UMW GALLERIES HOST BUS TRIP TO WASHINGTON, DC

On May 15, the Galleries hosted a day bus trip to Washington, DC as a supplement to the Spring 2012 exhibition Making an Impression: Prints from the Permanent Collection. Registration for the trip was open to all visitors, though ASPIRE members received special discounted, priority registration.

The trip began with a boxed breakfast, included in the cost of registration. Upon arriving in Washington, the group of 26 was given a tour of the Print Study Room at the National Gallery of Art (NGA). Greg Jecmen, Associate Curator of Old Master Prints and Drawings and spring lecturer at the Galleries, gave the group an inside glimpse as he highlighted prints from the NGA’s permanent collection.

After a lunch break, the group went on a tour of the National Gallery’s exhibition Joan Miró: The Ladder of Escape, led by Sally Shelburne. The tour traced the arc of Miró’s career while drawing out his political and cultural commitments. The exhibition presents these themes through three principal periods: Miró’s early work, rooted in the Catalan countryside, and then transformed under the influence of surrealism; his artistic response to the Spanish Civil War; and the artist’s late work. This year’s bus trip was a great success, and we plan to continue the tradition in upcoming years!

Mission Statement: The University of Mary Washington Galleries (UMWG), composed of the Ridderhof Martin Gallery and the duPont Gallery, is dedicated to advancing the educational goals of the University through the collection, preservation, exhibition, and interpretation of works of art in accordance with the highest professional museum standards. While the primary mission is to promote and enhance student awareness and understanding of the visual arts, UMWG also serves as a significant academic resource contributing to the intellectual and cultural enrichment of the entire University community, the local community, and, in a broader sense, the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia.
FROM THE DIRECTOR

As we conclude another successful academic year at the University of Mary Washington, the UMW Galleries can look back on a very eventful year during which we presented a rich array of exhibitions and lectures. We had excellent attendance, due in part to enhancements in our publicity efforts. Over the summer the University had changed the platform for its website, which resulted in a slightly new look for the Galleries website and improved the ease with which it could be updated. Justine Geiger enlivened our Facebook page with frequent status updates and launched activity on Twitter as well. We have found social media to be an effective means of spreading the word about our activities. If you participate in Facebook, you can “like” our page in order to receive regular updates and reminders about ongoing activities.

During the course of the academic year I participated in a task force assembled by Richard Finkelstein, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, to develop a master plan for the arts on campus. The most recent UMW strategic plan brought the arts into the conversation about the University’s future and the task force was formed this year to continue that conversation in greater detail. From the Galleries perspective, one of the most exciting recommendations to come out of the task force was the suggestion to repurpose Seacobeck Hall for use by several campus arts groups, including the Galleries, once the dining facilities are moved to their new location. Among potential impact areas for the UMW Galleries would be exhibition space for the permanent collection, as well as space for lectures and other types of special events and programming activities. This is just a recommendation at this point and only time will tell if it is to become reality. However, it is exciting to contemplate what this could mean for the University and for the local community.

The academic year has been one of staffing changes as well. In November our Assistant Curator/Registrar, Kyra Swanson, left to take a full time position in collections work at Washington and Lee University. In addition, Visitor Services Coordinator, Justine Geiger, left us at the end of June to continue her education at Tulane University Law School. We wish our departing colleagues well in their new endeavors.

As the summer stretches before us we are busy working on upcoming exhibitions and other activities for the 2012-2013 academic year. Our Galleries will be filled with remarkable artworks and we are lining up some fascinating lectures that we think will be illuminating. These would not be possible without your continuing support! Thank you for your generosity! We hope to see many of you as the year unfolds!

Anne Timpano
FALL 2012 EXHIBITIONS

RIDDERHOF MARTIN GALLERY

Reinterpreting the Decorative Arts
September 7 – October 5
Opening: Thursday, September 6, 5 – 7 PM

This exhibition will feature eight artists whose practice involves the use of forms and/or materials traditionally associated with decorative arts objects and ornamentation. Taking inspiration from traditional and historical precedents, these artists then transform, manipulate, and otherwise reinvent the existing vocabulary into a new language rich with layers of meaning, all the while subverting any pretension to utility with which decorative arts forms are traditionally associated.

Contemporary Work in Fiber
October 26 – December 7
Opening: Thursday, October 25, 5 – 7 PM

This exhibition will showcase eight different artists who demonstrate the diverse materials and processes used in contemporary fiber work. Fiber art involves the revival or distortion of processes associated with the traditional creation of textiles for utilitarian purposes and goes beyond the limited utilitarian origins of the genre. Technical processes are often used in combination and can range from conventional skills to more alternative means.

DuPONT GALLERY

Mapping Nowhere:
Rosemary Kate Jesionowski (Faculty Exhibition)
September 7 – October 5
Opening: Thursday, September 6, 5 – 7 PM

The work of Rosemary Kate Jesionowski, assistant professor in the UMW Department of Art, will be featured in this exhibition. Mapping Nowhere is an investigation of place, land, and how we identify ourselves through location. Map imagery as well as aerial and satellite photography have long influenced her works, which all refer to specific places and her relationship to those places. These images simultaneously reference Jesionowski’s experience of place and her investigation of the relationship between people and place.

REDUX: Repurposed Materials
October 26 – November 30
Opening: Thursday, October 25, 5 – 7 PM

The seven artists chosen for this exhibition incorporate recycled materials to create works that challenge preconceived notions of purpose. The pieces reference the accumulation and discarding of common products, underscoring a disposable culture and shared values attributed to products in our lives. Some of the works raise questions of anxiety while others challenge our notions of happiness and beauty. All incorporate humor to create a new life and meaning in the ordinary and discarded.
FALL 2012 LECTURE SERIES

Our lectures are always free and open to the public. Pre-registration is required to ensure a reserved seat for the lecture. Priority registration forms will be mailed to members at the end of July and registration will open to the public on September 1.

Presented in conjunction with the exhibition
Reinterpreting the Decorative Arts

Process and Paradox
Eric Standley, Associate Professor of Studio Art at Virginia Tech
2 PM, Sunday, September 23, 2012
University of Mary Washington, Combs Hall, Room 138

In his work, Eric Standley, associate professor of studio art at Virginia Tech and exhibited artist, uses an innovative cut-paper drawing process, which took several years to develop. In this presentation, he will discuss the technical process and conceptual development that led to his current body of work titled Either/Or Decreed. Reinterpreting the Decorative Arts will be on display in the Ridderhof Martin Gallery from September 7 – October 5, 2012.

Presented in conjunction with the exhibition REDUX: Repurposed Materials

REDUX Lecture
Joanna Marsh, The James Dicke Curator of Contemporary Art
at the Smithsonian American Art Museum
2 PM, Sunday, October 28, 2012
University of Mary Washington, Combs Hall, Room 138

Joanna Marsh has been The James Dicke Curator of Contemporary Art at the Smithsonian American Art Museum since 2007. Her research interests range from American art of the post-war period to recent developments in painting, sculpture and photography, with particular emphasis on emerging artists. She has organized several exhibitions and also oversees the museum's biennial contemporary art prize. Her lecture will focus on the use of repurposed materials in modern and contemporary art. REDUX: Repurposed Materials will be on display in duPont Gallery from October 26 – November 30, 2012.

Presented in conjunction with the exhibition Contemporary Work in Fiber

Contemporary Fiber Lecture
Rebecca Stevens, Consulting Curator in Contemporary Textiles, The Textile Museum
2 PM, Sunday, November 4, 2012
University of Mary Washington, Combs Hall, Room 138

Rebecca Stevens will visit us from the Textile Museum in Washington, DC to present an original lecture discussing modern and contemporary work in fiber, including traditional and more offbeat methods of fiber work. Contemporary Work in Fiber will be on display in the Ridderhof Martin Gallery from October 26 – December 7, 2012.
MID-ATLANTIC PAINTING 2012

From January 20 to February 24, the Galleries hosted Mid-Atlantic New Painting 2012 (MANP 2012) in the Ridderhof Martin Gallery. The biennial exhibition is a juried competition highlighting new developments in painting throughout the mid-Atlantic region. At least $2,000 in awards is distributed each year.

This year, seventeen artists were carefully selected for the competition. The artists came from Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, DC. Claire Huschle, Executive Director of the Arlington Arts Center, served as the juror for MANP 2012.

The juror announced her selections for the competition’s winners during the opening reception on January 19. First place was awarded to Cassie Clements’ painting Still Life with Mushroom Cloud: Turner and Courbet. Second place was given to Island by Bongkyun Noh, and third place was So Yoon Lym’s painting Anthony. Scott Turi’s painting Cocoon and Mobile Homes70_2 and Untitled 1 by Jason Bronner were awardedHonorable Mentions. In addition, the Galleries’ Purchase Prize was awarded to Eric Garner’s painting Untitled 2011.

A full list of participating artists and images of the prize winning pieces can be found on the Exhibition Archives section of our website. The next Mid-Atlantic New Painting competition will be held in 2014.

Claire Huschle, juror for Mid-Atlantic New Painting 2012, gives a gallery talk at the exhibition’s opening reception, explaining how she selected the exhibited works and winners for the competition.

Exhibited artist Bongkyun Noh poses with his painting Island. Noh was awarded the 2nd Place prize for this painting. Two of his other paintings were also accepted for the exhibition.
UMW GALLERIES SPRING 2012 EVENTS

CROWDED SPACES: ALLISON LONG HARDY

Allison Long Hardy, adjunct faculty member in the University of Mary Washington Department of Art, poses with her drawing *Daydream*. Her solo exhibition was on display from January 20 – February 5 in duPont Gallery.

Rosemary Kate Jesionowski, professor of studio art, and Dr. Richard Finkelstein, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, view Allison Long Hardy’s work at the exhibition’s January 19 opening reception.

The first senior art student show, *Markers Make*, was on display in duPont Gallery from February 16 to 26, 2012.

Gallery visitors view the works chosen for *JUNCTION*, the second senior art student exhibition, at the opening reception on March 14. The show was held in duPont Gallery from March 15 through 25.

The UMW Department of Art holds an annual student exhibition each spring. Each year, faculty members and guest jurors carefully select works and delegate prizes to winners. This year, the annual exhibition was on display from April 6 to 20, with an opening reception and award ceremony on April 5.

SENIOR AND ANNUAL STUDENT EXHIBITIONS

ASPIRE/ FRIENDS OF THE GALLERIES HONOR ROLL

Through JUNE 15, 2012

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Joanna Karlgaard
Madeleine Smith Moss
George Oliver
Paul Riley
Norm and Karen Scanlon
John Sieg
This exhibition highlighted lithographs, silkscreens, etchings, and other prints from the University of Mary Washington Galleries’ permanent collection of art. The exhibition featured 37 prints from many different artists and eras ranging from the 18th century to the present. Highlights included works by Andy Warhol, Salvador Dali, Marc Chagall, and Margaret Sutton. The exhibition was on display from March 9 – April 20.

**SPRING 2012 LECTURE SERIES**

Dr. Eric Denker, senior lecturer in the Education Department at the National Gallery of Art, presented the lecture *Ink, Wood, Copper, Stone: Identifying the Techniques of Prints* on Sunday, March 18. Dr. Denker described the materials employed in making prints, the techniques and tools used in working on the various surfaces, and the means to distinguish between woodcuts, engravings, etchings, lithographs and reproductions.

Gregory Jecmen, Associate Curator of Old Master Prints and Drawings, National Gallery of Art (NGA), presented the gallery lecture *Renaissance Innovations in Color Printing and Etching* on April 1. His lecture highlighted some of the most important color woodcuts and etchings of the Renaissance. Greg also guided a tour of the NGA’s Print Study Room during the Galleries’ bus trip in May.
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