



UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM  
UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY State University of New York

1400 Washington Avenue  
Albany, NY 12222



Spoken word poet Lemmon Andersen performs at the University Art Museum, November 2014

# UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY

## 2014

Year-End Report



## FROM THE DIRECTOR



Looking ahead to our spring exhibition, *The Ties That Bind: Artists and Archives*, has given me the opportunity to reflect on the social and cultural ties that connect us as individuals and members of a community. Just as these connections play an important role in an individual's health and well-being, they are also part of the makeup of healthy and successful institutions. The University Art Museum's connections extend across the campus, the region, and the country. They include an indispensable network of artists, curators, critics, museum professionals, faculty and staff colleagues, alumni, and donors.

As an institution, we continue to explore avenues for cooperative ventures that help us bring new visibility for exhibiting artists and new voices to our programs. This year the exhibition program was enriched by our collaboration with the Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art at SUNY New Paltz and the presentation of *Mary Reid Kelley: Working Objects and Videos*. Next summer the rotating exhibition, *2015 Artists of the Mohawk Hudson Region*, will be presented here, extending our partnership with The Hyde Collection and the Albany Institute of History & Art, and preserving a 78-year tradition, one of the longest-running juried exhibitions in the country.

The relationships we have built with faculty at UAlbany and area colleges have brought thousands of students to our exhibitions. They are art and art history students, but also students of foreign languages, literary theory, history, criminal justice, and journalism, among many other disciplines. Whether they serve as a springboard for classroom discussion or homework assignments, class visits help us build audiences among students and foster the idea of museums as a lifelong, intellectually rewarding activity.

Entities across campus and beyond have partnered with us to provide grant funding that has made our programs possible. We work with other campus cultural presenters to share facilities and resources. A recent example is *Looking at Lemon* a collaboration with the Performing Arts Center and the New York State Writers Institute. This series of events focused on the life and work of poet and performance artist Lemon Andersen and was made possible by support from The University at Albany Foundation in partnership with six other funders. *Looking at Lemon* featured programs in four different venues on the uptown and downtown campuses and at Albany High School.

The museum treasures its ties with alumni who have been generous in their ongoing support. We are delighted to announce the establishment of the Robin Kanson Lewis '70 Exhibition Endowment Fund, which will provide a stable source of support for our exhibition programs. Heartfelt thanks go to Robin and Jay Lewis for their vote of confidence and for establishing the fund, one of four endowments that support museum programs.

These relationships strengthen and sustain the museum. Through them we have been able to grow the collections and realize our goal to present challenging, innovative, and culturally diverse exhibitions and educational programs.

All the best to you and your family for the holiday season and the New Year.

*Janet Fike*  
Director

## COLLECTION NEWS

The University Art Museum serves as caretaker for UAlbany's Fine Art Collections, which consist of over 3,000 works of art, with a focus on modern and contemporary works on paper. In addition to museum exhibitions, selected works from the collection are exhibited in public spaces on campus, providing access to the collection for students, faculty, staff, and visitors.



This year, the Collections staff turned their attention to the new School of Business building, named the fourth most beautiful business school building in the country by the online journal *TopManagementDegrees*. On the main floor, nationally known artist and alumna Judith Brust, MA '94 and MFA '97, is represented by four large format monoprints. For the past 30 years Brust has created a rich and evocative body of paintings, sculptures, drawings, and prints that take much of their inspiration from nature. The monoprints are a play of light and translucency, built by a rich layering of patterns and color. The works are displayed in a gallery setting at the south entrance to the building and are the generous gift of the artist.

On the first and third floors of the School of Business building, a selection of prints by Josef Albers (1888-1976) is on view. One of the most influential artists and educators of the 20th century, Albers was an accomplished designer, photographer, typographer, printmaker, and poet. Best known as an abstract painter and color theorist, he is also remembered for his role in the development of the Bauhaus (1919-1933), a renowned German art school that profoundly influenced modern design. The prints are from the portfolio *Formulation: Articulation*, created over a two-year period of concentrated work when the artist was in his eighties. The portfolio spans forty years of Albers's investigations into color, perception, and abstraction from lesser-known images to his iconic *Homage to the Square*.

This year the museum received the following gifts: pastel drawing by Irena Altmanova, two drawings by Robert Cartmell, tapestry by Carol Kurtz, mixed-media collage by Kirsten Hassenfeld, color serigraph by Nicholas Krushenick, monoprint by Robert Kushner, print portfolio by Jack Levine, a bronze sculpture, painting, and print by Anthony Padovano, a sculpture by Ry Rocklen, painting by Wayne Trimm, three digital prints by Robert Von Sternberg, six screenprints by Andy Warhol, and eight drawings by William Wilson. In addition, the gouache drawing *Mellow Yellow* by Jenny Kemp and inkjet print *The Hundred Acre Wood* by Ken Ragsdale were purchased from the *2014 Artists of the Mohawk Hudson Region* through the Arthur N. Collins '48 Alumni Association Purchase Award.



UPPER:  
Judith A. Brust  
*Personal Journey #12, #11, 2011-2012*  
Installation view

LOWER:  
Andy Warhol, *Sitting Bull*, 1986  
Screenprint on Lenox museum board, 35 7/8 x 36 inches  
Gift of Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts  
© Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts



# 2014 EXHIBITIONS AND PROGRAMS



Lamar Peterson, *Untitled*, 2005  
Acrylic on paper, 40x31 inches  
Courtesy of the artist and Fredericks & Freiser, New York



Eduardo Palozzi, *Astute sizing up perfume trends (from General Dynamic F.U.N.) (detail)*, 1965-1970  
Lithograph and silkscreen, 14½ x 10½ inches



Roberta Gentry, *The Tupi* (detail), 2013  
Acrylic on canvas, 66x48 inches



Mary Reid Kelley, *Sisyphus (Chiffonier's Vins)*, 2011  
Collage and watercolor on paper, 11⅞ x 8¼ inches  
Collection of Robert Hobbs and Jean Crutchfield

## Blue Plastic Bubbles: Paintings by Lamar Peterson

February 4 – April 5

Featuring paintings, works on paper, and mixed-media collage, this exhibition looked at the last ten years of Peterson's darkly comic portrayals of the American Dream. Inspired by CNN, children's books, elementary school bulletin boards, and horror movies, Peterson is best known for his candy-colored, meticulously rendered narrative paintings of the black suburban everyman and his nuclear family. Churning just beneath the surface of Peterson's happy-family facades lurk larger issues surrounding race, community, economic uncertainty, and social upheaval, and it is here that Peterson's satiric edge cuts most sharply.

Made possible with support from UAlbany Diversity Transformation Fund, University Auxiliary Services (UAS), and the Ellsworth Kelly Foundation.

## American Playlist: Selections from the University at Albany Art Collections

February 4 – April 5

*American Playlist* included over 125 artworks selected from the University at Albany Art Collections. Cutting a wide swath across American art, history, and culture from the early 1900s through 2012, the exhibition presented the work of iconic American masters such as Edward Steichen, Jacob Lawrence, Robert Rauschenberg, and Andy Warhol alongside lesser-known and younger artists including our own alumni. Over 60 members of the university and community including faculty, administration, staff, students, and alumni contributed brief written responses to a selected work. Whether evoking personal memories, revisiting historical events, or finding inspiration through the art, the statements installed next to the artwork added layers of perspective to the exhibition.

Made possible with support from University Auxiliary Services (UAS) and the Ellsworth Kelly Foundation.

## Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition Master of Arts Exhibition

May 2 – 18

Master of Fine Arts degree candidates Katria Foster, Dustin Angelo Garafolo, Roberta Gentry, Wenjie Han, Angela Heisch, Monica Bill Hughes, Julie Pamkowski, and Ilana Zwiebel presented work that formed the core of their visual theses and demonstrated the expertise with which they explore their media. Also featured was work by Master of Arts candidate Chante Rony.

Supported by the College of Arts and Sciences, the Department of Art and Art History, and the Ann C. Mataraso MFA '02 Endowment Fund in honor of Professor Emeritus Mark Greenwald.

## Mary Reid Kelley: Working Objects and Videos

July 10 – October 18

*Mary Reid Kelley: Working Objects and Videos* is the first museum exhibition devoted to the finely crafted and researched costumes, objects, and drawings that Mary Reid Kelley creates for her videos produced in collaboration with Patrick Kelley. Through a combination of live action and animation, a barrage of puns and wordplay, and a fusillade of visual and literary references, the videos examine historical eras of social upheaval. The working objects reveal Reid Kelley as a master of the contemporary impulse to work across and synthesize art media. This exhibition was organized by the Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, State University of New York at New Paltz and curated by Daniel Belasco.

Made possible with support from University Auxiliary Services (UAS) and the Ellsworth Kelly Foundation. Special thanks to the University Libraries for their generous loan of support materials for this exhibition.





# SUPPORTERS

The following donors have contributed *all or a portion* of their gifts to the University at Albany Art Museum from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. These gifts include annual contributions, bequest intentions and gifts-in-kind.

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## Donors to the Collection

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The University Art Museum gratefully acknowledges the continuing support of the University at Albany Office of the President, Office of the Provost, and The University at Albany Foundation, as well as generous grants from the Alumni Association's Grandma Moses Fund and University Auxiliary Services (UAS).

## THE UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY FOUNDATION

As UAlbany's fundraising and stewardship entity, The University at Albany Foundation manages the financial resources that donors entrust to it, recognizes supporters for their generosity, and distributes their gifts in accordance with their wishes. Thanks to the generosity of UAlbany donors, The Foundation was able to present \$1,151,230 in scholarships/awards last year – an increase of \$65,684 from 2012-13. In addition, faculty/campus support rose to \$3,144,206, up nearly \$500,000 from the previous year. That funding supports faculty research and travel; the hiring of graduate assistants for research teams; the construction or renovation of state-of-the-art teaching and research facilities; and the purchase of specialized equipment.

Your tax-deductible gift to the University Art Museum through The University at Albany Foundation will likewise have a great impact. The museum's continued success depends on the generosity of friends like you. Your contribution will support innovative exhibitions that enrich the intellectual life of the university and the community, as well as programs that engage audiences and foster understanding of contemporary visual arts.

To designate your contribution for the University Art Museum, please visit us online at [www.albany.edu/giving](http://www.albany.edu/giving). For more information about ways to support the museum, please call Michael Boots at 518-225-1229.

# PREVIEW 2015

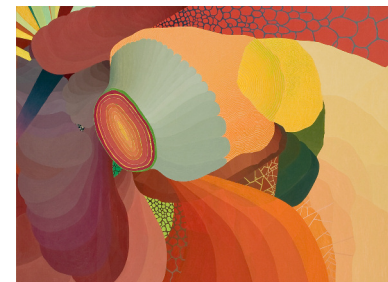
## The Ties That Bind: Artists and Archives

February – April, 2015

Artists Anna Craycroft, Aurélien Froment, Elise McMahon, Michael Oatman, Katerina Šedá, Shane Aslan Selzer, and Bryan Zanisnik work in various mediums including video, photography, drawing, and installation. They combine a host of sources—the news, the street, the Internet, their own basements and attics—in search of images, objects, and memories that build upon the social and cultural ties that continue to bind us together, for better or worse.



Aurélien Froment  
*Théâtre de poche*, 2007  
HD video projection, 12:27 minutes; color; sound



Jenny Kemp  
*Red Eye*, 2012  
Oil on panel, 26x36 inches



2012 Artists of the Mohawk Hudson Region  
exhibition tour

## Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition

May 1 – 17, 2015

Artists' Reception: May 8, 5 – 7 pm

The annual *Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition* features work produced by candidates for the University at Albany Department of Art and Art History's three-year, sixty-credit-hour program of intensive training and study in fine art.

## Artists of the Mohawk Hudson Region

July 9 – September 6, 2015

Artists' Reception: July 9, 5 – 8 pm

This annual exhibition, which rotates among three area museums, is one of the longest-running regionals in the country and provides a benchmark for contemporary art activity in the Upper Hudson Valley and Adirondack regions. This year's juror, Rachel Uffner, is the founder and director of Rachel Uffner Gallery on New York City's Lower East Side and is hailed as a front-runner of this resurging art scene.

### MUSEUM STAFF:

Darcie Abbatiello, Registrar  
Nicole Herwig, Milton & Sally Avery Foundation Intern  
Zheng Hu, Exhibition Designer  
Naomi Lewis, Exhibition and Outreach Coordinator  
Joanne Lue, Administrative Assistant  
Ryan Parr, Collections Production Coordinator  
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Janet Riker, Director  
Corinna Ripps Schaming, Associate Director/Curator  
Jeffrey Wright-Sedam, Preparator  
Greg Brewer, Rachel Kamins, Soo Lee, Student Volunteers

### COVER:

Mary Reid Kelley with Patrick Kelley  
*The Syphilis of Sisyphus* (detail), 2011  
Video still



[www.albany.edu/museum](http://www.albany.edu/museum)