This Month in the Arts

ART AND ART HISTORY DEPARTMENT AND
THE RICHARD L. NELSON GALLERY AND FINE ART COLLECTION

DECEMBER 2011

The Art and Art History Department and the Richard L. Nelson Gallery wishes everyone a wonderful and restful winter holiday.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2011-2012 Art Studio Program Lecture Series

The schedule for the 2011-2012 Art Studio Lecture Series is available online at http://artstudio.ucdavis.edu/lectures/index.html

Upcoming speakers include: Kalup Linzy (January 26, 2012) Kalup Linzy is an American video and performance artist who lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. Linzy is best known for a series of video art pieces satirizing the tone and narrative approach of television soap opera. He performs most of the characters himself, many of them in drag.

Stephanie Syjuco (February 23, 2012) Stephanie Syjuco is a mixed media artist based in San Francisco. Stephanie recent work uses the tactics of bootlegging, reappropriation, and fictional fabrication to address issues of cultural biography, labor and economic globalization.

Carter in Conversation with Dan Spencer (March 15 2012) Carter is best known for his artwork that spans various media from painting and photography to sculptural installations, film and video. His works have been exhibited internationally including the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, Museum of Modern Art, New York, Tate Modern, London, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the USA Today and Abstract America exhibitions at the Saatchi Gallery in London, England.

Dan Spencer is a San Francisco-based artist and educator. In collaboration with artist Cheryl Meeker, Spencer has organized events and has performed at such Bay Area venues as Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Southern Exposure, and the Performance Art Institute as well as part of the group CAPITALISM IS OVER!

Shimon Attie (May 17. 2012) Attie, a New York-based photographer, has exhibited widely in both the United States and Europe, including shows at the Institute of Contemporary Art, London; the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; and the Museum of Modern Art, New York. His work is held in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Berlinische Galerie, Berlin; and the Jewish Museum, New York.

EXHIBITIONS

Mathew Zefeldt (MFA 2011), Trying to See the Thing in My Head

January 7-February 14, 2012
Michael Rosenthal Gallery
San Francisco

Mathew Zefeldt will be having a solo show at the Michael Rosenthal Gallery in San Francisco. The show will run from January 7, 2012 to February 14.

Opening Reception: January 7, 2012, 6:00-9:00 pm
Image: Stuff minus Zero
Gabriel Roberts (BA 2009), Art Explosion Holiday Show

December 9, 2011  
744 Alabama Street  
San Francisco, CA

Gabriel Roberts will be having a holiday show at his art studio in San Francisco. The Art Explosion is a large shared space with three floors of artists. Some work will be on display in a communal gallery space, and all artists’ studios will be open for viewing. This will be a great opportunity to buy original art without paying gallery prices.

Benjamin Rosenthal (MFA 2011), Administrative Maximum: Towards the End of the Broadcast

December 16-December 18, 2011  
Museum of Contemporary Art of Vojvodina  
Serbia

Benjamin Rosenthal (MFA 2011) will be exhibiting his interactive web project Administrative Maximum: Towards the End of the Broadcast as part of the 15th International Video Festival VIDEOMEDEJA at the Museum of Contemporary Art of Vojvodina, Novi Sad, Serbia, from the 16th through the 18th of December, 2011. http://videomedeja.org/

Mathew Zefeldt (MFA 2011) and Kyle Dunn (MFA candidate 2012), Pro Arts Juried Annual 2012

November 22, 2011 - January 13, 2012  
Oakland Art Gallery  
Oakland CA

The Juried Annual presents a survey of the best new work in the Bay Area selected by a Juror from the national arts community. The exhibition features works in a variety of media, including painting, sculpture, printmaking, drawing and photography. All works were selected through a blind jurying process by Chicago based curator Hamza Walker.


Artists’ Reception: Friday, December 2, 6:00-8:00 pm  
Artists’ Talk: Friday, January 6, 6:00 pm

Richard Haley (MFA 2007), Bas Fisher Invitational

November 12, 2011- January 2012  
Bas Fisher Invitational  
Miami, FL

Richard Haley will be exhibiting his work at the Bas Fisher Invitational, an artist run non profit space in Miami Florida.

Image: Of the Sky, 2011

Elisabeth Higgins O’Connor (MFA 2005), Dreadful Sorry Clementine

November 5, 2011- January 7, 2012  
Charlie James Gallery  
Los Angeles

Charlie James Gallery presents Sacramento-based artist Elisabeth Higgins O’Connor in her first solo show with the gallery, Dreadful Sorry Clementine. Elisabeth’s exhibit takes its name from a children’s nursery rhyme – the original being sing-songy and childish, but contrasted with dark, melodramatic lyrics. This contrast relates to Elisabeth’s work as well, as she continues her practice of walking the line between familiarity and chaos. Working with commonly available materials such as bed sheets, bedding and other discarded domestic fabrics; Elisabeth creates sculptural works that address the unique fascination we experience with the allure of the grotesque.

Claudia Alvarez (BA 1999), Fluid Ground

November 5, 2011- January 5, 2012  
Gallery 616  
Omaha, NE

Claudia Alvarez will be one of several artists featured in the group show, Fluid Ground, at Gallery 616. Fluid Ground will be a mixture of 2 and 3-dimensional work that explores freedom, erasure, vulnerability and a Schwinn Fair Lady utilizing processes that are by nature constant and fluid, including watercolor, reductive printmaking and formed paper.

Julia Eilsas (MFA 2009), Pfizer Inc’s Gallery

October 2011- March, 2012  
Pfizer Inc’s Gallery  
New York

Julia Eilsas’s print from the IPCNY’s New Prints/Summer 2011 selected by Trenton Doyle Hancock was chosen as one of several other prints to be on exhibition at Pfizer Inc’s Gallery in their New York City headquarters from October 2011-March 2012.
Hedwig Brouckaert (MFA 2005) and Nelleke Beltjens (MFA 2001), *Re/Pro/Ducing Complexity* presents drawings and drawing-related works by three young women artists from three European countries: Nelleke Beltjens (1974, the Netherlands), Hedwig Brouckaert (1973, Belgium) and Jorinde Voigt (1977, Germany). In recent years all three artists have emerged on the international scene with demanding and innovative approaches in the medium of drawing.

**October 23, 2011 - January 8, 2012**  
**Museum Dhondt-Dhaenens**

**Nelson Gallery, Chico MacMurtrie, *Birds: A Kinetic Installation***

Chico MacMurtrie, who lives in Brooklyn, NY, but was a long-time resident of San Francisco in the 80s and 90s, is a leader in the field of computer-driven kinetic sculpture. This exhibition will feature ten pairs of fabric bird wings that inflate, flap and deflate in eerie grace and silence.  

**September 29 - December 11, 2011**  
**Nelson Gallery University Club**

**Hong Chun Zhang (MFA 2004), *Portraiture Now, Asian in America: Portraits of Encounters***

The National Portrait Gallery and the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Program have collaborated on an exhibition that is the Smithsonian’s first major showcase of contemporary Asian American portraiture. Through the groundbreaking work of seven talented artists from across the country and around the world, the exhibition offers provocative renditions of the Asian American experience. Their portraits of encounter offer representations against and beyond the stereotypes that have long obscured the complexity of being Asian in America.

Hong Zhang (MFA 2004) will be showing five large hair drawings in the upcoming exhibition *Portraiture Now, Asian in America: Portraits of Encounter* at The Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery from August 12, 2011 to October 14, 2012. The exhibition runs for a year.

**DEPARTMENT NEWS**

Each month, in our Department News section, we will feature several of our graduate students, faculty, or staff. We hope this helps to put names to faces and allows us to become better acquainted with the various people who make up our community.

**December’s Featured Graduate Students**

**Peter Basmarjian**  
(MA Candidate 2013)  
Peter received B.A.s in Art History and Chinese from UC Davis in 2006. After graduating he received a scholarship to continue his study of Chinese at Zhejiang University for one year. Since then he has lived in San Francisco. Peter’s primary interest is Chinese art since the Cultural Revolution; he is excited to be back at UC Davis immersed in all things Art History.

**John Tronsor**  
(MFA Candidate 2013)  
B.A. University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 2008, Post-Baccalaureate Brandeis University, Waltham, MA 2009  
John’s work typically finds itself in 3-D, installation and/or time-based media and is both formed and informed by his deep interest in theory and philosophy.

**Monica Butler**  
(MA Candidate 2012)  
Monica Butler received her BA in art history from the University of Colorado, Boulder in 2009. Before coming to Davis, she worked as an educator and exhibitions assistant at SITE Santa Fe in New Mexico. Monica is currently working on a thesis on the relationship between tradition and modernity in the work of the Chinese photographer Lang Jingshan. This past summer she interned with the Museum Ambassador Program at the De Young Museum in San Francisco training and mentoring high school-age educators and helping to administer outreach education.

**Daniel Brickman**  
(MFA Candidate 2012)  
Daniel Brickman was born in Alabama. He spent some time in school for Architecture before deciding on Art as a focus. He has an interest in working in three dimensions and developing a material vocabulary.
Art History Graduate Students Summer Field Survey of Glouchite Kamuni

This past summer Art History graduate students Nicoletta Rousseva, Anci Titus and U.C Davis Art History M.A alum Laura Hutchison had the pleasure to join Professor Lynn Roller to conduct an archaeological field survey of a cult site in southeastern Bulgaria. The project took place from mid August through mid September and focused on the site of Glouchite Kamuni, or the ‘deaf stones’ located on the easternmost slopes of the Rhodope Mountains. The American team joined an ongoing Bulgaria excavation led by Dr. Georgi Nekhrizhov of the National Archeological Institute, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and accompanied by Dr. Maya Vassileva of the New Bulgarian University. The project was designed to conduct a field survey of numerous rock-cut complexes abundant throughout the site. The field survey marked the initial investigation part of larger project seeking to understand the religious and cultural value of these mysterious trapezoidal niches often attributed to the ancient Thracian culture that was dominant throughout the region.

Alumni News

Susan Dix Lyons MA 2005

After graduating from Davis in 2005, Art History MA, Susan Dix Lyons, went on to found the non profit organization Clinica Verde, formed to build a prototype of an environmentally and socially sustainable health clinic in Nicaragua that can be replicated throughout the world. This nonprofit effort joins experienced professionals in the areas of healthcare and the built environment to address and combat the problems related to health among the impoverished. Their work is twofold: to respond to the health needs of the community while designing a structure for clinical care that incorporates the highest possible standard in sustainable building practices and good design.

This past October the Clinica Verde team got the word: After an inspection of their clinic building and systems, the Ministry of Health of Nicaragua granted Clinica Verde approval to open its doors. For more information or to make a donation go to Clinicaverde.org

Mathew Zefeldt MFA 2011

Mathew Zefeldt will be featured in New American Paintings #97: Pacific Coast Edition. The magazine will be on newsstands in December 2011/January 2012. For more information go to: http://www.newamericanpaintings.com

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 us at:

visualarts@ucdavis.edu

Submission deadline for January’s Newsletter is 23 December 2011