



UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM
UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY State University of New York

1400 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12222



Bryan Zanishnik, *The Bough That Falls With All Its Trophies Hung*, 2009
C-print, 35 x 83 inches
Courtesy of the artist and Aspect/Ratio, Chicago

UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY

2015

Year-End Report



FROM THE DIRECTOR



This year the museum received two prestigious University awards: the 2015 President's Award for Exemplary Public Engagement and inaugural year funding from the President's Initiative for Research and Scholarship. Although the work recognized may not be immediately apparent to our visiting public, it is an important part of our role on campus and in the community.

In April, along with only eight other organizations and individuals, the museum received the UAlbany President's Award for Exemplary Public Engagement for its collaboration with the Performing Arts Center, the New York State Writers Institute, and The University at Albany Foundation for *Looking at Lemon: Transforming Life Through Literature*. A high school drop-out and three-time felon turned poet, actor, and performance artist, Lemon Andersen read his poetry to a packed house at the museum and *County of Kings*, the play based on his life, was warmly received by audiences at the Performing Arts Center. While these events were the "public face" of his visit to Albany, a partnership with Albany High School and the Albany Fund for Education made it possible for Lemon to spend two days with students from Albany High's theater and English classes. The program included a visit to see Lemon's play with pre- and post-performance discussions, as well as small group workshops with the artist himself. In the workshops, Lemon stressed that every life has a story, and students were given the opportunity to write and perform poems based on their own experiences. There were many award-worthy performances!

This spring, after a comprehensive peer-reviewed evaluation process, the Department of Art and Art History and the museum were among fourteen recipients selected to receive inaugural funding from the Presidential Initiatives Fund for Research and Scholarship. Spanning the life sciences and biomedical research, forensic science and cyber security, advanced data analytics, and the liberal arts and humanities, the initiative provided seed funding for novel research, discovery, innovation, scholarship and artistic creation. Our project "Picturing the Anthropocene" supported research for a multidisciplinary program exploring the destabilizing impact of global climate change and our conflicted relationship to the natural world. It will culminate next year in a major contemporary art exhibition and related public programs. Drawing on guest speakers and UAlbany scholars, writers, and researchers across the disciplines, the museum will become a site for weekly talks, performances, readings, and informal conversations related to the subject of climate change within a broad scientific, literary, historical and geopolitical framework. While major breakthroughs make headlines, meaningful research goes on every day at a great research university.

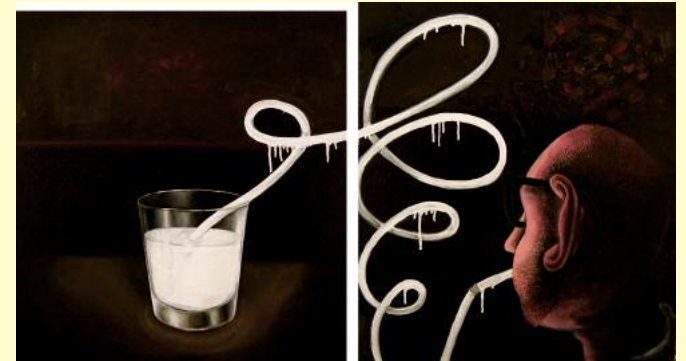
We hope that you will be able to join us for many of these timely and critically important discussions.

Best wishes to you and your family for the holiday season and the New Year.

Janet Fike

COLLECTION NEWS

The University Art Museum serves as caretaker for UAlbany's Fine Art Collections, which consist of over 3,000 works of art, with a focus on modern and contemporary works on paper. Selected works are exhibited in public spaces on campus, providing access to the collection for students, faculty, staff, and visitors.



Brian Cirimo, *Milk Drinker's Blues*, 2013, oil on canvas Diptych 18 x17 and 19 x17 inches

Each year, the museum purchases work by alumni artists from the *Artists of the Mohawk Hudson Region* exhibition with funds from the Alumni Association's annual Arthur N. Collins '48 Purchase Award. In 2015 the museum purchased *Milk Drinker's Blues*, a diptych by Brian Cirimo, MFA '02, and the digital C-print *Warm Gray Crescent* by Katria Foster, MFA '14.

The following gifts to the collection were received: four lithographs by Garo Antresian; a mixed media painting on linen by Andrew Brischler; a mixed media painting and three monoprints by Judith Brust; a steel sculpture by Richard Stankiewicz; a steel and applied copper sculpture and two works on paper by Marja Vallila. *Once Again, But Different This Time; The Canasta Edition* by Kevin Sommers was received from the Peter Norton 2014 Christmas Project.

1ST TUESDAY AT THE MUSEUM

The museum has launched a new program open to all UAlbany students to enjoy a free evening of food, friends, and art. 1st Tuesday at the Museum will be held from 5–8 pm on the first Tuesday of each month while exhibitions are open. The kickoff on October 6 invited visitors to meet the curator of the exhibitions *Bordering Utopia: Sculptures by Brian Tolle and Oded Hirsch: Three Videos*. Cider and donuts were served, and Corinna Ripps Schaming met informally with students to field questions about the curatorial process. On November 3, students completed an exhibition scavenger hunt to be eligible for the drawing of one coveted housing-lottery number provided by the Department of Residential Life. Funding for 1st Tuesdays is provided by the Jack and Gertrude Horan Memorial Endowment Fund to support student outreach.



2015 EXHIBITIONS AND PROGRAMS



Bryan Zanisnik
The Bough That Falls With All Its Trophies Hung (detail), 2009
C-print, 35 x 83 inches
Courtesy of the artist and Aspect/Ratio, Chicago

The Ties That Bind: Artists and Archives

February 17 – April 4

Artists Anna Craycroft, Aurélien Froment, Elise McMahon, Michael Oatman, Katerina Šedá, Shane Aslan Selzer, and Bryan Zanisnik use the archive in its myriad forms to explore our collective histories and shared humanity. Working in various mediums including video, photography, drawing, and installation, these artists comb a host of sources—the news, the street, the Internet, their own basements and attics—in search of images, objects, and memories that build on the social and cultural ties that continue to bind us together, for better or for worse.

Made possible with support from University Auxiliary Services (UAS) and the Ellsworth Kelly Foundation.



Daniel Brody, *Game On / Game Over*, 2015
Digital video, 9:15 minutes; color; sound
Courtesy of the artist

2015 Artists of the Mohawk Hudson Region

July 9 – September 5

This annual exhibition is one of the longest-running juried regionals in the country and provides a benchmark for contemporary art in the Adirondacks and Upper Hudson Valley. Juror Rachel Uffner, founder and director of Rachel Uffner Gallery, selected eighty-five works by forty-four artists. The exhibition included work in a variety of media, including painting, sculpture, drawing, photography, and video, reflecting the artists' expansive range of issues and perspective.

Major support provided by the Nancy Hyatt Liddle Fund for the Arts of The Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region. Additional support provided by the UAlbany Alumni Association through the Grandma Moses Fund, University Auxiliary Services (UAS), the Ellsworth Kelly Foundation, Michael A. Boots in honor of Ann C. Mataraso, Carol F. Bullard, and William and Stevi Swire. Juror's awards were supported by twenty-two area businesses and individuals.



Brian Tolle, *Autumn Compost*, 1997
Pine, glass, and Duratran, 22 1/2 X 22 1/2 X 3 inches
Collection of Laura and Norman Tolle

Bordering Utopia: Sculptures by Brian Tolle

October 6 – December 12

Focusing on Brian Tolle's ongoing interest in American utopian quests from colonial times through the postwar era, this exhibition is the first to bring together his earliest sculptural work from the 1990s with more recent sculptures. Tolle's structures look like familiar objects, though at closer examination, this very familiarity calls for further investigation. His objects grow out of detailed historical research that is materialized through highly crafted work combined with the latest techniques of production.

Funding provided by the UAlbany Alumni Association, University Auxiliary Services (UAS), and the Ellsworth Kelly Foundation.



Madison LaVallee, *LR/KIT/LAV/OLS*, 2015
Wood, paint, yarn, memory foam, bricks, plaster, fabric, glass, living plant, 6 x 6 x 2 feet

Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition

May 1 – 17

Master of Fine Arts degree candidates Anthony J. Camarota, Jaymee Harvey, Eric Lainson, Madison LaVallee, Thomas Makovitch, and Jason Kates van Staveren presented work that formed the core of their visual theses and demonstrated the expertise with which these emerging artists explore their media. Also featured was work by Master of Arts candidate Nancy Powhida.

Supported by the College of Arts and Sciences, the Department of Art and Art History, and the Ann C. Mataraso MFA '02 Endowment Fund in honor of Professor Emeritus Mark Greenwold.



Oded Hirsch, *50 Blue*, 2009, video, 12:30 minutes; color; sound
Courtesy of the artist and Thierry Goldberg Gallery, New York

Oded Hirsch: Three Videos

October 6 – December 12

Cast against stunningly formidable landscapes, a group of workers perform strenuous tasks across sea and land with anticlimactic results. Steered by unnerving determination, their efforts speak to the powers that drive collective faith, whatever the form.

Co-sponsored by the UAlbany Judaic Studies Program. Additional funding provided by University Auxiliary Services (UAS) and the Ellsworth Kelly Foundation.

SUPPORTERS

The following donors have contributed to the University at Albany Art Museum from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. These gifts include annual contributions, bequest intentions and gifts-in-kind.

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The University Art Museum gratefully acknowledges the continuing support of the University at Albany Office of the President, Office of the Provost, and The University at Albany Foundation.

THE UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY FOUNDATION

As UAlbany's fundraising and stewardship entity, The University at Albany Foundation manages the financial resources donors entrust to it, recognizes supporters for their generosity, and distributes their gifts in accordance with their wishes. Thanks to the generosity of UAlbany donors, The Foundation was able to present \$1,511,188 in scholarships/awards last year – an increase of almost \$360,000 from 2013-14. An additional \$3,124,456 supported faculty research and travel; the hiring of graduate assistants for research teams; the construction or renovation of state-of-the-art teaching and research facilities; and the purchase of specialized equipment.

Your tax-deductible gift to the University Art Museum through The University at Albany Foundation will likewise have great impact. The museum's continued success depends on the generosity of friends like you. Your contribution will support innovative exhibitions that enrich the intellectual life of the University and the community, as well as programs that engage audiences and foster understanding of contemporary visual arts.

To designate your contribution for the University Art Museum, please visit us online at www.albany.edu/giving. For more information about ways to support the museum, please call Michael Boots at 518-225-1229.

PREVIEW 2016

**Race, Labor, and Love:
New Work from the Center for
Photography at Woodstock's
Artist-in-Residency Program**

February 2 – April 2, 2016



LaToya Ruby Frazier, *Momme*, 2008
Gelatin silver print, 14 5/8 x 18 1/4 inches
The Center for Photography at Woodstock
Permanent Print Collection

Featuring photography, artist books, and video by twenty artists who probe the complexities of contemporary life through intimate revelations and with unflinching candor. Curated by Sarah Lewis, Assistant Professor, Departments of History of Art and Architecture and African and African American Studies, Harvard University. This exhibition was first presented at the Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, State University of New York at New Paltz, Fall 2014.

Keltie Ferris: Body Prints and Paintings

February 2 – April 2, 2016



Keltie Ferris, *A+R+G+O*, 2015
Acrylic and oil on canvas, 96 x 130 inches
Courtesy of the artist and Mitchell-Innes & Nash, New York

This exhibition will pay special focus on the evolution of Keltie Ferris's body prints from singular black and white impressions to multiple and increasingly colorful serial progressions. Also featured will be paintings from a cross-section of Ferris's career including the debut of her largest painting to date.

Gerard & Kelly

February 2 – April 2, 2016



Gerard & Kelly
Image from *Two Brothers*, 2015
Presented as part of *P.O.L.E. People, Objects, Language, Exchange* at the New Museum, New York, February 4–15, 2015

Collaborative artists Gerard & Kelly will present performance documentation that charts their prevailing concerns surrounding history, memory, and the present tense of performance. Screened as a single-channel video projection, these "documents" underscore the artists' inquiry into the relationships between performers and spectators, language and movement, intimacy and public space.

MUSEUM STAFF:

Darcie Abbatiello, Registrar
Alana Akacki, Administrative Assistant
Sotonye Douglas, Student Intern
Zheng Hu, Exhibition Designer
Naomi Lewis, Exhibition and Outreach Coordinator
Joanne Lue, Administrative Assistant
Sarah Perelstein, Intern and Michael A. Boots Award Recipient
David Reisine, Milton & Sally Avery Arts Foundation Intern
Janet Riker, Director
Cassandra Sanik, Student Intern
Corinna Ripps Schaming, Associate Director/Curator
Jeffrey Wright-Sedam, Preparator
Fernanda Fernandes, Rebecca Fortune, Hannah Hughes,
Ronisha Williams, Student Volunteers

COVER: Brian Tolle, *Vanitas Vanitatum*, 2009
Platinum silicon rubber, found hairdryer,
and linoleum tiles, 50 x 36 x 36 inches
Courtesy of the artist and CRG Gallery, New York



518-442-4035
www.albany.edu/museum