Medford, MA – The Tufts University Art Gallery has commissioned internationally noted Argentine conceptual artist, photographer, and human rights activist Marcelo Brodsky to create a public art project, entitled “Human Tides,” with participation from eight Tufts students. The public art project takes the form of an outdoor banner located on the University’s main campus in Medford-Somerville at the Mayer Campus Center on Talbot Avenue. The art work will be unveiled and launched at an outdoor public reception on Wednesday, June 15th, from 3 to 4:30pm at the Campus Center’s lower patio at 12 Talbot Avenue, Medford. The project is funded in part by a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and is the latest addition to the Gallery’s Museum Without Walls program (visit: tuftsart.toursphere.com).

Brodsky conceived the Tufts public art project in the spring of 2015 after receiving the Jean Mayer Award from the Tufts Institute for Global Leadership. He photographed the globe he received as part of the award and they composed a digital montage, which forms the ground of the composition. Brodsky chose the theme of contemporary global migrations and refuge and worked during an artist residency in mid-March with Tufts students to develop the textual interventions that appear across the banner’s surface. Student workshop participants researched an aspect of this theme that connected to his/her academic coursework and interests and contributed some of the textual interventions.

Brodsky, based in Buenos Aires, is best known as a conceptual photographer whose practice focuses on the physical and psychic effects of civil and human rights abuses during Argentina’s dirty war (1976-83). Director of Galleries and Collections Amy Ingrid Schlegel served as the project curator and Tufts Professor Peter Winn, an expert on modern and contemporary Latin American history and the “battles” for historical memory in the aftermath of dictatorships there, served as the project advisor.

Brodsky’s goal for this public art project is to promote and encourage thinking about world affairs within an art perspective and engender wider discussion about the complexity of issues at stake with current migration crises in different geographical, social, and political environments simultaneously.

The Tufts University Art Gallery’s Museum Without Walls outreach program is a web app with stories, images, and videos about works of art on Tufts’ main campus that allows anyone to connect with diverse works of art through participatory exploration. To learn more about “Human Tides,” Visit: http://tuftsart.toursphere.com