsey Street Project to receive the ArtPrize 2015 Outstanding Venue Award.

The associate professor of art and design at Purchase College, SUNY, who lives in Queens in New York City, transformed an empty house on Rumsey Street to an entry that won praise from the three-juror panel that awarded the prize.



Performers swing inside Kate Gilmore's ArtPrize entry "Higher Ground" at the SiTE:LAB Rumsey Street Project in Grand Rapids Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2015. The entry won the 2015 \$200,000 Juried Grand Prize. (Cory Morse | MLive.com)

### UPDATE: 2015 Juried Grand Prize winner Kate Gilmore adds ArtPrize to impressive resume

"Kate Gilmore's piece is really kind of magical in a way that we've maybe lost sight of," said juror Dan Cameron. "It really can contribute to a shared mythology that we can all unpack. And even though the object isn't there, we can continue to tell each other stories about it."

It captivated ArtPrize's Critical Discourse experts even more.

"It was like meeting someone and falling in love. I had a huge art crush," gushed Susan Schultz, an independent curator from New York City, earlier this week. "We could have had every other expert up here telling me it was no good, and I'd still want to marry it."

Gilmore, who has been written about in publications including The New York Times and Art F City, has work in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City, in the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.

"For those who follow contemporary art, this is one of the bigger names at ArtPrize," said ArtPrize's exhibitions director, Kevin Buist.

Crimson Rose, co-founder of Burning Man, who participated in ArtPrize's Critical Discourse earlier this week called it "just delightful."

Before leaving Grand Rapids, she also donned a white dress and red shoes and took a turn in "Higher Ground."

"Not being able to see the women all the time, it was just delightful," Rose said.