



ART GALLERY NEWS RELEASE

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Tufts University Art Gallery

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MFA Thesis Exhibition • April 5-24, 2005

Joint Graduate Degree Program of Tufts University and SMFA, Boston

Opening Reception: Thursday, April 7, 5:30-8:30 pm

MEDFORD, MA - An MFA Thesis Exhibition of twelve artists in the joint graduate degree program of Tufts University and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston opens April 5 at the Tufts University Art Gallery. This exhibition of contemporary art including installation, sculpture, photography, and video is the third of four in an ongoing series of MFA thesis exhibitions shown annually at the Gallery.

Artists' Statements



Nicole Arendt

"Once upon a time, in a land far far away, in an alternate universe from our own, there was a girl. She dreamed of another world different than her own. One fine day, she boarded a space ship. This ship would bring her to a place where her hopes and dreams would be answered. Idealism filled her heart. She knew that this place would give her everything she desires..."



Hilary Baldwin

At night, I passed a wall being built under a fluorescent plumb-line, one stone stacked upon another. Where the string was held taut by a wooden stake at the end of a half-finished row, a stray beam from a streetlight illuminated a crushed can of generic brand orange soda, and I felt implicated in some mysterious unfolding plot. Knowing the mood would be broken by dawn, I gave in to an urge to pick up the soda-can and take it home.



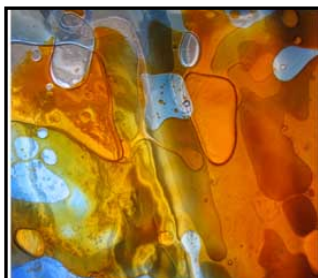
Leah Bedrosian

NotYourAverageArmenian

Age: 23 **Height:** 6'4" **Weight:** (I'll tell you later)

Body Type: Athletic/Fit **Location:** Boston, MA

About me: I have never dated another Armenian before. I guess it's becoming more important to me. I mean, I could never imagine marrying someone who didn't know what *latmajun* is. I am the type of person who always has a large group of friends, but also prefers quiet time at home. **About my match:** I'm pretty open...contact me and I'll let you know if you fit the bill. To find out more about me go to www.armeniandate.net.



Yvonne Boogaerts

There is something appealing about being displaced, off-set, relocated, elevated and situated in ways that are unfamiliar. Novel visual perspectives result in new takes on ordinary situations, places and materials. Your interactions and experiences are part of the art. Allow yourself to be

surrounded with color and see the everyday transform and amuse you.



Gina Dawson *Movie Star Homes*

I am greatly interested in the lore and lure of Los Angeles and I am particularly interested in celebrities that I have felt a personal connection to at some time in my life. In stitching the map to the stars homes I have personalized an object that millions of tourists purchase. Through countless hours of reproduction, watching movies while stitching, I have become intimately familiar with L.A.'s famous addresses, landmarks, and productions. There is a literal thread between this place and me.



Amy Finkelstein

This work explores the non-objective presence of light and sound and the ability of these mediated motions to envelop space and the senses. The work is a document in two parts of a darkened space illuminated with electric light, and the places it has revealed. Analog photographs evidence a potentially existent, somehow familiar place. A panoramic room houses the movements and sounds found there.

Aimee LaPorte

I am interested in forces. I began this lottery tickets. These around my graphics immediately. lexicon from that of fantasy. My interest about life and death



chance and collaboration with unseen body of work by amassing a collection of I found on the ground simply by walking neighborhood. I was attracted to the The icons used in the tickets range in the gambler to magic and dreamy childhood here lies in the subliminal conversation and suffering.



Lior Neiger

Space Available directs attention to places that we tend to perceive as an authority; from telescopes and imaging devices to computers. The works move from far corners of our universe to pixels on a computer screen, while subverting the subject to reveal an unexpected aspect. In the series of photographs *Voyage around my Room*, for example, what seem like telescope-generated images turn out to be round-cropped pieces of apartment walls. *Space Available* includes video, paintings, and photographs that create "Constellation Art": a group of

works with visual and thematic proximity but with gaps to keep each part free-floating.



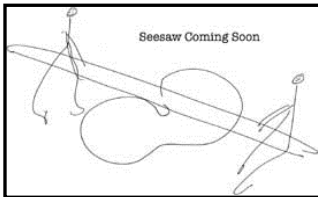
Juniper Perlis

Dear Dad: I am writing to invite you to my Master's of Fine Arts thesis exhibition at Tufts University. I have been studying at the Museum School in Boston for the last two and a half years, knowing you have a place in Somerville. The work I have been doing for the last year or so has been inspired by searching for you, wanting to see you, and by anxieties which accompany the searching.



Evelyn Rydz *Mapping Lineage*

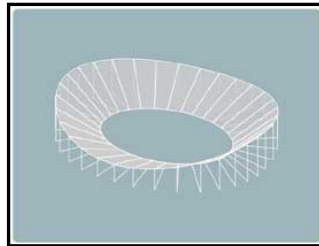
Mapping Lineage is a project prepared with collected fragments and conglomerates of landscapes woven together through line. It is made up of layered links, connections, and voids. It is concerned with problems and possibilities of space, relocation and adaptation, simultaneity of perspectives, the fragility in cycles of time, decay, and renewal, fluctuations evolving, transforming, and morphing malleable matter and memory, the intimacy of breathing, hope, gravity and the inevitability found within traces and marks of our accumulated experiences.



Erin M. Sadler

In part, the art object is the *object petit a*: setting desire in motion, tempering *jouissance*, permitting extravagance, naturalizing perversion within a fantasy-place, the gallery space. When it strikes my tongue - well then, I've certainly encountered something.

Tim Saltarelli
Upon uncovering the Worcester cyclist predate those of so too was the Cambridge being being divided, Necco, the park may elliptical wooden



tragic story of 'Major' Taylor, the and vaudevillian whose accomplishments famed heavyweight champion Jack Johnson, history of the Charles River Park in uncovered. In the early 1900s, before redeveloped, and eventually sold to or may not have housed a small, uniquely racetrack.

Gallery Talks with the artists:

Wednesday, April 13, 12:15-1:00 pm
Thursday, April 14, 6:00 pm
Thursday, April 21, 6:00 pm

Schedule of 2004-05 MFA Thesis Exhibitions:

December 2-19, 2004 · January 18-30, 2005 · **April 5-24, 2005** · May 3-22, 2005

Feeling Lucky: Recent Sculpture by Karl Stirner • April 7–August 14, 2005

Opening Reception: Thursday, April 7, 5:30–8:30 pm



Karl Stirner selects steel plate from the scrap yards of eastern Pennsylvania to create his "essentialist" sculpture. His early influence came from his childhood obsession with the collection and study of natural objects. Later, he worked as a blacksmith and metal-worker, producing ecclesiastic and hand-forged products. Stirner's sculpture has evolved also in response to many non-sculptural and non-western sources. For over 30 years he has collected 20th century West African, Pre-Columbian, and Polynesian sculpture and objects. By working and reworking appropriated elements, Stirner coaxes an austere beauty from obdurate metal and forges a delicate balance of positive and negative volumes. His work thoroughly transforms ponderous material into substantial, at times luminous, burnished forms that allude to the anthropomorphized body and body parts and to the functionality of oversized furniture or containers. More recently, he has begun to incorporate photographic images into his constructions, as in *Barbara's Room*. This selection of recent sculpture is Stirner's first solo museum presentation in New England.

The mission of the Tufts University Art Gallery is to animate the intellectual life of the greater university community through exhibitions and programs exploring new, global perspectives on art and on art discourse.

The gallery is located in the Aidekman Arts Center on the Tufts University Medford campus. The Gallery is fully accessible and admission is free. Hours are 11am to 5 pm Tuesday through Sunday and Thursdays until 8 pm. Free event parking is available in the parking lots surrounding the Aidekman Arts Center. Parking is also available in metered parking spaces on Latin Way Road and in the Dowling Hall parking garage at 419 Boston Avenue. Please visit www.tufts.edu/as/gallery or call 617-627-3518 for more information.