



Myers News

Myers Students Experience Art Firsthand at Art Basel Miami Beach and the Venice Biennale

Through the support of generous donors, the Myers School of Art will be taking twelve students to Art Basel Miami Beach and six students to the Venice Biennale on all-expense paid trips this fall to view the latest offerings in the contemporary art world.

Art Basel Miami Beach is the largest event showcasing fine art galleries in the United States. Students will have the opportunity to view original art from across the country and network with some of the leading commercial galleries and dealers. Every year, approximately 40 students are nominated by their faculty and asked to write travel grants as part of the selection process. The top twelve applicants are selected based on the merit of their proposal, how much the trip will influence their own artistic development and how they intend to communicate what they learned from the experience to the larger school community.

The 53rd International Art Exhibition (otherwise known as the Venice Biennale) attracts up to over a million visitors every two years and showcases the most avant-garde artists from around the world. Through the generous support of the Folk Charitable Foundation, six top students were selected by their faculty to receive this all-expense paid trip to Venice, Italy. During this trip, students will have the opportunity to visit pavilions representing artists from over 60 different countries. By exposing students to the best the art world has to offer, Myers students will have the confidence and experience to reach their fullest artistic potential.

Bottom photo: by Jeff Dumire



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From the Director

Nothing stirs excitement in the inquisitive mind like the start of a new school year! For the art and design student, it is a new cycle of creativity and problem-solving a

Faculty SPOTLIGHT

Three New Faculty Members Hired To Build New Programs And Meet The Needs Of Growing Enrollments

The Myers School of Art was fortunate to hire three very accomplished full-time faculty members this summer to develop new curriculum and expand our growing art programs.

Eunsu Kang

Eunsu Kang, Assistant Professor of New Media, was hired to help develop a new interactive New Media program within the school. Kang is an international media artist from Korea having received an MFA from Ewha Woman's University and an MA in Media Arts and Technology from MAT at the University of California at Santa Barbara. She is currently finishing her Ph.D. at the Center for Digital Arts and Experimental Media (DXARTS) at the University of Washington.



Professor Kang's interest in a body without a 'normal' communicative method and its metamorphosis into a 'singing' body has been embodied as a hybrid artwork with interactive video, spatial sound, installation and performance. Her work has been shown in numerous exhibitions, including six international venues, and she has been recognized with many awards including the Insa Web/Mobile Art Project Award, the Korean National Juried Project Award, the 2005 Korean National Award for Emerging Artists and a 2009 Hybrid Art grant from the Arts Council of Korea.

Melissa Stallard

Melissa Stallard joins the faculty as an Assistant Professor of Photography. Professor Stallard, a Northeast Tennessee native, received her BFA from East Tennessee State University in 2003 and her MFA in Photography from Columbia College, Chicago, in 2008. She brings extensive teaching and exhibition experience having taught at Radford University and Columbia College as well as having over a dozen exhibitions under her belt.



Professor Stallard's series of work, *Worth The Trip*, will be on exhibition at Virginia Intermont College in Bristol, Virginia, during the month of October this year.

David Szalay

David Szalay, Assistant Professor of Graphic Design, comes to the school with a BFA in Graphic Design and an MA in Communications from The University of Akron. He brings extensive professional design experience having worked as a graphic designer at Malone Advertising, Creative Director at Andrews-Bartlett Exposition Services (later acquired by GES Exposition Services) and Vice-President of Creative Services at AGC, Inc, a full service print communications firm. In 1996, Professor Szalay founded Szalay Design Associates, Inc, a multidisciplinary design studio which produces print, interactive media, illustration, video, and exhibits for businesses and institutions.



Professor Szalay's interests include children's book illustration, sustainability, design management, ideation strategies, and new technologies in communication.

problem solving, a new chance at further defining their individual identities as the creative talent of the future. With three new faculty hires, and student trips to ART/Basel/Miami and the Venice Biennale, this semester will be a blockbuster in our school's history. Add to this the visiting artists, Philip-Lorca diCorcia, Lucas Reiner, Camille Utterback, along with our Collider new media exhibition, and our Jon Onye Lockard/Woodrow Nash exhibition: "From an Africentric Point of View", and you have compelling evidence of why The University of Akron is setting a new "gold standard" among America's best places to study art and design. I am thrilled to begin my fourth year as School Director, because at Myers School of Art I am working with faculty and supporting staff whose aspirations for excellence are truly unsurpassed.

- Del Rey Loven

Color is my day-long obsession, joy and torment.

~Claude Monet

UPCOMING
Student Dates

Foundation Reviews
Oct. 8 & 9

Student SPOTLIGHT

Collaborative Artists Daniel Coffield and Kevin Smalley

Daniel Coffield and Kevin Smalley are Painting/Drawing majors in the Myers School of Art who collaborate to create multimedia works and installations. Their obsessive, innovative, and often eccentric work has won multiple awards, created opportunities for exhibitions, and provided them with creative outlets and jobs throughout Northeast Ohio. The two have had their work exhibited in such venues as Summit Art Space, The Akron Art Museum, Ohio Theatre, Akron Civic Theatre, and Don Drumm Studios. Coffield and Smalley describe their work accordingly: "We strive to provide a sense of wonderment in our work and we always want people to leave our shows craving to see what we come up with next."



Between their many school projects, they are busy finishing up a miniature scale movie set for a film company in Cleveland and preparing for their upcoming show, 'The Garden of Earthly Delights' which will open at Don Drumm Studios in Akron on October 24th. Future projects include participating and showing work in Akron's 'First Night' event (for the second year in a row) as well as the creation of an enormous multimedia sculptural aquarium which will hold both Coffield and Smalley while they operate a multitude of aquatic puppets.

'The Garden of Earthly Delights' exhibition will open at the Don Drumm Studios (437 Crouse Street, Akron) on October 24th and run through November 7th (with an opening reception on Oct. 24th, from 6-10pm). Work will be available for purchase.

Alumni SPOTLIGHT

Todd Bertsch - Class '97 works with Graphic Design Students to Help Local Non-Profit Imani Foundation

A summer design project teaches university students about working in the real world and the importance of contributing to their community-in this case, a non-profit established to help high school students achieve higher education.



Four University of Akron Myers School of Art graphic design students, led by their teacher Todd Bertsch, spent the summer designing an identity system, including a logo, for an up-and-coming, Akron-based non-profit. The Imani Foundation launches with its new, student-designed identity and a mission to help inner-city youth explore, engage, and learn about higher education. In turn, this design challenge helped university students gain real work experience. [Read Full Story](#)

Myers alumni, we want to hear from you! Contact Kate Harmon at kharmon@uakron.edu and tell us what you are doing.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Collider: Interactivity and New Media

9/21/2009 - 10/31/2009, Emily Davis Gallery

The Collider Exhibition Series examines the impact, implications and inspiration of the phenomenon generally categorized under the umbrella term New Media within the design practice and the fine arts.



[LEARN MORE ►](#)

Lucas Reiner, Los Angeles Trees - Lecture Series

Monday, October 12, 6:30pm, Folk Hall 165

A painter from the well-known Hollywood film dynasty, Lucas Reiner has been painting since the mid-eighties and has recently focused his attention on depicting trees from the Los Angeles-based neighborhoods that he frequents.



[LEARN MORE ►](#)

Lucas Reiner, On Alameda Ave. #1 (SCF), oil on canvas

Philip-Lorca diCorcia - Fred and Laura Ruth Bidwell Photography Series

November 10, 2009 - 6:30pm | Akron Art Museum Auditorium, FREE ADMISSION

Philip-Lorca diCorcia's work challenges the inherent truth of the photographic medium by capturing seemingly random genre scenes and infusing them with a theatricality that leads one to question the reality of the subjects depicted.



[LEARN MORE ►](#)

Philip-Lorca di Corcia, Head #10, 2000, Fujicolor Crystal Archive Print

Mary Schiller Myers School of Art - ANNUAL HOLIDAY SALE

Friday Dec 4, 2009, 11am-9pm, Saturday Dec 5, 10am-5pm

Folk Hall Atrium

The Holiday Sale features one-of-a-kind and limited production art work made by the Myers School of Art students and alumni.



[LEARN MORE ►](#)

Austin Miller

Emily Davis Gallery Information

Hours: MTFS 10-5pm WTH 10-9pm

Contact Info

Gallery Phone: 330-972-5059

Address: 150 E. Exchange Street Akron, OH 44325

[Map/Directions ►](#)



**Free Parking on Opening Events
Free Admission**

The nationally known Emily Davis Gallery has a long history of presenting engaging exhibitions of emerging and established contemporary artists. It is the main visual, fine arts exhibition space of The University of Akron.

Giving to the Myers School of Art

The need for private support of higher education and the arts has never been greater, and your gift can help our students reach their highest possible levels of achievement.

Last year our school awarded approximately \$25,000 in scholarships to art students. This year, the impact of the market turn down has significantly reduced our available funds from endowed scholarships. We are working to fill that gap with private support, and ask for your assistance.

Please consider helping our students. You can give an unrestricted gift, or you may designate your gift for student scholarships, programming, educational travel, or equipment and facility needs

Please contact Kyle Kutuchief at 330-972-8590 or KyleK@uakron.edu for more information. You may also make a contribution on-line at <https://www.uakron.edu/donate/>. All contributions are tax-deductible.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Del Rey Loven - Director

The Mary Schiller Myers School of Art

**For more information visit us online at:
art.uakron.edu**