

This Month in the Arts

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

UC DAVIS
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

OCTOBER 2010

WELCOME

Welcome to the 2010-2011 *This Month in the Arts*. For those of you new to our programs, we debuted the Newsletter in the hope of creating better communication and community among the department of Art Studio and Art History. The Newsletter's goal is to showcase the many events and exhibitions occurring in the Department. We are also using the Newsletter as an opportunity to put names to faces and as a way of getting to know who we are and what we do. We hope you look forward to reading about the different people, students, faculty, and staff that make up our diverse community. For all of our alums who have moved on to new opportunities, we would love to hear from you. Please send us your updates to visualarts@ucdavis.edu. Best of luck in 2010-2011 and we look forward to working with you.

Our Program Chairs



Hearne Pardee

Studio Art welcomes new and returning students and looks ahead to another year of exhibitions and visiting lecturers. We're excited by the opening up of new spaces and with it the opportunity to reconfigure and re-think our teaching. Along with continued emphasis on hands-on involvement in all media, we will be updating Art 30, Contemporary Visual Culture, and introducing a new summer program in France.



Jeffrey Ruda

Jeff Ruda, back for his third round as Art History Director, has taught Renaissance art history at UCD since 1980. His main research area is late medieval and early Renaissance Italy (the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries), but he has published on art as late as the eighteenth century and has served on thesis committees across the program. He welcomes everyone to Art History's new home in Everson Hall. We all now have windows-the glass kind that look outside. Leah Theis and Lisa Zdybel have done a particularly great job of making the new Visual Resources Facility a beautiful place to work. To judge by glimpses from the hallway, the new Grad Student room is also very nice!

EVENTS

Lampo Leong, *The Visual Forces of the Ω Curve: A Case Study in Cursive Calligraphy*

Thursday
October 7, 2010
Everson Hall 148
4:10 PM

By means of observation, analysis, and a close reading of the research produced by Kandinsky's *Point and Line to Plane* and Arnheim's *Art and Visual Perception*, the "Ω Curve" is identified as a consistent element enabling works of art to attain a greater sense of grandeur, visual dynamism and spiritual integrity within

both Chinese and Western art histories. This theory is born out through the detailed stylistic analysis of numerous examples of cursive Chinese calligraphy, painting, sculpture and architecture throughout history. Along these lines, Prof. Leong makes a contribution in depth and specificity to contemporary art theory and formalist studies. At the same time, the research conclusions presented may provide inspiration to practicing artists who wish to strengthen the visual impact and expressive power of their work in any visual media. Dr. Leong is a professor of painting and drawing at the University of Missouri-Columbia.



The talk will be followed by a reception for the special exhibition of Dr. Leong's work, "Spirit of the Universe: Exhibition of Wild Cursive Script Calligraphy," Nelson Gallery Entryway Gallery, Art Building, 5:30 PM.

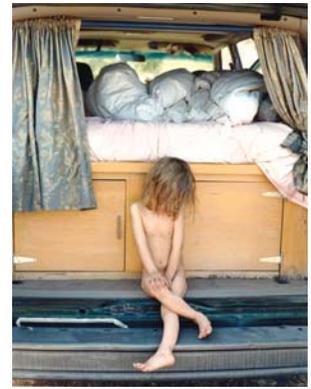
Co-sponsored by the Programs in Art History and East Asian Studies

Justine Kurland, *Art Studio Program Lecture Series*

Thursday
October 14, 2010
TCS Building
4:30 PM

Kurland's work draws upon the nineteenth-century landscape tradition of depicting a perfect place. Her photographs are narratives gleaned from America's dream of itself: a collective identity based on a firm faith in manifest destiny. These images are portals into the not-quite-real, not-quite-fictional realm of the American frontier. Kurland is a longstanding traveler, wanderer, and seeker in her own right, whose itinerant lifestyle intersects with and informs her work.

Justine Kurland was born in 1969 in Warsaw, New York. She received her B.F.A from School of Visual Arts, NY in 1996, and her M.F.A. from Yale University in 1998. Her work has been exhibited extensively at museums and galleries in the U.S. and internationally. Recent museum exhibitions have included "Into the Sunset: Photography's Image of the American West" at the Museum of Modern Art, NY; and "Role Models: Feminine Identity in Contemporary American Photography" at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C. She was the focus of a solo exhibition at CEPA in Buffalo, NY, in 2009. Her work is in the public collections of institutions including the Whitney Museum, the Guggenheim Museum, and the ICP, all in New York; the Corcoran Gallery in Washington, DC; and the Museum of Fine Arts in Montreal. She is represented by Mitchell- Innes & Nash. www.miandn.com



EXHIBITIONS

Nelson Gallery, *Wanderers*

October 7– December
12, 2010
Art Building
Nelson Gallery

"Wanderers" are individuals traveling via train-hopping or mobile home, living in utopian communities, gathering at outdoor festivals, dwelling in communal housing projects and forming fellowships over brief and extended periods of time. They are driven by an urge to explore and experience the wonders of the world outside of the mainstream culture. We

can observe this in the photographs included in this exhibition, which are filled with a sense of adventure, risk, freedom and raw creativity and beauty. We encounter collectives, tribes and bands of outsiders. We are invited to meet these wanderers to catch a glimpse of their unconventional lifestyles and countercultural values. They may give us pause to re-envision and re-imagine our own lives, families and communities. Artists in this exhibition are Abby Banks, Cutter Collective, Richard Gilles, Justine Kurland, Joel Sternfeld and Kyer Wiltshire.

Guest Curator: Matthias Geiger



Reception: October 7, 5:30-7:30

Image: Joel Sternfeld, "Queen of the Prom, the Range Night Club, Slab City California, March 2005"

Basement Gallery, *Art of Athletes*

October 9–
October 15, 2010
Art Building
Basement Gallery

Brandon Tucker, one of our senior art students, will be working with the Basement Gallery to curate the 2nd Art of Athletes. This show features the work created by UC Davis collegiate athletes.

Basement Gallery, *Summertime's End*

October 11, 2010
6:00 PM
Art Building
Basement Gallery

The Basement Gallery will present its first show of the 2011 academic year. The show is a summer retrospect of student work.

The Basement Gallery is a student-run, student-organized art gallery located on the UC Davis campus. Our mission as gallery directors is to create an exciting art space of sophisticated and professional art shows that appeal to diverse crowds and that highlight the quality work being made by students. By doing this, we hope to establish the Basement Gallery as a vital alternative space for seeing important new work and for experiencing interesting and innovative art shows.

Gina Werfel, *Bay Area Abstract Art: A Contrast in Styles*

September 23–
November 5, 2010
Chroma Art Design
San Francisco

Chroma Art Design presents Bay Area Abstract Art: A Contrast in Styles. This exhibition features the work of **Gina Werfel**, April Hankins, Takeshi Nakayoshi, Mi Jung Penzien, and John Smiddy.

Gina Werfel and Hearne Pardee, *On the Go*

September 16, 2010-
January 3, 2011
Sacramento International
Airport
Terminal B

The Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission and Sacramento County Airport System presents: *On the Go: The Traveling Sketchbooks of Artists, Architects and Poets*. Artists include: **Gina Werfel, Hearne Pardee**, Gregory Kondos, Stephanie Taylor, Theo Samuels, Jay Golik, and Julia Connor. The show will be on display at the Sacramento International Airport in Terminal B from September 16, 2010 to January 3, 2011



Mathew Zefeldt (MFA candidate), *An Alternate Fantastic Reality*

September 11, 2010-
November 6, 2010
Skinner Howard
Contemporary Art
Sacramento

Skinner Howard Contemporary Art Gallery presents *An Alternate Fantastic Reality* featuring recent paintings by **Mathew Zefeldt**.

Image: "How I Learned to be a Machine", 84 x 63 inches, Acrylic on Canvas, 2009



Terry Berlier (MFA 2003), *Residency Projects II*

September 2 2010-
October 9, 2010
New Kala Gallery
Berkeley

Terry Berlier is an interdisciplinary artist who creates sound sculpture and installations that are both kinetic and interactive. Her work often focuses around everyday objects, ideas of nonplace/place and queer practice. Terry will be presenting "Remain Human: The Slatter's Court Project," a 43 minute video that documents the lives of residents in an outdated auto camp that has been designated "blight" by the liberal town of Davis, California. Also included in the exhibition is "NFS," an interactive video installation that explores the lives of a San Francisco lesbian couple from the 1930's. A key element of the work is a set of window shutters that open and close in relationship to the viewer. The fluctuating movement of the shutters either reveals or obscures

vintage lesbian porn and an alternate film loaded with latent homoerotic undercurrents. Terry received the 2008 New Visions of California Award that provided a residency at the Exploratorium. Her work has been presented in numerous national and international exhibitions.

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

This past July the Art History Program moved from its longstanding home in the Art Building to Everson Hall, where it was housed in the 1950s in the Philosophy and Fine Arts Department. The following is a list of faculty offices and rooms:

Katharine Burnett: 160 Everson
Lynn Rölller: 164 Everson
Jeffrey Ruda: 152 Everson
Blake Stimson: 158 Everson
Diana Strazdes: 162 Everson
Heghnar Watenpaugh: 156 Everson
Simon Sadler: 208 Walker Hall

Visual Resource Facility: 163-165
Graduate Room: 155
Seminar Room: 148
Section Room: 157



Graduate News

Benjamin Rosenthal
MFA Candidate

Benjamin Rosenthal's video, "Loops & Bonds" was screened as part of the International Digital Arts Festival at the National Academy of Art in Sofia, Bulgaria this past September.

Nicoletta Rousseva
MA Candidate

Nicoletta Rousseva has been appointed HASTAC Scholar.

Brittany McKinney
MA Candidate

Brittany McKinney spent the summer as a curatorial intern in the prints and drawings department of the Art Institute of Chicago. As an intern, Brittany gained access the department's vaults, where she frequently considered slipping works on paper into her purse. Brittany was fortunate enough to curate two pairs of prints for the museum's nineteenth-century galleries, one pair by Gauguin and one pair by Whistler. She was involved in several projects, both practical and research-based, and had a wonderful time contributing her art historical skills to the "real world."



Daniel Brickman
MFA Candidate

Daniel Brickman showed "Wormhole Schematic" at a Pittsburgh Center for the Arts exhibition called Interplay and was awarded "Best Sculptural Interpretation of Theme." Daniel also showed "Ark of Many Moons" at Pinnacle National Juried Art Competition at Foster Tanner Fine Arts Gallery in Tallahassee, Florida and "Baby Star" at Cartasia 2010, Biennial of Contemporary Art in Lucca, Italy.

ALUMNI NEWS

Natalie Mann
MA 2010

Natalie Mann received an internship at the National Gallery of Art.

Melanie Ross
MA 2010

Melanie Ross is teaching Art History at Shasta College.

Kristina Schlosser
MA 2010

Kristina Schlossers working at the Crocker Art Museum in Sacramento.

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 November's Newsletter is
25 October 2010