

 UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM
UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY State University of New York

1400 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12222



UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY 2012 Year-End Report



FROM THE DIRECTOR



Museums come in all shapes and sizes. There are great museums of art, science, archaeology, anthropology, and history. I'm betting that most of you have been deeply touched by a museum experience sometime in your life. Whether they have budgets of \$50,000 or \$5 million, or staffs of two or 2,000, museums across the country make extraordinary contributions to the life of their communities.

The University Art Museum is proud to be part of the dynamic learning environment at the University at Albany, an internationally-recognized public research university. We work to support UAlbany's core academic mission and to foster research through our exhibitions, publications, and collections. We try to instill in students an awareness of the diversity and continuity of human experience through the visual arts. But we don't do that just for UAlbany students: we do it for every visitor, 14,000 of them each year, including students of all ages, faculty, artists, the general public, and visitors to the Capital Region.

It is our privilege to serve as a campus laboratory for teaching and learning in the visual arts. Nothing is more thrilling than to have an artist visit the museum and say that he or she is inspired by our exhibition space—unless it is a group of students in animated conversation in front of a work of art, or an alumnus who comes back to campus and says, "This museum changed my life."

In this laboratory, we are not looking for the "right" answer. We simply strive for excellence. We offer artists the opportunity to realize their unique visions in our unique space; we relish the chance to work with some of the most important artists in the world; and we rejoice when an emerging artist whose work we have presented opens a major solo exhibition or wins a Guggenheim fellowship.

The college years are perhaps the last opportunity to open a door on the arts, to reveal to our students the museum experience, to share the intellectual rigor of a solitary dialogue with a work of art, and to demonstrate that creative learning and problem-solving are inherent in making and appreciating the visual arts. Marcel Proust said, "Thanks to art, instead of seeing a single world, our own, we see it multiply until we have before us as many worlds as there are artists." This is a door that leads to understanding the world as others experience it and to an appreciation that can bring joy and perspective to last a lifetime.

Best wishes to you and your family for the holiday season.

Janet Fike
Director

EXHIBITIONS AND PROGRAMS 2012



Material Occupation

February 7 – April 7

Drawing on a wide range of materials and references, artists Caetano de Almeida, Sarah Crowner, Josh Faught, Elana Herzog, Marietta Hoferer, Sam Moyer, Anja Schwörer, and Melissa Thorne applied a keen eye and a steady hand as they transformed paper, thread, old and newly woven fabric, and other ordinary materials into poetic abstract forms.

Anja Schwörer
Untitled (detail), 2005
Bleached and dyed canvas, 74¾ x 59 inches
Courtesy of the artist and Nicelle Beauchene Gallery, New York



Dana Hoey: The Phantom Sex

October 5 – December 8

This twenty-year overview of Dana Hoey's work provided a window into the often cruel, troubled, and invisible dynamics of being female. Using both staged and directed photography, Hoey's meticulously constructed images speak to her deep knowledge of photography and its ability to conflate fiction and fact.

Dana Hoey
Red Hammer (detail), 2010
Digital inkjet print, 16 x 24 inches
Courtesy of the artist and Friedrich Petzel Gallery, New York



Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition

May 4 – 20

Master of Fine Arts degree candidates Jaimee Atkinson, Rodrigo Chevitarrese Batista, Amanda Kates, Jenny Kemp, Janae McHugh, Alex Oslance, Marilee Sousie, and Carolyn Zuario presented work that formed the core of their visual theses and demonstrated the vigor and expertise with which these emerging artists explored their choice of media. The museum provides M.F.A. candidates with the opportunity to exhibit their work in a professional museum setting.

Janae McHugh
Untitled (gaze), 2010
Archival inkjet print, 31 x 42 inches

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

The Marjorie L. and Ronald E. Brandon Art & Culture Talks drew over 500 visitors to the museum. Programs were presented by Joshua Mosley, video and multi-media artist; Elana Herzog, sculptor and installation artist exhibiting in *Material Occupation*; Judith Braun '83, artist; Bob Nickas, author, curator, and critic; and exhibiting artists Dana Hoey and Rachel Foullon.

Supported by University Auxiliary Services, Center for Jewish Studies, NYSICA's Electronic Media and Film Presentation Funds administered by The ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes, and a major grant from the Ellsworth Kelly Foundation.

Rachel Foullon fields questions about her work in a gallery talk.





2012 Artists of the Mohawk Hudson Region

June 28 – September 8

This annual exhibition is one of the longest-running juried regionals in the country and provides a leading benchmark for contemporary art activity in the Adirondacks and Upper Hudson Valley. Juror Nato Thompson, chief curator at the New York-based public arts institution Creative Time, selected eighty-one works by thirty-five artists. The exhibition featured work in a variety of media, including painting, sculpture, drawing, photography, video, and site-specific installation, reflecting the artists' expansive range of issues and perspective.

UAlbany freshmen view the *Artists of the Mohawk Hudson Region* exhibition.



Rachel Foullon: Braided Sun

October 5 – December 8

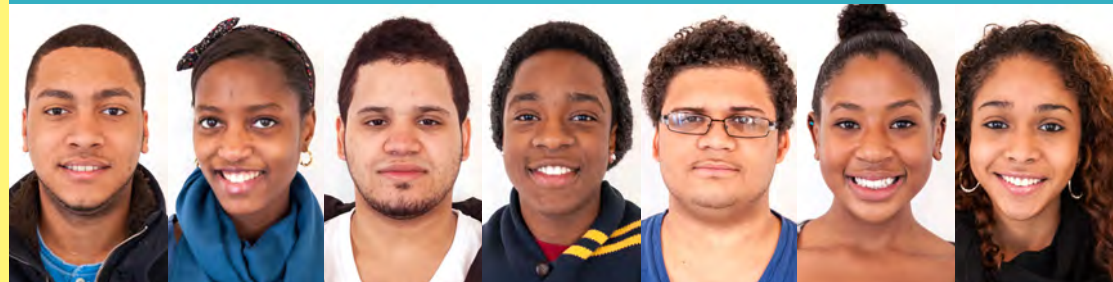
The exhibition featured sculptures of hand-hewn cedar, dyed fabric, and found objects that reference the structural antecedents of regional Dutch barns and other remnants of agrarian life. Rachel Foullon's visceral and beautiful sculptures are unsentimental distillations of the spaces and objects connected with these historical models.

Rachel Foullon
Commensurate with Modern Progress (detail), 2010
 Canvas, inland red cedar, dye, stain, sea salt, and hardware
 156 x 192 x 17 inches
 Courtesy of the artist and ltd los angeles, Los Angeles, California

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Student audiences come to the University Art Museum for many reasons: as a leisure-time activity, for lectures and special programs, for class visits, and as part of assigned projects. Our staff is always available to accommodate students' needs, from answering inquiries about museum-related professions, to giving information on how to participate in our student advisory group, to speaking about a work of art on view.

The museum staff plays an important role in the academic life of the university by conducting exhibition and class tours in the museum. This year we welcomed over thirty-five student groups and classes including Cultural Diversity and the Human Experience, Images and Issues of Diversity, Intensive English Language, and Journalism, as well as regular visits from the Honors College and UAlbany international students. For the first time, we presented tours for 175 freshmen arriving on campus during the Great Danes Beginnings program. And we are always pleased to host classes from area institutions, which this year included the College of St. Rose, Hudson Valley Community College, RPI, Sage Colleges, and area high schools.



UNIVERSITY FINE ART COLLECTIONS

The museum serves as caretaker for the Fine Art Collections, which consist of over 3,000 objects with a focus on modern and contemporary works on paper. This year the museum was honored to receive a gift of seventy-seven photographs from the Estate of Gertrud E. Feininger, widow of the photographer Andreas Feininger (1906–1999), son of Bauhaus teacher and painter Lyonel Feininger. Andreas studied cabinet making and architecture as a young man and worked for a year in Paris as an assistant architect to Le Corbusier. In 1933, Feininger left for Stockholm, where he worked as an architect and later as a photographer. He served as staff photographer at LIFE Magazine from 1943 to 1962, and continued as a freelance photographer until 1990. Largely self-taught, he published over fifty photographic manuals and technical books.

The works donated date from 1929 through 1984 and include exhibition-quality prints and study images from almost all periods of Feininger's career, including early photographs of Germany and Sweden, experimental and manipulated images, scientific studies, and New York City street scenes, for which he is well known. Feininger's works are represented in the permanent collections of museums all over the world.

The museum also received gifts of seventeen paintings, sculptures, photographs, and works on paper, by Judith Braun '83, David Hayes, Marietta Hoferer, Aaron Holz '01, William Jaeger, Ann Mataraso '02, Antoni Milkowski, and Jack Youngerman. Five works by Allen Yates '99 were purchased from the *2012 Artists of the Mohawk Hudson Region* exhibition through the Arthur N. Collins '48 Alumni Association Purchase Award.

Andreas Feininger, *Ice on Fishing Boat Rigging*, 1940-1941, gelatin silver print
 Gift of Estate of Gertrud E. Feininger, 2011; University at Albany Foundation Collection



WORK-STUDY PROGRAM

Each semester the University Art Museum employs seven to ten students from UAlbany's undergraduate Work-Study program. They serve as museum monitors and gallery attendants greeting visitors to the museum during open hours; they staff our special events, receptions, and tours, as well as assist with exhibition preparation and installation. Over the past year Work-Study students could be found at tasks ranging from setting up chairs for a lecture to ironing the fabric of Rachel Foullon's massive sculptures.

This fall six of our Work-Study students are freshmen, and one junior, all of whom came to UAlbany from the Metropolitan New York area. Recently they wrote about their experiences at the museum. Nora Vega was excited to "actually be able to meet the artists who are exhibiting their work and see behind the scenes to what makes an exhibition successful...little details make a big difference!" Many students mentioned the museum's peaceful and beautiful environment and felt that having an art museum on campus helped students think more creatively. Kasha Amar noted that working at the museum "helps me see a lot more beauty in the world." From "learning to be on time" to "patching walls, handling art work, and talking to visitors" our students receive valuable experience from their work here, and the museum couldn't function without them! We hope the University Art Museum will serve as a model for what a museum can be for our students and that through our work together we have helped to foster a life-long relationship with art and art museums.

Work-Study students from left to right:
 Jeffrey Hidalgo, Kasha Amar, Angel Duran, Dadyrann Lee-Morris,
 Ramon Hinojosa, BreAsia Braddy, and Nora Vega

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, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

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- * Individuals whose employers generously matched their gifts
- ** Employers who have generously matched gifts of their employees
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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 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 2011-2012.

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) 225-1229.

PREVIEW 2013

Day After Day: The Diaristic Impulse

February 5 – April 6, 2013



Laurel Nakadate
March 9, 2010, From the Series 365 Days:
A Catalogue of Tears, 2011
C-print, 40 x 50 inches
Courtesy of Leslie Tonknow Artworks + Projects, New York

The exhibition will feature artists whose obsessive desire to record day-to-day activities, document private worlds, or chart the passage of time is reflected in work that serves as either a staging ground for more ambitious projects, or as an end in itself. Artists include Guy Ben-Ner, Simon Evans, Ray Hamilton, Byron Kim, Meridith McNeal, Laurel Nakadate, David Shapiro, Rirkrit Tiravanija, Harvey Tulcensky, and Martin Wilner.

Major support for this exhibition is provided by Kathryn Zox '83.

William Lamson

June 27 – September 7, 2013



William Lamson
Solarium, 2012
Steel, glass, sugar, plants, 10 x 10 x 8 feet

William Lamson works in video, photography, performance, and sculpture. His work addresses issues of masculinity, amateurism, science, play, and the illusive quest for personal heroism that accompanies these subjects.

Michelle Segre

June 27 – September 7, 2013



Michelle Segre
Portal, 2007
Beeswax, papier-mâché, foam, wood, metal
and pigment, 77 x 80½ x 22¼ inches

The exhibit will feature Michelle Segre's idiosyncratic drawings and new sculptures, which use reworked armatures and recycled materials in combination with elements such as rocks, milk crates, papier-mâché, colored yarn, and plaster to reflect her intuitive, highly personal approach to materials.

MUSEUM STAFF:

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

COVER IMAGE:

Dana Hoey
Electric Lady (detail), 2012
Digital inkjet print, 24 x 16 inches
Courtesy of the artist and Friedrich Petzel Gallery, New York