

For Immediate Release—April 1, 2011

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Tufts University Art Gallery

at the Aidekman Arts Center

40 Talbot Avenue, Medford, MA 02155

<http://artgallery.tufts.edu>

MFA THESIS EXHIBITION: May 5 - May 22, 2011
Gallery Talk with the Artists: Thursday, May 5, 5:00-6:00pm
Public Opening Reception: Thursday, May 5, 5:30-8:00pm

MEDFORD, MA – An **MFA Thesis Exhibition** of five artists in the joint graduate degree program of Tufts University and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston opens **May 5th** at the Tufts University Art Gallery. This is the third of three MFA Thesis Exhibitions for the 2010-2011 school year.



COURTLAND J. BLADE

Blade will be exhibiting oil paintings that deal with ideas of supermodernity, isolation, and non-places. He creates images of subways, hotel spaces, motorways and other spaces of transience that generally do not hold a specific history. Blade allows the paint to be painted while incorporating color theory and referencing different modes of painting. His images reflect the social and structural shift that our present world is making.

The Parking Garage, 2011, oil on canvas, 30x40 inches.



PAUL ENDRES JR.

Endres' graduate work, *Paintings from the American Burden* by P.J. Endres Jr. is equal parts comedy and tragedy, the frenzied group scenes are painted memorials to the events of an alternate reality. A dark pact made by television light and a vivacious afternoon beheading serve as subject matter for the doomed hero artist, P.J. Endres Jr., who may be as flawed as the accomplices he paints.

The Beheading of Our Savior David Ocampo in the Interest of Preservation and Future Rejuvenation, Seventeenth Day in October, in the Year of Our Lord, 2010-2011, acrylic on canvas, 62x96 inches.



LISA GROSS

Gross' installation documents The Boston Tree Party --a participatory and collaborative public project to plant 100 pairs of heirloom apple trees in civic spaces across the Greater Boston area from Feb. 2011 - Nov. 2016. As an urban agriculture project, the campaign creates vital gathering places, builds community connections, and improves community health. As a conceptual art project, The Boston Tree Party engages with metaphor and symbolism, and playfully reimagines patriotic and political language, imagery, and forms of association. Visit www.bostontreeparty.org for more information.

Lisa Gross and Shea Cadrin, *The Boston Tree Party Flag, 2011, printed cloth, size variable.*



INGRID DE AGUIAR SANCHEZ

The root of Sanchez's work lies in hybridism and the cross-breeding of language. *Fragmentos* is an installation piece that consists of thousands of ephemeral tiles, each composed of screen printed imaginary organisms that repeat and transform themselves into a narrative constantly renewed through a non-linear progression. As an artist and immigrant, Sanchez's oeuvre does not follow traditional conventions of painting, printmaking or sculpture, rather it devours all of these elements in order to create something that can easily adapt to a foreign environment.

Carnivorous from the installation *Fragmentos, 2011, screen-printed on leather, 6x4 inches.*



MONG-JANE WU

Mong-jane's work is an inquiry of Americanized Chinese cuisine. It considers the generic composition of Chinese takeout food a result and metaphor of the relocation of culture. The show consists of photographs of archetypal dishes and sculptures that identify the characteristics of a Chinese takeout restaurant. Spatial arrangements of the two further suggest possible conditions of cultural assimilation and adaptation.

Beef and Broccoli, 2011, photograph.

The Tufts University Art Gallery is fully accessible and admission is free. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Sunday, 11:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Thursdays until 8 pm. Free visitor parking is available in the Jackson parking lot off Lower Campus Road. For more information visit <http://artgallery.tufts.edu>