

# Friends of ART

FALL 2011

News, commentary, and vision from the Columbus State University Department of Art and our supporters

Dear Friends of Art Members,

Levels of success may be compared to various intensities of color, from vibrant saturations to subtle grays. How we measure success should take into account all of these variations. While we tend to focus on our more visible accomplishments, it is the sum total including the subtleties that truly reflect who we are as a department. As we collaboratively build our vision and establish strategic objectives, let us not forget to celebrate our full range of success no matter how nuanced the color.

Our department advances by striving for excellence and through the generous support of our Friends of Art, a remarkable group of individuals who share with us their expertise, energy, and creative spirit, and we celebrate our success with them. I want to express my deepest appreciation to Mr. John Page, our outgoing FOA Chair and a true "people person." John dedicated over a decade of service to our department through many transitions. Thanks also to Ms. Elizabeth Ogie, who asked essential questions at just the right times during her two years as Co-Chair. Our new Chair, Ms. Marleen De Bode-Olivie, represents the energetic direction of Columbus's future – increasingly international, cultured, and oriented toward health, education, and service.

I am delighted to announce that this



Left: Visitor views paintings by Bo Bartlett in the Illges Gallery. Right: Professor Michele McCrillis discusses frescos by Masaccio in the Brancacci Chapel during a study abroad program in Florence, Italy.

has been a great year for the Department of Art. The Board of Regents approved the Bachelor of Art degree in Art History, and our freshmen numbers increased by 12% between 2009 and 2011, with over 100 applications received this year. Dr. Bret Lefler joined our tremendous faculty as the Art Education Program Coordinator, bringing with him a sense of humor and great expertise – a winning combination. We continued to attract resident artists and scholars who arrived with new ideas and energy, and left with a true appreciation of our strengths. Our newest study abroad program in Florence, Italy was launched in partnership with the CSU Center for International Education and proved to be a great success. Our students were accepted into top-tier graduate programs, and scholarships for academic merit and study abroad were central to their success.

Our ongoing partnership with the Columbus Museum provided an opportunity to invite Tom Butler, the museum's director, to campus to present a lecture on artist Bo Bartlett. With the Columbus Museum staff, we established a student internship in Art History and collaborated on events with visiting artists such as photographer Ellen Susan. We partnered with W.C. Bradley, Columbus Bank and Trust, and others to present ArtWalk, an outstanding example of community-relevant collaboration highlighting the work of Bo Bartlett. Watching our team build the event from its initial proposal to a very successful finale was like watching a complex dance made to appear effortless. I want to express my deep appreciation to Bo, Betsy, and all of our ArtWalk volunteers. Creating a Bartlett Center housed within the College of the Arts is a central goal that is now within reach.

*continued on page 2*

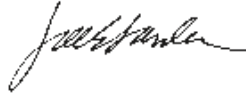
**TABLE OF CONTENTS** 1 Message from the Department of Art Chair 2 Message from the Friends of Art former Co-Chairs · Marlene De Bode-Olivie 3 ArtWalk 4 Art History Major Approved · Docents Tour 5 Alumni Profile 6 Study Abroad 8 CSU in Japan, Ireland, Italy 9 Florence Neal 10 Donors 12 Faculty News 15 New Faculty · Students and Graduate Schools 16 Scholarship Recipients 17 Community Collaborators 18 Visiting Resident Artists and Scholars 20 Exhibition and Lecture Schedule

*continued from page 1*

Cultivating the next generation of artists, scholars, and patrons is essential to sustainability. Our first Family Art Day left the community clamoring for an encore and our Tri-State Annual High School Art Exhibition revealed top students from the region. CSU co-sponsored the Georgia Art Educators Association annual conference at Callaway Gardens, and participants were given a tour of the Corn Center.

The support provided by our Friends of Art made many of these achievements possible during a period of diminishing state resources and economic uncertainty. Even

in light of the “new normal,” it is evident through our colorful measures of success that our department is vital, relevant, and committed to building a premier arts campus in the South.



*Joe E. Sanders*

The Alan F. Rothschild Distinguished  
Chair of Art



Left to right: William Sanders, Julie Sanders, Anelecia Hannah, Rex Whiddon, Joe Sanders, Bo Bartlett and Betsy Eby at the Columbus ArtWalk in March.

## A Message from the Former Chairs

**W**e are sure that by now you know that we have an exciting new Chair for Friends of Art. Marleen De Bode-Olivié has taken the reins and is already planning great things for our organization. What we are not sure of, however, is that you know how well-qualified and impressive our new Chair actually is.

Marleen holds a MS degree in Applied Economic Sciences from Antwerp University, as well as a degree in Interior Design from the Michael Inchbald School of Design in London. She has been a docent at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, and has worked as an independent art consultant specializing in contemporary art. Before she moved to Columbus, she was Director of Education, Marketing, and Development at the Royal Museum of Fine Arts in Antwerp, Belgium.



Current FOA Chair Marleen De Bode-Olivié  
with outgoing Chair John Page.

Born in Congo, Marleen grew up in Antwerp and has lived in London, Baltimore, Boston, and Melbourne, Australia. Her husband Marc, who shares her passion for contemporary art, is President of the W.C. Bradley Company and they have four grown children.

We are delighted to have this charming and energetic leader for our organization. She will doubtless take Friends of Art to new levels, and we are committed to helping her do that. We're ready to grow with great new leadership, and hope that all of our members will get to know Marleen if you don't already.



*John Page and Elizabeth Ogie, Past Co-Chairs*  
Friends of Art Steering Committee

**CSU ART DEPARTMENT FACT:** We have the third highest participation in International Programs at Columbus State University, offering regular experiences in Japan, Ireland, England and Italy.

## ArtWalk Featuring Bo Bartlett

On March 24, hundreds of art lovers turned out on a lovely spring evening to stroll the streets of Uptown Columbus and enjoy art, music, film, and refreshments during a multi-venue ArtWalk. The ArtWalk launched a major, month-long exhibition of works by Columbus-born artist Bo Bartlett at three venues: CSU's Illges Gallery, Columbus Bank and Trust, and the W.C. Bradley Company. Bo and his wife, artist Betsy Eby, joined the throng of visitors and attended receptions at all three locations. Volunteers were key to making this collaborative project a success, particularly Helen Johnson at CB&T and Jan Miller and Susan Wiggins at the W.C. Bradley Company. Friends of Art members and CSU art students also assisted at all three venues.

Friends of Art members and docents Sandy Scarborough, Geri Davis, Ellie Wheeler, Gail Greenblatt, and Bitsy Windsor gave tours to visitors during the month-long exhibition, which included recent paintings, works from 1998-2009, and Bo's sketchbooks, journals, and objects of inspiration.

In conjunction with the exhibition, Bo also taught a nationally advertised Master Class on the CSU RiverPark campus. Twenty participants from as far away as California, Pennsylvania, New York, and Maine met in Columbus for this three-day painting workshop.

Events celebrating Bo's work continued in April with Tom Butler, Director of the Columbus Museum, presenting a talk, "Reflections on Bo Bartlett's Mid-Career Retrospective Eight Years Later," in the Illges Gallery surrounded by Bo's works. Later that month, Bo and Betsy graciously opened their Columbus home for a special Friends of Art Champagne Reception, providing the attendees with an opportunity to tour Bo's childhood home and studio. The Department of Art is grateful to CB&T, the W.C. Bradley Company, Uptown Columbus, The Columbus Museum, Friends of Art volunteers, and of course Bo and Betsy, for making this remarkable event possible through the collaboration of Columbus's art and business communities.



Left: Bo Bartlett at the Illges Gallery. Center: (pictured left to right) Anelecia Hannah, Betsy Eby, Bo Bartlett, Helen Johnson, and Jan Miller enjoy the ArtWalk in March. Right: Bo Bartlett looks at children's artwork at CB&T during the ArtWalk.

## Marleen De Bode-Olivié, Friends of Art Chair *A Perspective*

It is exciting to be part of a community that embraces the Arts and Education. The CSU Department of Art not only prepares the next generation of artists but also makes Columbus a better place to live and to visit.

Since my husband Marc and I moved here three years ago, we have enjoyed a variety of stimulating exhibitions at the Illges Gallery. We

heard from students how their trips to Florence or Japan made a difference to them. We learned from lectures and conversations with faculty, visiting artists and scholars, and patrons. Every day it gives us pleasure to live with the art from students, faculty, and other local artists. We experienced how a community celebrates its local talent and stars and collaborates to make

the Bo Bartlett ArtWalk a success.

Thank you all for your confidence in me to chair Friends of Art and I am looking forward to working with you on achieving our goals.

*Marleen De Bode-Olivié*

*Chair*

Friends of Art Steering Committee

## Art History Major at CSU Approved

The Art History faculty is pleased to announce that Columbus State University, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) have approved the new Bachelor of Arts in Art History degree at CSU. Art history offers students a unique form of preparation for success in today's economy. One of the most valuable skills developed through art history is training in acute observation and visual analysis, a skill critical in today's media saturated environment. Potential employers of art history students, such as publishers, fundraising firms, research and community organizations that deal with visual materials, regularly value the training art historians receive in visual analysis and their ability to analyze and employ images with remarkable facility.

The Bachelor of Arts in Art History curriculum at CSU will provide students an opportunity to study and write about works of art and visual culture. Art History is by nature interdisciplinary, drawing on varied means of study found in the fine arts, humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. In the 21st century, citizen leaders are required to understand and skillfully manage a wide range of information that takes visual as well as verbal form.

Thinking critically about visual material and integrating that understanding with other forms of information is the foundation of the study of art history. The program will complement the offerings in the visual arts at CSU, which currently includes studio art and art education. It will meet the demand for the major expressed by our students and fulfill the aspirations of our community partners and donors whose support for art history has been demonstrated through the establishment of the William B. and Sue Marie Turner Distinguished Faculty Chair in Art History, which is held currently by Dr. Claire Black McCoy.



Above left: Dr. Claire Black McCoy meets with students. Above right: Students study Italian Renaissance Art in Florence this summer. Below: Professor Hannah Israel teaches a class at the Bargello in Florence.



## Georgia Museum of Art Docents Tour Bo Bartlett Exhibitions

Columbus State University welcomed a delegation of docents from the Georgia Museum of Art in Athens, Georgia, to the RiverPark campus in April. The group toured the Bo Bartlett exhibitions at the Illges Gallery, Columbus Bank and Trust, and the W.C. Bradley Company. They joined members of the CSU administration, faculty from the Department of Art, and Friends of Art members for lunch in the Theatre on the Park lobby overlooking the Chattahoochee River.

Left: Docents from the Georgia Museum of Art tour the Corn Center and the RiverPark Campus.

## Alumni Profile: Jon Barwick, Emerging Artist

Every year we graduate talented art students who aspire to continue their young careers as artists, but few make it to emerge in the art world and market. I remember meeting a student when I came in the Department in 2005 who had the spunk, smarts, and talent. I met Jon Barwick when he was a student in Professor Orion Wertz's advanced painting class. At that time Jon was already developing the painterly language that he would carry on to his graduate studies and beyond. Jon received his BFA at Columbus State University Department of Art that same year. He went on to study painting at The University of Georgia in Athens and received his Masters in Fine Arts in 2009. Jon then moved to New York City to pursue his career as an artist. For the past two years, I've been following Jon's development through the announcements I receive for the exhibitions and residences in which Jon has been invited to participate, such as the PS1 Studio Visit in Long Island City, NY. He has been included in major exhibitions such as "More is More" at the Amos Eno Gallery in Brooklyn, been featured in *New American Paintings* twice, and he is exhibiting his work both nationally and internationally.

As an artist, Jon constructs paintings, mixed media collages, and installations that acknowledge hyper-paced, technology-driven, and media-saturated society. The multi-layered compositions reflect the complexities of the information age, and capture the singular moment of everything happening at once. Imagery for these works originates as drawings and doodles, but may be scanned, photographed, manipulated, traced, and printed before reaching the final composition. "By



Jon Barwick

maintaining a constant dialogue between the hand-drawn and the computer-generated, I create visual metaphors for our day-to-day interaction with technology. Though components of my work are carefully predetermined, I assemble the various elements in a process that is spontaneous and improvisational. Each mark made suggests another one." By

re-presenting snapshots of visual information, Jon offers the viewer a glimpse into another dimensional and hyper-idiosyncratic realm.

Jon notes, "My experience in the art department at CSU totally exceeded my expectations. The exceptional faculty and state-of-the-art facilities are comparable to any you would find at a larger, top-tier university. The intimate scale of the department, however, allows students to really develop a sense of community, as well as form close personal relationships with professors. This encouraging yet challenging environment gave me all the tools needed to push myself further. I also participated in a London study abroad program and the NYC cultural immersion program, both led by professors in the art department. These experiences made a profound impact on me and proved to be an invaluable supplement to my education and artistic development."

As a teacher it is often a treat to see a student succeed and be challenged by the world around them. In the Department of Art at CSU I've seen students grow and develop into creative thinkers and makers. To many students, the CSU Department of Art is just the beginning of something bigger. It is our aim to prepare them to be challenged and to succeed.

*Hannah Israel*

Gallery Director and Assistant Professor of Art



Jon Barwick, *Overload*, 2009, mixed media

## Study Abroad Scholarship Recipients Thank Friends of Art

Dear FOA Members,

I cannot thoroughly express the degree of thanks I owe you. Studying abroad in Ireland was – pardon the cliché – the best time of my life, and it was your kind patronage that allowed me to go. It was my first time traveling outside of the country, and my fear was overwhelming. However, once in Ireland, there was not a single trace of my original anxiety. As a group, we traveled all over the country, visiting places with important connections to the history of Ireland. As an art major, the breathtaking scenery and architecture of Ireland captured my attention and served as inspiration for my drawings. As the best “thank you” I can give, I have included some of the drawings I completed while abroad.

A sincere and immensely grateful *thank you*.

Emily Smith  
*CSU Art Major*



*Angel from O'Connell Statue and Tower in Trinity College* by art major Emily Smith.

Dear FOA Members,

After graduating from Columbus State University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, I moved to Dublin, Ireland to study at the National College of Art and Design. For the next two years, I will continue my education in pursuit of a Master of Fine Art degree in sculpture. I feel that my education at CSU's Art Department as well as the generous support of Friends of Art, who made it possible for me to experience CSU's study abroad program in Ireland, encouraged the life changing opportunity I have received. I just want to give a special “thank you” to the faculty in the Department of Art and the Friends of Art for all that you have done for my education.

Hannah Moore  
*CSU Art Graduate*



Recent graduate Hannah Moore.

“Each study abroad program I have been part of has been a unique experience that only makes every participating student a stronger artist and person. These programs have made me a more diverse person—*all thanks to you.*”

—Nica Mendoza, art major and FOA scholarship recipient

Dear FOA Members,

I would like to take this time to express my sincerest gratitude for your generosity to the Columbus State University Art Department. Because of your donations to Friends of Art, I have been able to broaden my base of knowledge and experience art in other countries.

In March of this year, a small group of us participated in a study abroad program in Japan. Along with other members of the group, I shared quite an adventure and learned invaluable art techniques from experienced and respected Japanese ceramicists. We were able to immerse ourselves in Japanese culture by tasting the wonderful foods, enjoying Japanese hospitality, and traveling the country's breathtaking landscape.

On the last full day of our trip we were suddenly hit by the shockwaves of an earthquake. We were miles away from our hotel, we did not speak the language, and we were scared, but we did not let the event change how we felt about the previous days; we still embraced our experiences. Because of this experience, I felt that we were a part of history.

Each study abroad program I have been part of has been a unique experience that only makes every participating student a stronger artist and person. These programs have made me a more diverse person – all thanks to you.

Nica Mendoza  
*CSU Art Major*

Dear FOA Members,

I am so grateful to have been awarded a Friends of Art Scholarship to allow me to study abroad during the summer of 2011 in Waterford, Ireland. During the program I traveled around the Ring of Kerry, found out what a Tesco was, won an engraved Waterford Crystal bowl, and earned college credit hours.

It was life-changing.

I would like to thank the Friends of Art who made it possible for me to go on this journey, during which I was able to grow exponentially. I would like to thank Friends of Art members for recognizing my devotion to school and hard work because they too have had dreams of their own.

You gave me much more than a monetary scholarship award. You gave me a chance to set myself apart on my graduate school application and to succeed in my own dreams of entering the professional world as a college professor.

Ariel Griffeth  
*CSU Art Major*



Above left: From top left to right: Eric Thompson, Professor Wertz, Nam Hoang, Ms. Osawa's assistant, Ms. Osawa (kimono teacher), Ty Hixson. From bottom left to right: Christina Cueto, Nica Mendoza, Ushma Desai. Above right: Nam Hoang presenting his performance for the tea ceremony masters and teachers.

## Art Students Study in Japan, Ireland, and Italy

Once again, Friends of Art Travel Scholarships enabled many talented art majors to take advantage of the extraordinary opportunities available at CSU to enrich their education by studying in another country. For the sixth year, students traveled to the Japanese cities of Kiryu and Tokyo during spring break in March, where they studied Japanese ceramics and culture with Professors Yuichiro Komatsu and Orion Wertz. For the third year, Professor Mike McFalls accompanied students to Waterford, Ireland for four weeks in June, where they took a number of courses in Irish culture and painting and drawing the Irish landscape.

We launched our newest program in Italy this June, and ten students spent four weeks living in Florence and studying Italian Renaissance Art with Professor Michele McCrillis and Drawing with Professor

Hannah Israel. Field trips included visits to Siena, San Gimignano, Padua, and three days in Venice. From Giotto's 14th century frescos at the Arena Chapel in Padua to the most contemporary international art at the Venice Biennale, students were totally immersed in art, architecture, and Italian culture. In Florence, they lived in apartments and shopped in the wonderful local markets for their food. The whole group took two cooking classes together, where they learned to prepare traditional Tuscan dishes such as *Pappa al Pomodoro* (Tomato and Bread Soup), *Petto di Pollo alla Fiorentina* (Chicken Breast Florentine Style) and *Panna Cotta*, a light, creamy dessert. After the lessons, faculty and students enjoyed their three-course meals together.

"As a student of international education and as a young artist," writes senior and

Friends of Art Scholarship recipient Nam Hoang, "Italy was the perfect capstone to my entire education at Columbus State University. I could not envision my experiences culminating into something so amazing and I truly appreciate all the support that I've received over the years from both our Art Department and Friends of Art."

We hope to make these life-changing learning experiences part of every CSU art and art history student's academic career. The support of Friends of Art can make this a reality.

*Please consider increasing your annual giving to Friends of Art this year to make this invaluable exposure to art and new cultures possible.*

*continued on page 9*



Above left: Antrim off the coast of Ireland. Above center: CSU students in Venice, Italy. Right: Professor McCrillis, Holly Mullis, Nam Hoang, Kaitlyn Underwood and Mary Francis Hutchinson outside the Teatro Del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino in Florence, where they saw a performance of the ballet *Swan Lake*.

**CSU ART DEPARTMENT FACT:** In 2010/2011 the Department of Art awarded \$22,525.00 in student scholarships.

continued from page 8



CSU in Italy students in Siena. From top left to right: Mary Francis Hutchinson, Holly Mullis, Katie Kelly, Ashley Kittrell, Lillian Harrell, Hartley Barron. From bottom left to right: Taylor Self, Kaitlyn Underwood, Cynthia Cepeda, Nam Hoang.



Above left: Art Major Nam Hoang prepares a traditional tuscan soup during cooking class in Florence, Italy. Above right: (shown left to right) Ashley Kittrell, Lillian Harrell, Taylor Self and Hartley Barron about to enjoy the dinner they have prepared.



## Florence Neal Comes to CSU as Visiting Artist

Last October Florence Neal, artist and director of the Kentler International Drawing Space in Red Hook (Brooklyn) New York, came to CSU as a Visiting Artist and created an engraving along the banks of the Chattahoochee River as part of her River Project. The prints Florence produced during her residency here were exhibited at the Jules Collins Museum of Art in Auburn, Alabama.

Neal also attended the opening of *Degrees of Density*, an exhibition of contemporary drawings from the Kentler Flatfiles, and gave a lecture about the exhibition and the Kentler Collection.



Above left: Florence Neal works on an engraving on the banks of the Chattahoochee. Above right: Florence Neal and her father Edward Neal at the opening for Degrees of Density at the Corn Center.

“At CSU I’ve seen students grow and develop into creative thinkers and makers. To many students, CSU Department of Art is just the beginning of something bigger. It is our aim to prepare them to be challenged and to succeed.”

—Hannah Israel, Gallery Director and Assistant Professor of Art

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The presence of names in this report is based upon donations received during the period July 1, 2010 through July 31, 2011. The editors have carefully reviewed these names; nevertheless, in listings of this length, errors or omissions may occur. If your name has been misspelled or listed incorrectly, please accept our apologies and bring the mistake to our attention by emailing [mccrillis\\_michele@columbusstate.edu](mailto:mccrillis_michele@columbusstate.edu).

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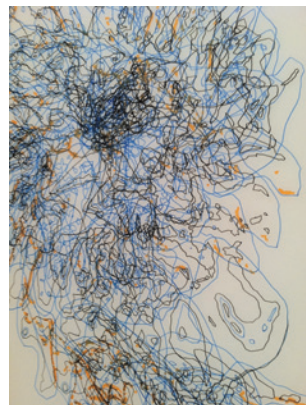
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“A good picture is equivalent to a good deed.” —Vincent van Gogh



Above: works from the Faculty and Staff Exhibition this fall, (from left to right) Professors Mike McFalls, Kariann Fuqua, and Joe Sanders.

## Faculty News

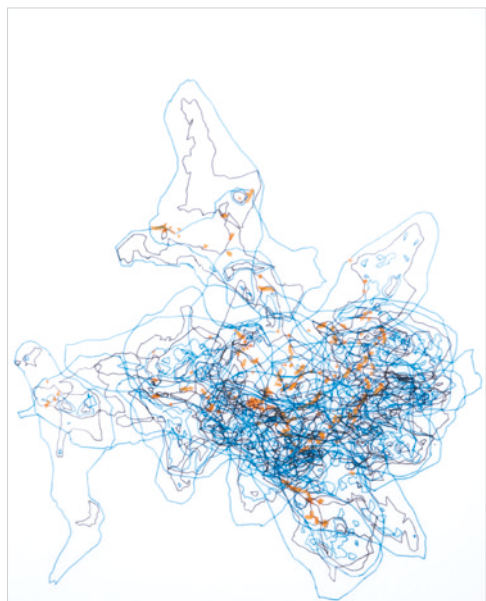
**K**ariann Fuqua, Assistant Professor of Foundations, exhibited her work in many venues this year including Spool Mfg. in Binghamton, New York, the Columbus Museum, Harper College in Palatine, Illinois, and most recently this summer on Governor's Island in New York, New York, where she also completed a two-week residency. Her most recent work is a series of eighty-seven color drawings on translucent white mylar that map the flow of oil from the BP Deep Horizon oil spill as it moved across the Gulf of Mexico.

Gallery Director and Assistant Professor **Hannah Israel** will be exhibiting her work in a solo exhibition at the Asian Center Museum and a group exhibition at the Vargas Museum at the University of the Philippines in November of 2011. She was also invited to exhibit in a group exhibition at the Philips Museum of Art at Franklin Marshall College

in Lancaster, PA, in 2012. Professor Israel is also working on a book project, *Space Reliant: An erasure of the border between the screen and the body*. She is fascinated by ways in which artists use the structure of space, light, and objects to empower the viewer's perception of what is real and what is fiction. This book is a survey of contemporary video works that examines the use of space in relation to psychology and architecture. As a counterpart to this book project, Professor Israel is curating an exhibition in the Illges Gallery in November that will feature works by Francis Alyss, Hiraka Sawa, and Liz Rodda.

**Dr. Barbara J. Johnston**, Assistant Professor of Art History, began the 2010-2011 academic year by presenting a paper, "The Influence of Fifteen-Century French Passion Plays on Louise of Savoy's *Vie de la Magdalene*," at the Southeastern College Art Conference (SECAC) in her hometown

of Richmond, Virginia. She was awarded a CSU Distance Learning grant to develop an online course on Non-Western Art as well as a grant from CSU's Quality Enhancement Program to develop writing projects for freshman art students. In January 2011, Dr. Johnston presented a Faculty Forum lecture to her CSU colleagues on "The Magdalene Model: Paradigm and Parallel in Louise of Savoy's *Vie de la Magdalene*." In November, Dr. Johnston will present a paper, "A View from the Top: Royal Pilgrimage and Sacred Journeying in Louise of Savoy's *Vie de la Magdalene*, in the Art and Pilgrimage" session at the annual SECAC meeting in Savannah. She spent her summer in Virginia enjoying her family, doing further research for her book on the *Vie de la Magdalene* and preparing an article for submission to a peer-review journal this spring.



Above left: Kariann Fuqua, *Untitled: From the Oil Spill series*, 2011. Above right: Hannah Israel, *The Linear Mapping of the Coastlines of Americas*, 2011.

continued from page 12

During the spring break, **Yuichiro Komatsu**, Assistant Professor of Art in Ceramics, taught a course titled *Japanese Ceramics and Beyond* and took a group of students on a study abroad program to Kiryu and Tokyo, Japan. While there, northern Japan was hit with the earthquake and tsunami. His most recent work, a series of ceramic cityscapes that deal with the themes of permanence and fragility, is an outgrowth of that experience. This year, Professor Komatsu will be participating in group exhibitions at the Cullom Gallery in Seattle and at Cazenovia College in NY.

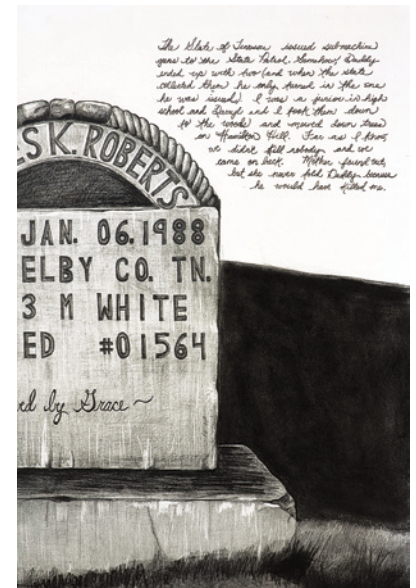
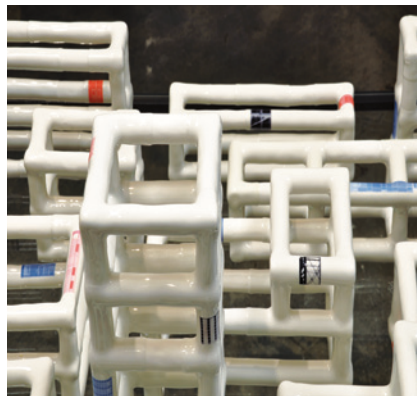
**Dr. Claire Black McCoy**, William B. and Sue Marie Turner Distinguished Faculty Chair in Art History, has spent a busy year developing the Art History major proposal and successfully shepherding it through the approval process at university, state, and regional levels. The Bachelor of Arts in Art History will be the only such major available

to students in the southwest quarter of the state and represents a major step forward for the Department of Art. In addition to this curriculum development work, Dr. McCoy recently completed an article for publication, currently titled "No Light Heart: Emile Ollivier and the Medici Chapel." This November she will chair a session on the related subject of the art world in Paris at the end of the nineteenth century at the annual meeting of the Southeastern College Art Conference in Savannah. That session, *Belle Époque-Fin de Siècle*, will feature leading young scholars in the field of nineteenth-century art history.

**Michele McCrillis**, Associate Professor of Art History, was awarded the *College of the Arts Teaching Excellence Award* in April for a second year. In February, she presented a paper titled "Art on the Road: Incorporating Global Perspectives into Art Appreciation through

Fieldtrips, Film, and Other Activities" at the Georgia Consortium for International Studies and the Georgia Association of International Educators. This summer Professor McCrillis taught Italian Renaissance Art in Florence for four weeks as part of CSU's first Italian study abroad program, which she developed with Professor Hannah Israel. She also traveled to London in July and attended the Film and Media 2011 Conference at the University of London as a delegate. Here in Columbus, Professor McCrillis also gave several public lectures, including one this September at the Columbus Museum on graffiti and street art.

This past year, printmaking professor **Elizabeth Roberts McFalls** had prints and drawings in three exhibitions, including a solo show titled *At Rest* at the North Charleston City Gallery in Charleston, SC. Her most recent work is a series of large graphite drawings of tombstones from her



Above left: Yuichiro Komatsu, *model\_I*, detail, 2011. Above right: Elizabeth Roberts McFalls, *Hamilton Hill*, 2010.

continued on page 14

*continued from page 13*

home state of Tennessee that explore the differences between the recording of life events through human narrative versus demographic statistics. In August 2011, she was awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor of Art in Printmaking in recognition of her continued commitment to her artistic research, teaching, and university service.

This summer, sculpture professor **Mike McFalls** once again served as the Co-Director for the University System of Georgia's Ireland study-abroad program. For six weeks, he and his students traveled around Ireland painting and drawing the Irish landscape and absorbing Irish culture. In April 2011, he was awarded the *College of Arts Faculty Research and Scholarship Award*, in recognition of his artistic achievements. Last academic year, his work was included in three group exhibitions and one solo show at 1708 Gallery in

Richmond, Virginia. In August 2011, he was awarded promotion to Associate Professor.

In the past year, selections from photography professor **Rylan Steele's** *Interiors* series have been exhibited at the Maine Museum of Art, the Center Gallery in Wichita, Kansas, and the Perspective Gallery in Evanston, Illinois. Recently he started working on a new body of work that examines the landscape of master planned communities in Florida. In addition to his research interests, Professor Steele helped coordinate the National Conference of the Society for Photographic Education, which was held in Atlanta in March. This fall Professor Steele is looking forward to co-teaching an Expanded Media course with Professor McFalls, which will encourage students to grow conceptually as they explore interdisciplinary art making.

Associate Professor **Orion Wertz** will be exhibiting an installation and speaking on a panel at the *Think Art* Conference in Boston this year. *Think Art* is a conference for the interdisciplinary exploration of the fine arts through the humanities and sciences. This year's topic is the investigation of self through the construction, management, and manipulation of memory. Professor Wertz will also exhibit three graphic novels titled *Trentford Hotel*, *After the Penal Colony*, and *Tales of the Near Present*, at The Small Press Expo in Bethesda, MD. This conference highlights work by graphic novelists from all over the country.



Above left: Mike McFalls, *Arrangement #3 (Space Oddity)*, 2011. Above middle: Rylan Steele, *Statue, Ave Maria, Florida*, 2011. Above right: Orion Wertz, *Drowned World*, 2011.

CSU ART DEPARTMENT **FACT:** Family Art Day drew over 200 participants in its first year.

## New Art Department Faculty: Bret Lefler

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Bret Lefler has joined the Department of Art as Assistant Professor and Coordinator of CSU's Art Education Program.

Bret Lefler is a native Texan, born and raised in Fort Worth. After graduating from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 1994 with a BFA in painting and drawing, Dr. Lefler returned to Fort Worth to attend Texas Christian University where he received his MFA in 1996. In the spring of 2006, Dr. Lefler received his Doctorate in Art Education from Florida State University in Tallahassee. He returned to Texas as a faculty member of the University of Texas, Brownsville, where he taught classes in Art Education classes. He also served as Chair of the Department of Visual Arts at The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.

Dr. Lefler's research interests include Visual Culture/Visual Literacy and Community Based Art Education. Bret is also a painter and photographer, and has shown his work at galleries in Chicago, Texas, and Florida. Please join us in welcoming Bret, his wife Emily, and their daughters Isabelle and Lucie as they begin their new life in Columbus.



Above: Bret Lefler, *The Prize Bull*, oil on canvas, 2009. Left: Dr. Bret Lefler, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of CSU's Art Education Program.

## CSU Art Department Students Accepted Into Top Graduate Schools

The following students were accepted into top graduate programs in studio art:

**Dominick Smith** was accepted into sculpture programs at Cranbrook Academy of Art and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Dominick also got into the painting program at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

**Emily Elliot** was accepted into sculpture programs at Columbia College, University of Pennsylvania, Washington University in Saint Louis, University of South Florida, and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Emily has received scholarships from both Washington University in Saint Louis and the University of South Florida.

**Hannah Moore** was accepted into both Burren College of Art in Ireland and The National College of Art and Design in Ireland.

**April Dean** was accepted at the San Francisco Art Institute and awarded a \$10,000 scholarship to continue her graduate studies in painting and new genres. In addition, she is intending to pursue a second Master of Arts degree at SFAI in Art History and Contemporary Theory.

These successes are particularly noteworthy because of the excellent quality of the graduate programs into which our students have been accepted.

**Jennifer Miles** and **Anna Holmes** exhibited at the 2011 Peach Belt Art Exhibition

at the University of South Carolina in Aiken. Anna Holmes, who graduated in May, won the First Prize Award out of a hundred entries.



April Dean, *The Writer*, 2009, video still

# CSU Department of Art *Scholarship Recipients*

CSU's Department of Art is grateful to the individuals and organizations whose generous support provided scholarships for our students last year.

## ***2010-2011 Friends of Art Travel Scholarships***

**The following students were awarded scholarships to study in Japan, Italy, and Ireland this year:**

Cynthia Cepeda  
Kirsten Dunn  
Ariel Griffith  
Tiannodus Hixson  
Nam Hoang  
Stephanie Jarvis  
Nica Mendoza  
Emily Porter  
Emily Smith

## ***2010-2011 Department of Art Merit Scholarships***

### **Friends of Art Scholarship**

Gary Wilkerson  
Stephanie Fluir  
Kwame Holt

### **Edward Shorter Art Scholarship**

Rachel Kaiser  
Jennifer Miles  
Ben Lee

### **Columbus Artists' Guild Scholarship**

Ian Crabb

### **Mary F. Passailaigue Art Scholarship**

Brittany Shepard

### **Gerry Bosch Art Scholarship**

Chandler Morgan  
Jonathan Watson

### **The Janet B. Hollis Endowment for Art**

Anthony Lee  
Emily Heinze  
Holly Matthews

### **Columbus Junior Woman's Club Fine Arts Scholarship, Bebe Smith Art Scholarship, and Frances H. Ellis Art Scholarship**

Braelen Hill

## ***The Joseph House Art Gallery Awards***

In 2011, the Joseph House Gallery raised money during their special winter fundraiser to provide exemplary young artists with monetary awards at the CSU Juried Student Art Exhibition, which is held each spring. The recipients of this year's awards are:

Antoneisha Harper, *Best of Show*

Nam Hoang, *Juror's Choice*

Holly Matthews, *Chair's Award*

Charles Fowler and Ashton Sunseri,

*Honorable Mention*

Jenna Poole and Adrienne Cole, *Merit Award*

CSU's Department of Art is grateful to the Joseph House Gallery and its members for their recognition and generous support of our students.



Top: CSU Art Department Chair Joe Sanders and Professor Elizabeth McFalls present scholarships and awards at the Department of Art Student Exhibition last spring. Bottom: scholarship recipients receive their awards.

**WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT FRIENDS OF ART?** Contact Michele McCrillis at the Columbus State University Department of Art, 706-507-8313, [mccrillis\\_michele@columbusstate.edu](mailto:mccrillis_michele@columbusstate.edu).

## Community Collaborators: The Columbus Museum and CSU's Department of Art

The Columbus Museum and the Columbus State University Department of Art have enjoyed a rewarding partnership over the last ten years involving staff, students, and faculty alike. The department has provided a dozen interns to the museum who have worked on noteworthy projects, including educational programs like traveling trunks, tours for the visually impaired, and designing hands-on activities for children. They have also helped to recruit docents, translated label text into other languages, curated and installed exhibitions, and executed graphic design work.

In 2008, Curator of Collections and Exhibitions Kristen Miller Zohn collaborated with Illges Gallery Director Hannah Israel to curate the Museum's first exhibition of video art, *Magnetic Landscape*, which examined the ways several contemporary video artists use landscape to create new visual metaphors. Although the Museum had included the medium in previous exhibitions, an exhibition comprised solely of video art had not been previously organized. *Magnetic Landscape* was an opportunity to present to the community the important artistic practice of video as art. The collaboration also served as an extension of the University's curriculum and exposed students and the public to a vital aspect of contemporary artwork by exploring video methodology, concepts, and techniques.

Recently, the Museum invited the photographer Ellen Susan to serve as an artist-in-residence and commissioned her to make portraits of Fort Benning soldiers. During her residency, Susan stayed at the Carson McCullers House, and CSU art students visited the museum for a workshop on the wet collodion photography process, a 150-year-old technique that was used to document much of the Civil War era. Several students also served as studio assistants to Ms. Susan.

Recently the Columbus Museum acquired a significant work by Kara Walker. *Burning African Village Play Set with Big House and*



*Lynching* consists of standing silhouette figures made of laser-cut steel, including African huts and stereotypical Civil War era imagery of the Antebellum South. Walker allows the owner of the work to decide how to display the pieces, arranging the cut-outs in any position. With this generous provision in mind, the museum will be collaborating with Columbus State University students to explore the art of Kara Walker and the history of silhouettes. Students will assist the museum staff in preparing interpretive materials for the final display of *Play Set* in October.

The Museum has acquired several works for their collection from CSU exhibitions in the Corn Center's Illges Gallery. Moreover, the Museum has benefited from the art department in that, as Zohn says, "The excellent exhibition program at CSU is essential for the art education of our community. As the Columbus Museum is a regional history and American art institution, we are less able to exhibit works by international artists, and we appreciate the faculty and staff at CSU for bringing their exciting artwork to Columbus."



Top left: CSU Art students attend photography workshop with Ellen Susan at the Columbus Museum, March 2011.  
Top right: CSU art students work on the Kara Walker Project at the Columbus Museum, handling the work of art to get a better feel for the materials and process used by the artist.

Left: Kara Walker, *Burning African Village Play Set with Big House and Lynching*, 2006, painted laser cut steel, 22 parts, edition 20/20. (Museum purchase made possible by the Edward Swift Shorter Bequest Fund, the Bequest of Edward Swift Shorter by exchange, and Herbert Waide Hemphill, Jr. by exchange).

## CSU Visiting Artists and Scholars Residency Program

Now in its third year, our long and short term Visiting Artists and Scholars Residency Program continues to build a reputation around the country and abroad among art professionals, attracting talented artists and scholars to Columbus State University. As in previous years, our visiting artists will offer our students fresh perspectives and a variety of expertise including video art, painting, installation art, and ceramics. The following visiting artists will teach our students while also providing public lectures and workshops for the community:

### **Dawn Black**

*October 1 – 22, 2011*

Dawn Black was born in Louisiana where she received a BFA from Louisiana State University. She earned both a MA and MFA, specializing in Painting and Sculpture, from the University of Iowa School of Art and Art History. In 2000, she spent the summer exploring Venice, Italy while making prints at Scoula di Graphica, a printmaking studio on

the Grand Canal. She has had solo exhibitions at Get This! Gallery in Atlanta, the Curator's Office in Washington, DC, and Kunstoffice in Berlin, Germany. Her work has been included in numerous group exhibitions and art fairs, most notably the Scope and Pulse Art Fairs (Miami Beach, FL), CUNY Lehman Gallery (Bronx, NY), School 33 (Baltimore, MD), and Florida State University Museum of Art (Tallahassee, FL).

Black's work examines the practice of masquerade and its role in relation to conceptions of identity and power by depicting scenes of figures meticulously drawn in gouache, watercolor, and ink on paper. The figures in her work are selected from various sources, societies, and time periods, and are composed to create tableaux influenced by the ideas of James Hillman, Joseph Campbell, and mythmaking in general. Visit her website at [www.dawnblack.com/news.html](http://www.dawnblack.com/news.html).

While in Columbus, Dawn Black will be lecturing and leading a workshop with the Narrative Illustration students. .

### **Liz Rodda**

*October 27 - November 9, 2011*

Liz Rodda is a multimedia artist working primarily with video and sound. Since receiving an MFA from Massachusetts College of Art in the Studio for Interrelated Media program, Liz has exhibited work nationally and internationally. Recent exhibition venues include Dumbo Art Center (New York), 808 Gallery (Boston), Anthology Film Archives (New York), Takt Kunstprojektraum (Berlin, Germany), and Oriel Mwalidan (Cardigan, United Kingdom). Liz is currently an Assistant Professor of Media/Video Art at the University of Oklahoma School of Art & Art History.

Rodda's work is about the intangible nature of desire and how it often shares the same mental space as futility. Taking the legacies of minimalism and conceptualism as departure points, she applies a slightly off-balance logic to consider both small, everyday revelations alongside galactic, otherworldly concepts. Many of her projects negotiate seemingly polar ideas such as possibility and

*continued on page 19*



Liz Rodda in her studio.

Above: Dawn Black, *Condemned to the Wild Beast*, gouache, watercolor, and ink on paper mounted on panel, 2011. Above right: Dawn Black in her studio.

continued from page 18

impossibility, success and failure, and irony and sincerity. She is interested in how we structure our world and determine what is valuable and worth pursuing. Her website is at [www.lizrodde.com](http://www.lizrodde.com).

### Ian Johnston

January 4 - May 15, 2012

Ian Johnston is an architect-turned-sculptor based in Nelson, British Columbia. Since the mid-nineties, he has been pursuing an interest in ceramics and more recently large-scale installations that often include the ceramic medium. Johnston studied architecture at Algonquin College and Carleton University in Ottawa, and at the University of Toronto at Paris, France. Prior to opening his Nelson studio in 1996, Ian spent five years working at the Bauhaus Academy in Berlin, East Germany after the fall of the Berlin Wall. At the Bauhaus, Ian worked with two architects to develop and facilitate a series of workshops around themes of urban renewal and public intervention in a tumultuous

time of cultural transformation. His recent body of work, *Refuse Culture: Archaeology of Consumption*, examines our relationship with the environment in a series of installations using ceramics and mixed media that appeal to the multiple senses of the viewer. His work is found at [www.ianjohnstonstudio.com/work/refuse-culture](http://www.ianjohnstonstudio.com/work/refuse-culture).

While at CSU this spring, Johnston will teach a special topics course titled *Process and Invention – An Exploration of Exploration*. The objective of the course is to heighten the students' awareness of their own creative process and to focus on the potential that each step and decision has in revealing

opportunity. This class is interdisciplinary and brings together sculpture, installation, and expanded media.

*The Visiting Artists and Scholars Residency Program is funded and supported by The Norman Shannon and Emmy Lou P. Illges Foundation, CSU Continuing Education, and CSU Student Activity Fees.*



Liz Rodda, *Curtains*, Video Still, 2010.



Top: Ian Johnston. Above: Ian Johnston, *Sometimes, Things Are Exactly as They Appear*, 2011.

## 2011-2012 Exhibition and Public Lecture Schedule



Yuichiro Komatsu,  
*model\_I*, detail, 2011

**August 30 – September 24**

Exhibition

2011 CSU Studio Arts: Faculty and Staff Exhibition

Location: Illges Gallery, Corn Center

**September 8**

Opening Reception

2011 CSU Studio Arts: Faculty and Staff Exhibition

Location: Illges Gallery, Corn Center

Time: 5:30 – 7:00 pm

**September 9**

Lecture

Kevin Jones

Location: Critique Space 1, Corn Center

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

**September 14**

Gallery Talk

Lunch with Faculty

Location: Illges Gallery, Corn Center

Time: 12:15 – 1:15 pm

**September 20**

Lecture

"My life in stone bound fast: Reflections on Michelangelo's Medici Chapel," by Dr. Claire Black McCoy

Location: Theatre on the Park, Mainstage

Time: 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Immediately followed by a dessert reception hosted by Friends of Art

**September 21**

Gallery Talk

Donuts with Faculty

Location: Illges Gallery, Corn Center

Time: 9:00 – 10:00 am

**October 1**

Reception

Mike Howard, *New Paintings*, with gallery talk by artist Mike Howard and curator Fred Fussell

Location: Illges Gallery, Corn Center

Time: 5:30 – 7:00 pm

**October 4 – October 22**

Exhibition

Mike Howard, *New Paintings*, curated by Fred Fussell

Location: Illges Gallery, Corn Center

**October 18**

Lecture

Dawn Black, Visiting Resident Artist

Location: Carpenters Hall, Room 117

Time: 7:30 – 8:30 pm

**October 28**

Reception

Space Reliant, with gallery talk by artist Liz Rodda

Location: Illges Gallery, Corn Center

Time: 5:30 – 7:00 pm

**November 1 – 19**

Exhibition

Space Reliant: An erasure of the border between the screen and the body

Location: Illges Gallery, Corn Center

**October 31 and November 2**

Video Workshop

Liz Rodda

Location: The Yancey Center at One Arsenal, Computer Lab

Time: 1:30 – 4:00 pm

**November 8**

Exhibition

Student Video Exhibition

Location: Bay Gallery, Corn Center

Time: 5:30 – 7:30 pm

**November 29 – December 10**

Exhibition

Senior Thesis Exhibition

Location: Illges Gallery, Corn Center

**December 3**

Reception

Senior Thesis Exhibition

Location: Illges Gallery

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

**January 31 – March 3**

Exhibition

Soft Science: Matters between Art and Science, Group Exhibition, curated by Hannah Israel and Erika Adams

Location: Illges Gallery, Corn Center

**January 31**

Reception

Soft Science: Matters between Art and Science, Group Exhibition, with gallery talk by artists and curators Hannah Israel and Erika Adams

Location: Illges Gallery, Corn Center

Time: 5:30 – 7:00 pm

**February 9**

Lecture

Ian Johnston, Visiting Resident Artist

Location: Carpenters Hall, Room 117

Time: 7:30 – 8:30 pm

**March 20**

Lecture

Reni Gower, Visiting Artist

Location: Carpenters Hall, Room 117

Time: 7:30 – 8:30 pm

**March 22 – April 21**

Exhibition

Papercuts, curated by Reni Gower

Location: Illges Gallery, Corn Center

**March 22**

Reception

Papercuts, curated by Reni Gower

Location: Illges Gallery, Corn Center

Time: 5:30 – 7:00 pm

**May 1 – 12**

Exhibition

Senior Thesis Exhibition

Location: Illges Gallery, Corn Center

**May 5**

Reception

Senior Thesis Exhibition

Location: Illges Gallery, Corn Center

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 pm



Ian Johnston, *Swimming Upstream - Homage to Yves Klein*, 2005-2009

The **Norman Shannon and Emmy Lou P. Illges Gallery** and the **Bay Gallery** are located inside the Corn Center for the Visual Arts, corner of Front Avenue and Dillingham Street, CSU RiverPark campus. **Carpenters Hall** is located on the corner of Broadway and 9th Street. **Fulcrum Gallery** is located at 1009 Broadway.

**GALLERY HOURS:** Tuesday: 12 – 4 pm  
Wednesday: 12 – 4 pm  
Thursday: 12 – 8 pm  
Friday: 12 – 4 pm  
Saturday: 11 am – 4 pm  
Closed Sunday and Monday



Visit our website: [www.ColumbusState.edu/art](http://www.ColumbusState.edu/art)  
For more information call Michele McCrillis at the CSU Department of Art 706-507-8313