For Immediate Release:

UC Davis Art Studio MFA Program and Beatnik Studios are pleased to announce:

Subject to Change: The UC Davis 1st Year MFA Show
May 1- May 26, 2015

Opening Reception May 1, 6-10 PM
Closing Reception May 22, 6-10 PM

open by appointment: 916-400-4281

The Art Studio MFA Program at UC Davis is a two-year, critically engaged studio program that provides an opportunity for interdisciplinary study in the visual arts. As part of a small tight-knit community, students explore a wide range of media and approaches to studio practice. Each year the 1st year candidates have an exhibition to feature their work going forward towards thesis. The class of 2016 embodies a broad range of approaches to contemporary art practice.

Anna Davidson is interested in life, death, chance and environmental destruction. She utilizes life forms such as fungus, bacteria, and plants as artistic media to comment on their phenomenal nature, bring intrigue to the species at hand, and to illustrate the diversity of life. Julian Tan is interested in the dematerialized space of the Internet informed by new and old media. He is interested in exploring the potential of painting to tell us more about reality. Angela Willetts employs performance, video, and painting to address questions about the artist’s dialogue with material. She selects materials for which she has an attraction, repulsion, confusion or curiosity. Her art is a record of this dialogue. Kristin Hough’s paintings offer a glimpse into the culture of curated images, shifting between an archive of past and future memories. She places the figure in settings that conflate natural and constructed worlds. Her work is concerned with distortion and presentation. Zach Clark uses pattern and repetition to create compositions built upon simple forms, connecting spaces and experiences that are remembered and new, formal and relational. He moves freely between printmaking, drawing, photography, and book arts. Brett Alex Thomas sees himself as a sort of “smith” of folklore. Using an array of sculptural processes, he combines symbolic objects to project emotional, ironic, historical, sociological, and cultural meaning. Sarah Chan’s video work resembles a soft voice that whispers all the wrong answers. It laughs and retreats behind the forgotten moments and endless spaces hidden beyond our field of perception. At once a spectacle and a cipher, familiar and unknowable, it possesses the everyday, the mundane and the lonesome. Jeff Mayry’s large-scale paintings prioritize gesture and process over outcome. Consciousness and being stand at the center of his research, and his marks resonate as a kind of diaristic proof of his existence.

Press Contact:

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SUBJECT TO CHANGE
The UCDavis First Year MFA Show

Featuring work by:
Sarah Chan, Zach Clark, Anna Davidson, Kristin Hough,
Jeff Mayry, Brett Alex Thomas, Julian Tan, & Angela Willetts

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