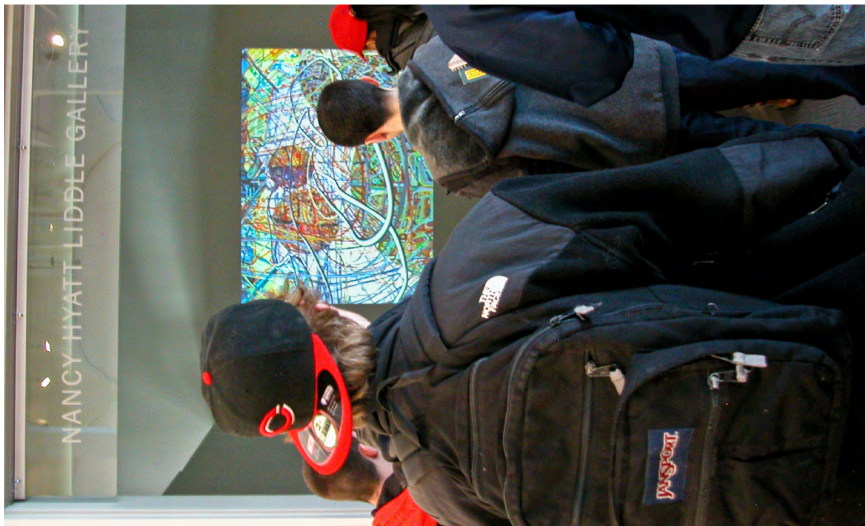


UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM
UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY State University of New York

1400 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12222



UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY

2011

Year-End Report



FROM THE DIRECTOR



By their nature, university museums serve many audiences. It is part of our strength as institutions and part of the challenge we face daily in making program choices and allocating resources. Our regional, national, and campus audiences each play a vital role in our success.

At the University Art Museum, student audiences come to the Museum for many reasons: for lectures and special programs, class visits, assigned projects, and leisure time activity. I make it a practice to tell students I speak to “we are here for you.” Whether they want to inquire about museum-related professions, participate in our student advisory group, or just ask a question about a work of art on view, our staff is available. The Museum staff plays an important role in the academic life of the university by talking to students in both the Museum and the classroom. This fall alone, we welcomed over twenty student groups and classes. You might assume that many of them are art classes coming to see the exhibition on view, but it is so much more. It includes an advanced photography class meeting with collections staff to discuss matting and framing techniques; intensive English-language classes; and classes in arts management, the philosophy of art, and cultural diversity and the human experience, as well as regular visits from students in the Honors College. We also host classes from area institutions, such as the College of St. Rose, Hudson Valley Community College, and area high schools.

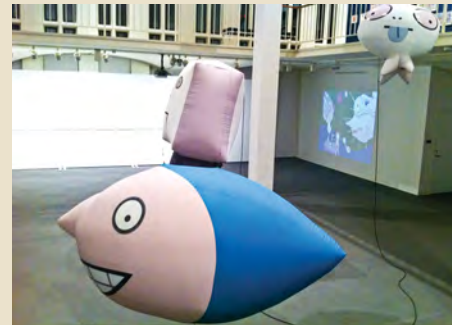
But students leave...they go on to make lives for themselves in ways that often are apart or away from academia. Happily, their UAlbany connection doesn't need to end there. On October 14 we opened *After School Special: The 2011 Alumni Show*, and what an opening it was! As the kickoff event for Homecoming/Alumni Weekend, the reception packed the house with alumni, exhibiting artists, past and present UAlbany faculty and staff, museum donors, and the local arts community. All came to the Museum to celebrate the contributions that alumni artists continue to make to their chosen fields and, in many cases, to the cultural life of our community.

After School Special reminds us of the student experience and the alumni connection, a connection that for many is deep and sustaining. It shouldn't be surprising, then, that UAlbany alumni are some of the largest individual donors to the Museum—and that is a continuing source of pride for us. Their choice to give back in this way is a declaration of how much they value their experience at UAlbany, an affirmation of the Museum's current program, and a belief in its bright future. If you haven't given to UAlbany in some way, please consider an annual gift. No gift is too small to make a difference!

To Museum friends and supporters, and students past and present—thank you all for being a part of the Museum family, and best wishes for the holiday season.

Janet Fike
Director

EXHIBITIONS AND PROGRAMS 2011



Eunjung Hwang: **Three Thousand Revisits** February 1 – April 2

The exhibition featured drawings, animations, video projections, and inflated sculptures of quasi-figurative characters derived from dreams who engage in a series of bizarre and unruly power struggles. Part Hieronymus Bosch, part Hello Kitty, Hwang's fully realized characters reign over a fantastical universe where, according to the artist, “they mutate, make love, eat, defecate, kill, or simply move in endless circles for all eternity.”

Installation view



Regarding Place: Photographs from **the Permanent Collection** July 1 – September 10

More than eighty black and white photographs provided a wide-ranging look at the roles that landscape and place have played in the trajectory of modern photography. The exhibition featured work by Tom Baril, Manuel Álvarez Bravo, Marilyn Bridges, Elliott Erwitt, Andreas Feininger, Sally Gall, Douglas Huebler, Jerome Liebling, Mary Ellen Mark, Jill Mathis, Joel Meyerowitz, Helmut Newton, Gilles Peress, Edward Steichen, and Andy Warhol.

Marilyn Bridges
Kazhitna Glacier, AK, Alaska (Heightened Perspectives Portfolio)
Gelatin silver print on paper, 14¾ x 18¾ inches
Gift of Adam Brown



Ati Maier: Event Horizon February 1 – April 2

The exhibition featured paintings, drawings, and two new video animations of hybrid landscapes that appear at once virtual and real. In a dizzying amalgam of saturated colors, multiple lines, warped spaces, and swirling movements, Maier explodes the conventions of traditional landscape painting while still maintaining a connection to art historical and scientific sources as varied as *Der Blaue Reiter*, the Situationists, satellite imagery, and geological models.

Time from One Star to Another, 2009
Ink and woodstain on paper
11 x 24 inches
Courtesy of the artist and Pierogi, Brooklyn



After School Special: **The 2011 Alumni Show** October 14 – December 10

Curated by Ken Johnson, M.A. '78, the exhibition included the current work of seventy-two alumni artists in all media, including painting, sculpture, photography, video, installation, and works on paper, and highlighted the individual accomplishments of working alumni artists, whose ages range from twenty-eight to seventy-four and who live across the United States and as far away as New Zealand.

This exhibition was supported by a generous grant from the UAlbany Alumni Association through the Grandma Moses Fund.

Installation view



Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition

April 29 – May 15

Master of Fine Arts degree candidates Paul Bauhs, Suzanne June Boatenreiter, Yaminay Nasir Chaudhri, Euna Goh, Jelena Opačić, Sara Pruiksmā, Georgia Wohnsen, and John W. Yost presented work that forms the core of their visual theses and demonstrates the vigor and expertise with which these emerging artists explore their choice of mediums. The Museum provides M.F.A. candidates with the opportunity to exhibit their work in a professional museum setting.

Suzanne June Boatenreiter
Just This (detail), 2010–11
Projected animated collage with audio helmets
and fur pods, 2 minutes, 38 seconds



Wolfgang Staehle: Niagara, Eastpoint, Ludlow

July 1 – September 10

Wolfgang Staehle's full-color digital projections record panoramic views of recognizable sites in New York State: the Hudson River Valley, Manhattan's Lower East Side, and Niagara Falls. Staehle's decidedly twenty-first-century approach to landscape calls into question how the mechanics of digital presentation, versus those of painting or still photography, mediate our experience of nature.

Ludlow Street, 2006
Digital photographs, view of Ludlow Street,
New York, May 4, 2006
Image interval 5 seconds, duration 24 hours
Courtesy of Postmasters Gallery, New York



2011 ACT Programs

The Marjorie L. and Ronald E. Brandon Art & Culture Talks drew over 500 visitors to the Museum. Programs were presented by Phyllis Galemba, photographer and UAlbany professor of photography, and art historian Chika Okeke-Agulu; Daniel Kunitz, art critic and executive editor of *Modern Painters*; artist Pepón Osorio; science fiction and fantasy author John Crowley; and Ken Johnson, art critic and writer. Programs were presented in partnership with UAlbany's Art Department, Department of Africana Studies, Graduate Student Organization, and New York State Writers Institute.

In addition to the generous support of Marjorie L. Brandon, programs were supported by the Ellsworth Kelly Foundation and University Auxiliary Services (UAS).



STUDENT Outreach

Art Arcade, an evening of art and entertainment, was held in the Museum on March 15 against the backdrop of the dynamic exhibitions *Eunjung Hwang: Three Thousand Revisits* and *Ati Maier: Event Horizon*. Spinning was provided by DJ Trumaster, drawings were created for a "graffiti wall," vintage video games were set up around the Museum, and snacks and door prizes were provided for students.

Twenty students in the undergraduate work-study program assisted with day-to-day Museum operations and exhibition installations and served as gallery attendants to welcome visitors to our exhibitions and programs.

STUDENT Profile

2011 MILTON & SALLY AVERY ARTS FOUNDATION INTERN

Janae McHugh



In 2002, Janae McHugh received a B.A. combining sociology and theology from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. After working in the field for a few years, she followed her passion for art-making by shifting both her focus and her location to enter the UAlbany sculpture program. She graduated with a B.A. in sculpture in 2009 and has continued on at UAlbany in the Master of Fine Arts degree program.

Janae was first recruited as a Museum volunteer in 2008 to assist with a labor-intensive installation by artist Keith Edmier. This was followed by the 2009 Jason Middlebrook installation. Janae's versatility and enthusiasm for taking on any task has made her a significant resource to the Museum staff.

In the summer of 2011, Janae was offered the Milton & Sally Avery Arts Foundation Internship. The foundation has generously provided the Museum with continuing support for this program, which offers an important learning experience for students and valuable assistance for the Museum staff. Janae has worked on all aspects of exhibition planning and preparation; researching funding sources and preparing grant applications; and researching and writing features for the UAM website.

In addition to creating a body of artwork for her thesis exhibition, Janae has worked as a graduate teaching assistant for the course Studio Experiments in Visual Thinking, and as an instructor for Principles of 3D Design. She has volunteered as managing organizer/editor of *FailureZine*, a self-published zine counterpart to the UAlbany Graduate Student Organization symposium *FAILUREtalks*, and as co-organizer of the student-led weekly Art Theory and Criticism Reading Group. She has also served as vice-president of the M.F.A. Graduate Student Organization. "The Museum staff has mentored me beyond the classroom and studio, generously involving me in projects at various levels of the organization. This has challenged me to use and further develop my research, writing, and organizational skills, resulting in an extremely enriching, professionally edifying (and fun!) experience," says Janae.

University Fine Art Collections

The University Art Museum serves as caretaker for the University's Fine Art Collections, which consist of over 3,000 works of art, with a focus on modern and contemporary works on paper. Our responsibilities include the care and safe keeping of objects in the collection, development of the collection through purchases and gifts, as well as providing access to the collection through our website, exhibitions, loans and class visits.

This year the university received as gifts to the collection eleven drawings, paintings, photographs, and works on paper, including works by Richard Callner, Benjamin Lord, Michael Marston, Edward Seager, Stella Waitzkin, and William Wilson.

Labyrinth 229, a drawing by John Hampshire '97 and *Lady America*, a photograph by Ray Felix '10 were added to the collection through support from the Arthur N. Collins '48 University at Albany Alumni Association Purchase Award for the 2010 and 2011 *Artists of the Mohawk Hudson Region* exhibitions.

SUPPORTERS

The following donors to The University at Albany Foundation designated all or a portion of their gifts to the University Art Museum from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.

Board of Directors Society (\$10,000-\$24,999)

Marjorie L. Brandon '82
*Community Foundation for the
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Ann C. Mataraso '02
Matthew H. Mataraso
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Beth E. Lorber Scher '08
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**Consolidated Edison Co. of NY

Carillon Club (\$250-\$499)

Kim M. Bessette '90
Tom Bessette
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James J. Brady '62
Shirley W. Brand
Agostino Futia '01
Ian H. Porter
Judith J. Twombly

Albany Club (\$100-\$249)

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Timothy P. Backus '89
Norman Bauman
Dawn M. Clements '87
Marijo Dougherty '74
Gary Gold '70
Christina Mochon
Nancy A. Pierson '69

Under \$100

Roberta M. Bernstein, Ph.D.
Sarah R. Cohen, Ph.D.
Elsa J. Gerst deBeer

Donors to the Collection

Dukene Zervas Brady '58
James J. Brady '62
Arthur R. Cronson '69
Michael Marston
Peter Norton Christmas Project
Janet Riker
The Waitzkin Memorial Library and
Kohler Foundation
William Wilson

*Individuals whose employers generously
matched their gifts

**Employers who generously matched
gifts of their employees

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 funding from 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 donors entrust to it, recognizes supporters for their generosity, and distributes their gifts in accordance with their wishes. Thanks to our donors, The Foundation provided almost \$500,000 in scholarship support to students, more than \$200,000 in prizes and awards, and almost \$2 million to academic departments for program-related expenses in 2010-2011.

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. For more information about ways to support the Museum, please call Michael Boots at (518) 442-5218.

2012 PREVIEW

Material Occupation

February 7 – April 7, 2012
Artists' Reception: February 7

Artists Caetano de Almeida, Sarah Crowner, Josh Faught, Elana Herzog, Marietta Hoferer, Sam Moyer, Anja Schwörer, and Melissa Thorne question the idea that abstraction is a rarified concept that bears little relation to everyday experience. Using a materials-based approach and tapping into the more decorative strains of modernism, these artists explore the cultural associations inherent in prosaic materials and familiar patterns.



Josh Faught, *How to Beat the High Cost of Living*, 2009
Hand woven cotton, nail polish, toilet paper, silk flowers,
indigo, sequins, and ink
92 x 72 inches
Courtesy of the artist and Lisa Cooley Fine Art, New York

Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition

May 4 – May 20, 2012
Artists' Reception: May 11

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

Artists of the Mohawk-Hudson Region Summer, 2012

This annual exhibition is one of the longest-running regionals in the country and provides a benchmark for contemporary art activity in the Upper Hudson Valley. This year the juror will be Nato Thompson, chief curator at New York-based public arts institution Creative Time and former curator at Mass MoCA.



Exhibition installation view 2009

MUSEUM STAFF:

Darcie Abbatiello, Registrar
Jordan Baker, Graduate Intern
Zheng Hu, Exhibition Designer
Naomi Lewis, Exhibition and Outreach Coordinator
Joanne Lue, Administrative Assistant
Janae McHugh, Avery Foundation Intern
Ryan Parr, Collections Production Coordinator
Janet Riker, Director
Corinna Ripps Schaming, Associate Director/Curator
Megan Spicer, Student Intern
Jeffrey Wright-Sedam, Preparator

COVER IMAGE:

Michael Oatman, *Smarmageddon* (detail), 2010
Collage; book cuttings and automotive paint on paper
34 $\frac{1}{16}$ x 118 $\frac{3}{8}$ x 3 inches
Collection of id29 Design & Marketing