

This Month in the Arts

THE ART AND ART HISTORY DEPARTMENT

UC DAVIS
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

FEBRUARY 2016

LOCAL AND REGIONAL EVENTS

Visiting Artist Lecture Series, Eileen Quinlan

January 18, 2016
4:30 pm
Art Annex, Room 107

Eileen Quinlan's forays into abstract photography are grounded in feminist history and material culture. Quinlan uses medium and large format analog cameras to create abstract photographs, and then agitates the film via steel wool or long chemical processing. Some of her photographic subjects include smoke, mirrors, mylar, colored lights, and other photographs among other. The result is photographic images that are reminiscent of color field painting and op art thus furthering the contemporary conversation between photography and painting. She received her MFA from Columbia University.

Free and open to the public.



Lisa Rybovich Crallè (MFA 2011), *Bodily Engagements*

Feb. 14-Feb. 28, 2016
Interface Gallery
Oakland

Lisa Rybovich Crallè in collaboration with Sophia Wang, will be taking over Interface Gallery for two weeks next month as part of an eight week series entitled "Bodily Engagements." The series, curated by Suzanne L'Heureux, brings together four groups of artists (for two weeks each) to explore relationships between visual art and movement. Lisa will be constructing an immersive installation in the gallery that Sophia and others will activate during scheduled times.

Juliana Paciulli (MFA 2004), *Uh-Huh*

Jan. 16-Feb. 27 2016
Greene Exhibitions
Los Angeles

Juliana Paciulli (MFA 2004) will be presenting new work at Greene Exhibitions. The solo exhibition, "Uh-Huh" examines the complex psychological relationship between women and popular culture with a new series of photographs, video, and three-dimensional objects that employ the language of the absurd. Large-scale photographs depict a woman's hand or hands interacting with colorful consumer objects and mass-produced props against a seamless beige background. These photographs use the sleek and economical vocabulary of advertising and commercial photography to stage humorously incongruous juxtapositions between the female body and charged objects.



Basement Gallery, *Captured*

Jan. 29 - Feb. 5, 2016
Room 60
Art Department
UC Davis

The Basement Gallery will be presenting works by undergraduate students including video and performance pieces in this new exhibition "Captured."



Young Suh, *Can We Live Here? Stories from a Difficult World*

Jan. 20- Mar. 16, 2016
Mills College
Art Museum
Oakland, CA

Mills College Art Museum presents "Can We Live Here? Stories From A Difficult World," a collaborative exhibition with photographer Young Suh and poet Katie Peterson. Drawing on a shared interest in landscape developed in different media, this project examines the struggle of humans to survive in a rapidly changing natural world and the shifting concepts of nature that govern that

world. In "Can We Live Here? Stories From A Difficult World," the artists create works that upend the Romantic tradition of the sublime landscape and respond to the Romantic tradition of populist, narrative storytelling. These works bring into focus how daily life itself is charged with a sense of environmental disaster, and elevates the stakes of ordinary experience beyond the ordinary to the mythic.

Two screening rooms will feature new videos that explore in narrative and abstract form how civilization's failures follow us into natural experience, especially during a time of environmental crisis. The exhibition also showcases a new series of photographs, both as large-scale prints and in intimate book form, that depict human activity within the beautiful and remote landscapes of the California desert and Alaska. References to Emily Dickinson appear through multiple recreations of her small writing desk, inviting visitors to engage directly with the artists' books, which combine photography and resonant, concise text to create a contemplative space. A donkey appears as a disruptive protagonist throughout the work, surfacing in the video and materializing as a performance figure. With this exhibition, Suh and Peterson present a poetic series of works that subtly disrupt assumptions about both the depiction and perception of being in nature.



This exhibition is supported by the Agnes Cowles Bourne Fund for Special Exhibitions and the Joan Danforth Art Museum Endowment.

Joby Barron (MFA 2010), *Chasing Justice*

Nov. 19, 2015 -
Feb. 21, 2016
Contemporary Jewish
Museum
San Francisco, CA

Inspired by the biblical exhortation of Deuteronomy (16:20) to "pursue justice and justice alone," the Contemporary Jewish Museum's new exhibit "Chasing Justice" features the work of Arnold Mesches, Johanna (Joby) Barron (MFA 2010), and Robbin Henderson, three artists of Jewish heritage who have, through activism, research, and engagement with the government, produced bodies of work that explore different approaches to this Jewish commitment. From surveillance to arrest, the three artists shine a light on controversial government practices that often remain hidden, unseen, or forgotten.

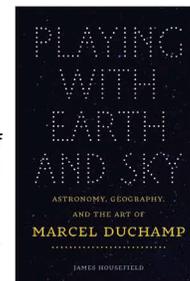
OTHER EVENTS

James Housefield, Marcel Duchamp et les *readymades*

February 3, 2016
Boston University
Paris

Professor James Housefield will present a lecture, "Marcel Duchamp et les *readymades*," February 3 at Boston University in Paris. His talk is based on his forthcoming book, *Playing with Earth and Sky: Astronomy, Geography, and the Art of Marcel Duchamp*. Professor Housefield will celebrate the centennial of the readymade by situating it in relation to Duchamp's engagement with aviation. Emphasizing the original identity of

the readymades as mass-produced industrial objects, Professor Housefield sees Duchamp's naming of the readymade genre as a key moment in the artist's career. Through the readymades Duchamp began to shift modern artist's work away from the crafting of *unique objects* in favor of creating *experiences*. Such experiences could paradoxically encompass physical and cerebral sensations simultaneously.



**Marcel
Duchamp et
les
readymades.**

James Housefield
UC Davis
Department of Design

Boston University,
Paris
3 février 2016

Julia Elsas (MFA 2010), *Basement Performances*

February 6, 2016
The Drawing Center
New York City

The Drawing Center will present, "Basement Performances" a show curated by John Zorn. *Basement Performances* is an audible/visible performance by Wollesonic and Julia Elsas featuring one-of-a-kind handmade instruments and rotorific projections.

Lisa Rybovich Crallè (MFA 2011), *Unstable Labor*

Feb. 12, 2016
Syracuse University
New York

Lisa Rybovich Crallè will be participating in a group show organized by Adler & Edmark at Syracuse University. Adler & Edmark have invited a group of artists to submit instructions for artworks that will be made on site by the curators (who are also artists) during their residency at Sculpture Space. The opens questions about authorship, labor, appropriation, the "hand" of the artist, and the creative economy of artist-run spaces.

Gina Werfel, *Kimball Art Center Winter Art Salon*

Feb. 12-Feb. 15, 2016
Kimball Art Center
Park City, UT

Gina Werfel will be participating in the Kimball Art Center's "Winter Art Salon." The Art Salon is a four-day event /fundraiser that will showcase a variety of luxury vendors and highly recognized artists of a wide range of styles and price points, offering an attractive cultural event during the Presidents' Day holiday weekend. Attendees will have opportunities to purchase art and luxury goods, participate in discussions

and seminars with renowned artists and art experts and enjoy kid's activities and workshops - all in an elegant setting on the ski slopes of Deer Valley.



Kevin Francis (BA Art Studio 2010), *Contemporary Mokuhanga*

Feb. 13 - Apr. 16, 2016
Cade Tompkins
Projects
Providence, RI

Kevin Francis and Stella Ebner (former UCD Art Studio Lecturer) will have work featured in Cade Tompkins Projects, "Contemporary Mokuhanga." "Contemporary Mokuhanga" is a printmaking exhibition by a group of artists whose work expands the boundaries of mokuhanga, the traditional Japanese woodcut process. Mokuhanga is achieved with use of water-based inks, hand-printing techniques and Japanese-style printing papers. The prints selected for this show present contemporary imagery and vernacular. Some works adhere strictly to the traditional process and others combine techniques such as etching and hand-stitching.

Additional artists in the exhibition include Katie Baldwin, Allison Bianco, David Curcio, Takuji Hamanaka, Lois Harada, Daniel Heyman, Hiroki Morinoue, Yoonmi Nam, Serena Perrone, Eva Pietzcker, and April Vollmer.

Kevin Francis (BA Art Studio 2010), *You Are Here*

Jan. 15-Mar.26 2016
New Art Center
Main Gallery
Newtonville, MA

Kevin Francis's work is featured in the exhibition "You Are Here," in the New Art Center. "You Are Here" presents place as both physical and conceptual geographies. The exhibition title references the subjective phrase commonly found on directory maps, used to orient and help navigate people within public places. To pinpoint a specific location on a map is easy, but how we interpret place is an unpredictable variable. The artists exhibiting in "You Are

Here" present place as physical, liminal, or psychological spaces through the mediums of: digital glitching, painting, sculpture, video, and collage.

Kevin will utilize the stage-like space on the left side of the gallery to install the mixed-media installations *Our Bedroom* (2012) and *Lucas* (2014-2015). From afar, the room looks ordinary, much like a set would to an audience. However, as the viewer steps into the bedroom, you begin to see that parts of the room are fake like a paper silkscreened rug or a dresser made from foam core. By combining the mediums of flat, 2D prints and ceramic sculpture in his installations, Francis creates the illusion of a place that is neither here nor there. For a write up about Kevin's work go to: www.bostonglobe.com/magazine/2016/01/08/boston-sculptor-creates-his-old-bedroom-for-exhibit/gzORDa07TNYEZYt3sNsiDJ/story.html



Shiva Ahmadi, *Global/Local 1960-2015: Six Artists From Iran*

Jan. 21-Apr. 2, 2016
Grey Art Gallery
New York University

"Global/Local 1960-2015: Six Artists from Iran" features works by three generations of Iranian artists born between 1937 and 1982 including Shiva Ahmadi, Assistant Professor of Art at UC Davis. The exhibition presents some ten works each by six artists, examining their individual artistic practices through shared aspects of their Persian heritage, such as ornamentation, poetry, architecture, and

Sufism. Comprising paintings, sculpture, drawings, mixed-media installations, and video, the show includes key works from NYU's Abby Weed Grey Collection of Modern Asian and Middle Eastern Art, which comprises the largest holdings of 20th-century art from Iran outside that country.

This exhibition was favorably reviewed recently in *The New York Times*. You may read the review at: http://www.nytimes.com/2016/01/15/arts/design/six-artists-from-iran-at-grey-art-gallery.html?_r=4



DEPARTMENT NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

James Housefield
Department of Design

Professor James Housefield's book, *Playing with Earth and Sky: Astronomy & Geography in the Art of Marcel Duchamp*, published by Dartmouth College Press and the UPNE, is due out this July. It is available now for pre-order from Amazon. Congratulations James!

Visiting Artist Lecture Series, Hrag Vartanian

On January 14th, Hrag Vartanian gave a talk as part of the ongoing Visiting Artist Lecture Series on the role of the critic in the world of contemporary art and current museum practices. Born in Syria and raised in Canada, Vartanian spoke about his work as the co-founder of [Hyperallergic](#), which provides a space for writers to challenge the status quo and raises awareness of issues that deal with art and social practice. He also talked about how the role of the art critic should not be limited to aesthetics but should strive to react to the present and push its boundaries in new and different ways.

-Cristina Urrutia MA Candidate 2016

PLEASE WRITE!

To let us know about upcoming Departmental events or shows, to let us know about your recent accomplishments, or to be added to our mailing list contact either Leah or Lisa at:

lctheis@ucdavis.edu lazdybel@ucdavis.edu

Submission deadline for March's Newsletter is
February 20, 2016