

ART GALLERY NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release—October 15, 2007

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Tufts University Art Gallery

at the Aidekman Arts Center

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**MFA THESIS
EXHIBITION**

November 29 – December 16, 2007

Public Opening Reception: Thursday, November 29, 5:30-8:30pm

Gallery Talk with the Artists: Thursday, December 6, 6:00pm

MEDFORD, MA – An **MFA Thesis Exhibition** of six artists in the joint graduate degree program of Tufts University and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston opens **November 29** at the **Tufts University Art Gallery**. This exhibition of contemporary art is the first in an annual, ongoing series of MFA Thesis Exhibitions presented by Tufts.

JANINE BIUNNO

"I have selected a set of landmarks that symbolically define the space that I occupy then created a panorama of that space that contrasts a "literal" depiction of it. My constructed and augmented panorama is generated out of my recent experiences in Boston and is a result of my constantly changing perceptions of this place. *My personal image development has facilitated the creation of new symbolic devices??*"



CATHLEEN FAUBERT

Floating



"My work focuses on the intersection of hedonism, escapism, excess, the uncanny and the carnivalesque. I will transform the Gallery into a theater of the ridiculous through multiple video projections and a glowing pile of cotton candy. The video work depicts me emerging from and falling into mounds of cotton candy, as well as an overwhelming projection of the cotton candy making machine. The viewer will navigate a darkened, esoteric space amidst sights and smells of the candy while confronted with fantastical video projections."

JEANNE EVANS

Able series



"The "Able" series of photographs began when I took my father, who requires a wheelchair, on vacation. I thought about how people end up in a wheelchair and how they do the things that people without limitations take for granted. I imagined how inconvenient life becomes when, one day, you stand upright and the next you're in a wheelchair."

MAYA FREELON

Reconstruction



"I explore notions of separation, permanence and continuity, through ripped tissue paper sculpture bound in a spiraling vortex. By questioning both death and the desire to save and protect, I am emphasizing the appreciation and importance of right now."

ELIZABETH PASSELA



Visitor (Ghost)

“This series of paintings describes the complex nature of the artist’s relationship to art and art history. I look at a painting to see how it is constructed (brushstroke) and what that construction conveys. I take a photograph of the painting in the gallery space and look at how that is constructed (pixels) and what has been added or deleted from the original. I digitally alter the photograph and construct a new painting from the result. This process of creation and destruction mimics the emotions an artist experiences looking at art.”

LISA SAWLIT



**Drawing the Cast: A Return to Wisdom, Knowledge and Skill
A Pedagogical Installation on Contemporary Realism**

“My installation demonstrates, if not tests the relevance of the antique replica to post modernity. Taken from Caproni casts of the Apollo Belvedere, the installation features five cast drawings done for the first time in the round and contextualized within a site specific, 21st century academic art exhibition. Viewers will learn of expert studio practices and the tradition of cast drawing within the Museum School’s legacy as a former École des Beaux-Arts.”

LAURA TORRES



Paute

“Efficient manipulation of electricity gives us the technology we enjoy today. My installation looks into the mechanics and culture that surround electricity in contemporary Ecuador and the subsequent methods of do-it-yourself resistance in the form of hacked popular culture and technology.”

ANDREA WENGLOWSKYJ



Embroidery Study for Anxiety of Amnesia

“My cultural identity is a social and political construct as well as something composed of my daily choices. Honor, pride, and dedication to my family’s Ukrainian heritage battle the effects of time, distance, and inevitable cultural transformations. The heritage “industry” promotes diasporic culture through the recycling and repetition of activities, language, and crafts. Using advertising, photography, and traditional Ukrainian embroidery design, my project is digitally-constructed, industrially-fabricated, and autobiographical.”

EILEEN YAGHOBIAN



Dance Pieces

“The dancing girls, *Dance two*, *The dark dark dance*, *Cha cha dance*, *Maxine honey dance* and *Shannon dance* are sound and video vignettes taken from the “Dance Pieces” series. I am interested in the tension created between the soundtrack and the image. This video series of shorts is my homage to the dance scenes from three films I love; Akira Kurosawa’s *Stray Dog*, Terrence Malick’s *Badlands* and John Huston’s *The Night of the Iguana*.”

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The **Tufts University Art Gallery** animates 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 daytime visitor parking** is available in the two parking lots off Lower Campus Road. Parking passes must be obtained at the front desk of the gallery and displayed on your dashboard. Free event parking is available without a pass in the lot behind the Aidekman Arts Center, off Lower Campus Road. Visit our website: www.ase.tufts.edu/gallery or call 617-627-3518 for more information.