

This Month in the Arts

THE ART AND ART HISTORY DEPARTMENT

UC DAVIS
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

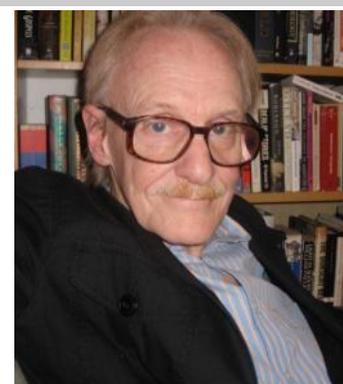
MARCH 2016

LOCAL AND REGIONAL EVENTS

Peter Schjeldahl, Betty Jean and Wayne Thiebaud Endowed Lecture

March 10, 2016
4:30 pm
AGR Room
Buehler Alumni Center

Peter Schjeldahl will give the second Betty Jean and Wayne Thiebaud Endowed Lecture on Thursday, March 10, 2016. Schjeldahl has been a staff writer at *The New Yorker* since 1998 and is the magazine's art critic. He came to the magazine from *The Village Voice*, where he was the art critic from 1990 to 1998. Previously, he had written frequently for the *New York Times's* Arts and Leisure section. His writing has also appeared in *Artforum*, *Art in America*, the *New York Times Magazine*, *Vogue*, and *Vanity Fair*.



The Betty Jean and Wayne Thiebaud Endowed Lecture honors the Thiebauds' long commitment to educating the eye and hand along with the mind. The endowment will complement the Art Studio Program's *Visiting Artist Lecture Series*, a core component of the Art Studio MFA Program, increasing its ability to invite distinguished artists, critics and curators to the UC Davis campus.

This lecture is free and open to the public.

The Promise of Diversity, curated by Art History 401

March 9 - 11, 2016
12:00-5:00 pm
Nelson Hall Gallery
UC Davis

"UC Davis's Two-Year Goals Summary 2013 - 2014 and 2014 - 2015" offers a set of initiatives for campus expansion that also serves as a strategic response to the anticipation of the State's refusal to replenish funding the University of California at 2001-2002 levels. One of the goals of the Summary is for UC Davis to become a "Hispanic Serving Institution" (HSI) by 2018-2019. An HSI is defined as having at least 25% of the undergraduate student population be of Hispanic heritage.

Following the spirit of Matt Taibbi's investigation in *The Divide: American Injustice in the Age of the Wealth Gap*, **The Promise of Diversity** raises questions about how this initiative creates and/or reinforces divides across campus. Through a combination of text, objects, and images—including posters from the UC Davis Chicana/o Studies Poster Archive—the exhibition, on another level, explores the language of these initiatives, and other documents, and their underlying, oftentimes ambiguous, and/or opaque meanings.

The Promise of Diversity is not a condemnation of the University's initiatives, or of UC Davis's goal to become an HSI, but rather a presentation and open invitation to explore the complex problems of diversity, inclusion, and multiculturalism that affect not only racialized minority groups, but all students at UC Davis.

Opening Reception: March 9, 2016. 12:30-3:00 pm

The Promise of Diversity is made possible with the generous support of the UC Davis Chicana/o Studies Poster Archive, California Raptor Center, Bohart Museum of Entomology, Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem Museum of Art, UC Davis Art History Program, Davis Humanities Institute, Office of Campus Community Book Project, Tim McNeil, and Leah Theis.



Joyce Nojima at CuriOdyssey

March 8, 2016
1651 Coyote Point Dr.
San Mateo, CA

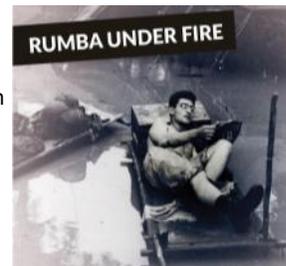
For one night only, CuriOdyssey will celebrate science, technology, engineering, art, and math in "STEAM." On Friday, arch 18 from 6-9 pm, join Joyce Nojima (MFA 2014) and contribute to her dream catcher installation. Tickets are \$15 for non-members and \$10 for members.



Irina Dumitrescu, *Rumba Under Fire: On Public Humanities and Times of Crisis*

March 8, 2016
9:00-10:30 am
228 Voorhies
UC Davis

Irina Dumitrescu will be talking about her recent edited collection, *Rumba Underfire*, in which artists discuss how their work responds to times of crisis. *Rumba Underfire* proposes that we think differently about what it means of the arts and liberal arts to be "in crisis". The book explores what it means to do art in hard times. How do people teach, create, study, and rehearse in situations of political crisis? Can art and intellectual work really function as resistance to power? And what relationship do scholars, journalists, or even memoirists have to the crises they describe and explain? Dumitrescu teaches medieval literature at the University of Bonn and writes on literature, immigration, and dance. She will talk about the collection of work over breakfast in the DHI conference room.



Networking for Careers: Who Do You Know?

March 9, 2016
4:10-5:30 pm

Work of Art: Career Series for Students in the Arts is provided by UC Davis Arts Group Advising Center in collaboration with the UC Davis Internship and Career Center. These workshops are more specifically tailored to students majoring in the arts. Presenters will include Julie McGilvray, M.S., Undergraduate Adviser in the Arts Group Advising Center and Ashley Odell, M.A., Career Adviser in the Internship and Career Center.

Upcoming Workshops: 19 April - Creative Job Search Techniques; 10 May - Interview Like a Rock Star!;

1 June - Getting Started on a job Search

CSUS, Lectures by Finalists for the Faculty Vacancy in Early Modern European Art History

March 4, March 11 and
March 14
1:30-2:30 pm
Kadema 145
CSUS

All are welcome to attend the lectures presented by the finalist for the faculty vacancy in Early Modern European Art History at CSUS.

March 4: Anuradha Gobin (PhD in Art History, McGill University, Montreal); **March 11: Rachel Miller** (ABD in Art History, University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania); **March 14: Stephanie Glickman** (ABD in Art History, Northwestern University, Chicago)

Each lecture will last approximately 50 minutes and will be followed by a reception in the Kadema breezeway, outside Kadema 145.

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.

OTHER EVENTS

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.

Hedwig Brouckaert (MFA 2005), *Offspace.XYZ*

Jan, 15– March 3, 2016
Anouk Kruithof's
Studio
New York

Hedwig Brouckaert (MFA 2005) is participating in the group exhibition "offspace.xyz," a curatorial project by Maxime Van Melkebeke in NYC. "offspace.xyz" will run from January 15 – March 3, 2016 during a residency in artist Anouk Kruithof's studio at 195 Chrystie Street, New York.

"offspace.xyz" is an online exhibition available 24/7 but Brouckaert's work, "In the Presence of Absence," will display January 27, February 6, February 13, February 16 and other days to be announced.

"The Presence of Absence" is "a photograph of a space that my father just left to never physically return, his office space, an 'empty' space, although his presence is still strongly there. I will show this photograph in an 'empty' space ("offspace.xyz"), an office of sorts, of someone else who is not physically present at the moment. We can't physically enter the space; we are removed from that direct experience and can only watch the photograph through the image of four cameras on a digital screen. The layering of the installation which will unfold over time, questions the experience of presence and absence, and moves in between physical, virtual and perhaps spiritual spaces too."



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

Talinn Grigor
Art History

Professor Grigor presented her paper, *The (re)Turn of the Avant-garde to the Streets of Tehran*, at the Sociocultural Anthropology Colloquium this past February.

Shiva Ahmadi
Art Studio

Introspective Magazine chose Professor Ahmadi's work as its Editor's Pick in the March issue. You can read the full article at: <http://www.1stdibs.com/introspective-magazine/shiva-ahmadi/>

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!

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 April's Newsletter is
March 20, 2016