



NEWS RELEASE

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EMERGING ARTISTS' WORK ON VIEW AT THE UNH ART GALLERY

DURHAM, N.H. – Two outstanding exhibitions, the *2008 Senior B.A. and B.F.A. Exhibition* and the *2008 M.F.A. Thesis Exhibition (I)*, will be on view at The Art Gallery beginning April 19, 2008.

Showcasing the artistic talents of students graduating from the University of New Hampshire's Department of Art and Art History, the exhibitions include a wide variety of creative work in painting, ceramics, photography, drawing, woodworking, and printmaking. Both exhibitions will open with a preview reception on Friday, April 18, from 6 – 8 p.m. The artists will be present for the reception, which is open to the public. Admission is free.

The *2008 Senior B.A. and B.F.A. Exhibition* features works by eleven New Hampshire candidates for the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, including: Lindsay Bezich of Dover; Shawn Burke of Durham; Kimberly DeCicco of Dover; Alissa Feller of Newmarket; Lily Finnigan-Allen of Newmarket; Sean Hurley of Portsmouth; Lauri E. Lannan of Windham; Cailin Mateleska of Durham; K.Lee Mock of Portsmouth; Colleen Murphy of Dover; and Lindsay Forrest Wraga of Durham.

After an intense program of study, the students enrolled in the B.F.A. program draw upon their own experiences and interests to develop a strong body of work to showcase in this annual exhibition.

Through both abstract and representational means, they examine the visual relationships between light,

shape, texture, and color. Their works encompass a range of subject matter, from still-life and the human figure, to interior spaces and landscapes. Drawn from direct observation or the imagination, these works reflect each artist's vision, style, and technique.

Interior spaces are atmospherically rendered through the use of color and light in the personal still-life paintings of Lindsay Bezich, while expressive mark making and the use of texture in painting are explored in works by Kimberly DeCicco. The effects of changing natural light can also be found in work by K. Lee Mock, whose paintings evoke a sense of nostalgia while still capturing the spirit of the present moment. The interaction of inanimate and animate objects discarded in a communal space is reflected in Lily Finnigan-Allen's narrative paintings, while the struggle of nature pitted against the encroaching, synthetic man-made environment is the focus of Lindsay Forrest Wraga's paintings.

Sean Hurley's detailed prints take note of the urban landscape, treating architectural structures as engineered spaces, while Lauri E. Lannan's photographs explore the relationship of humans to their man-made environment. Alissa Lynn Feller's abstracted paintings question how human intervention has turned the natural landscape into ravaged land, depleted of its natural resources. In her photographs, Cailin Mateleska uses portraiture to create mood and communicate a preconceived theme, while the mixed-media portrait drawings of Shawn Burke capture the character of the sitter. Colleen Murphy creates installations of colorful child-like structures designed to capture the viewer's sense of creativity and imagination.

The *2008 Senior B.A. and B.F.A. Exhibition* will be on view through May 24, 2008 (closed May 5-7). A more intensive artistic exploration can be viewed in the concurrent exhibition showcasing the works of graduate students in the M.F.A. degree program in painting. The *2008 M.F.A. Thesis Exhibition (I)* features the work of M.F.A. candidates Denise Jansson and Rebecca M. Kallem. Jansson uses a direct

observation of the sitter as a starting point for a psychological examination of her subject in its environment. She manipulates the space around the figure, altering and distorting it, until the relationship between figure and space becomes ambiguous. Kallem explores how particular moments of light and color affect an object, endowing it with clarity and harmony, yet evoking a sense of mystery and mood. The *2008 M.F.A. Thesis Exhibition (I)* will be on view through May 4, 2008.

The *2008 M.F.A. Thesis Exhibition (I)* is funded in part by the Department of Art and Art History.

Both graduate and undergraduate exhibitions are funded in part by the Friends of The Art Gallery.

The Art Gallery presents exhibitions and programs open to the public free of charge. Weekly programs offered in conjunction with the current exhibitions include:

ArtBreak Programs

All programs are in The Art Gallery, Paul Creative Arts Center (PCAC).

Tuesday, April 22, 12:30 p.m. – 2 p.m.: Gallery Talk by exhibiting B.F.A. candidates Lindsay Bezich, Shawn Burke, Kimberly DeCicco, Lily Finnigan-Allen, Lauri E. Lannan, and K.Lee Mock, whose works are on view in the current *2008 Senior B.A. and B.F.A. Exhibition*.

Wednesday, April 23, noon – 2 p.m.: Gallery Talk/Performance Bachelor of Fine Arts degree candidates participating in the Undergraduate Research Conference, *The Naked Arts-Creativity Exposed: Act I*, including Alissa Lynn Feller, Sean Hurley, Cailin Mateleska, Colleen Murphy, and Lindsay Forrest Wraga, discuss their works on view in the current *2008 Senior B.A. and B.F.A. Exhibition*. Faith Wilding's *Waiting* is performed by students from Dr. Mara Witzling's *Contemporary Women Artists* seminar. Welcome and introduction of students by Dr. Taylor Eighmy, Interim Vice President for Research.

Wednesday, April 30, noon- 1 p.m.: Gallery Talk Master of Fine Arts degree candidates Denise Jansson and Rebecca M. Kallem discuss their work currently on view in the *2008 M.F.A. Thesis Exhibition (I)*.

The Art Gallery is open during the academic year: Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.;

Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday, 1-5 p.m.; closed Fridays and May 5 – 7. The Art

Gallery will be open on Commencement Day, Saturday, May 24, from 1-3 p.m.

The exhibitions and programs are supported in part by the Friends of The Art Gallery. Guided group tours for schools and other organizations are available with advance reservation by contacting Catherine A. Mazur, education and publicity coordinator, at catherine.mazur@unh.edu or 603-862-3713. For more information on the exhibitions and programs, contact The Art Gallery at 603-862-3712, art.gallery@unh.edu, or visit www.unh.edu/art-gallery.

Editors: The following high-resolution photos of works in the exhibition are available for download:

Selected images from the *2008 Senior B.A. and B.F.A. Exhibition*:



Lindsay Bezich, "World Radio," 2008, oil on canvas, 40" x 30"
http://www.unh.edu/art-gallery/images/BA_BFA_2008/Lindsay_Bezich.2.jpg



Shawn Burke, "Self-Portrait," 2008, charcoal on paper, 14" x 14"
http://www.unh.edu/art-gallery/images/BA_BFA_2008/Shawn_Burke_Self_Portrait_14_x_14.jpg



Kimberly DeCicco, Untitled, 2008, oil on canvas, 18" x 24"

http://www.unh.edu/artgallery/images/BA_BFA_2008/Kimberly_DeCicco_Untitled_oil_on_canvas_2008_18_x_24.jpg



Sean Hurley, "The Mill on the Icy Cochecho," 2008, etching, 12.75" x 14"

http://www.unh.edu/art-gallery/images/BA_BFA_2008/Sean_Hurley_Mill_on_Icy_Cocheo.jpg



Lily Finnigan-Allen, "Scissors," 2008, oil on board, 8" x 10"

http://www.unh.edu/art-gallery/images/BA_BFA_2008/Lily_Finnigan_Allen_2008_oil_on_board.jpg



Alissa Lynn Feller, "Hole," 2007, oil on canvas, 36" x 42"

http://www.unh.edu/art-gallery/images/BA_BFA_2008/Alissa_Lynn_Feller.jpg



Lauri Lannan, Untitled, 2008, digital c-print, 16" x 20"

http://www.unh.edu/art-gallery/images/BA_BFA_2008/Lauri_Lannan.jpg



Cailin Mateleska, Untitled, 2008, digital print, 8" x 12"

http://www.unh.edu/art-gallery/images/BA_BFA_2008/Cailin_Mateleska_Untitled_2008_digital_print.jpg



K.Lee Mock, "Late Night," 2008, acrylic on canvas, 8.5" x 10.5"

http://www.unh.edu/art-gallery/images/BA_BFA_2008/K_Lee_Mock_Late_Night.jpg



Colleen Murphy, "Discreet Girl" (detail of installation) 2008, mixed media, 6'6" x 8'6" x 4'6"
http://www.unh.edu/art-gallery/images/BA_BFA_2008/Colleen_Murphy_Untitled_mixed_media_2008_6.5_x_8_x_4.jpg



Lindsay Forrest Wraga, "Porch Happenings," 2007, oil on canvas, 48" x 60"

http://www.unh.edu/artgallery/images/BA_BFA_2008/Lindsay_Wraga_Porch_Happenings_2007_oil_on_canvas.jpg

Selected images available from the 2008 *M.F.A. Thesis Exhibition (I)*:



Denise Jansson, Untitled, 2007, oil on canvas, 25 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 24 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
http://www.unh.edu/art-gallery/images/MFA_I_2008/Denise_Jansson.jpg



Rebecca M. Kallem, "Still Life with Bird," 2007, oil on canvas, 12" x 12"
http://www.unh.edu/art-gallery/images/MFA_I_2008/Rebecca_Kallem.jpg

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