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New Galleries Season Focuses on Narrative and Story

Winthrop University

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New Galleries Season Focuses on Narrative and Story

ROCK HILL, S.C.—Exhibits from the 2013-14 Winthrop University Galleries season will explore the different ways in which artists present narrative and story, a theme that will include photographic portraits, large-scale paintings and public performance.

“Each artist and exhibition during this academic year tells an impactful story through the work, either reflective of personal and/or societal narrative,” said Galleries Director Karen Derksen. “Contemporary art continues to draw on narrative for self-examination, an important concept to instill in our students for their future success.”

-Sept. 2-Oct. 25

Works from Taiyo la Paix showcasing large, bright paintings inspired by Japanese anime and commercial illustration will run in the Rutledge Gallery. Born in Philadelphia but raised in Japan, Paix creates pieces that illustrate a romantic fantasy world where he appears as his heroic alter ego with his female muse, Papillia. Iconic symbols and clichés fill the background of cosmopolitan scenes in works such as “Town Howls at Dusk” and “Mother Sky,” capturing the vitality and sometimes melancholy of la Paix’s narrative, all with an elaborate color palette.

Showing concurrently in the Elizabeth Dunlap Patrick Gallery is “Inside Out,” the works of Charlotte, N.C., photographer Mitchell Kearney. Throughout his multi-decade career, he has photographed musical stars such as The Ramones, Debbie Harry, Lou Reed and Devo. Kearney’s large-scale, vivid portraits explore the dichotomy between the presentness of the image and his personal relationship to the subject—sometimes known for only minutes or others developed for half a lifetime. His exhibition shares this intimate viewpoint the artist encapsulates in
the image at a “moment of revelation.”

An opening reception for both is scheduled for Sept. 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the galleries. Kearney will present an artist talk on Sept. 30 at 8 p.m. in the Patrick Gallery. Taiyo la Paix will speak about his work in the Rutledge Gallery on Oct. 21 at 8 p.m.

-Nov. 11-Jan. 17, 2014

Faculty from the College of Visual and Performing Arts will show off their talent in the Rutledge Gallery in a special group exhibition that will highlight recent works in painting, sculpture, graphic/interior design, art education, jewelry/metals, ceramics, printmaking and photography. An opening reception is scheduled for Nov. 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Upstairs in the Elizabeth Dunlap Patrick Gallery is a performative installation from The Trust, an interdisciplinary group of creators. On Nov. 15 at 6:30 p.m., the members — Bridget Elmer, R. Brooke Priddy, Nathanael Roney and Matt Schnable — will meld their talents in printmaking, textiles, graphic design, and sound to create an installation titled “Four,” which will remain through the exhibition. The group will return on Jan. 16 at 8 p.m. to discuss their process and installation.

-Feb. 7-March 28, 2014

From 1933-57, Black Mountain College in North Carolina was a liberal arts institution whose teaching of craft and design was heavily influential not only to artists, craftspeople and designers, but in developing art and design curricula throughout the world. The exhibition “Black Mountain College: Shaping Craft + Design,” organized by the Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center (BMCM+AC), highlights the importance of its pedagogy and will include works by Josef and Anni Albers, Ruth Asawa, Peter Voulkos and Kenneth Snelson. The exhibition will be on view in the Rutledge Gallery.

Also showing in the Elizabeth Dunlap Patrick Gallery will be works by painter Charles Ladson. The Georgia resident creates large hauntingly beautiful canvasses of skewed every-day scenes, landscapes and emotionless figures, tilting us into his surrealist world. Ladson’s images formed with architectural precision, gestural layering of paint and muted tones resonate with an eerie, stillness and dream-like effect.

An opening reception for both is scheduled for Feb. 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Other gallery events are in the Lewandowski Student Gallery, unless otherwise noted:

• Sept. 2-13: Radical Jewelry Makeover
• Sept. 16-27: Drawing Exhibition
• Oct. 7-18: Interior Design Rendering/Drawing
• Oct. 28-Nov. 8: Foundations Exhibition
• Nov. 18-Nov. 29: Art Education Senior Exhibition
• Dec. 9-Jan. 17, 2014: Illustration Exhibition
• Feb. 17-28, 2014: Interactive Graphics Exhibition
• March 10-21, 2014: Sculpture Exhibition
• March 31-April 18, 2014: BFA Senior Exhibition
• April 21-June 14, 2014: 26th Annual Undergraduate Juried Exhibition; Rutledge Gallery
• April 21-May 9, 2014: MFA Thesis Exhibition, Elizabeth Dunlap Patrick Gallery
• April 28-May 20, 2014: Senior Interior Design Exhibition

Winthrop University Galleries hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. It is closed on weekends and university holidays. All artist talks, exhibitions and receptions are free and open to the public.
For more information, call the Galleries at 803/323-2493 or e-mail Karen Derksen, Galleries director, at derksenk@winthrop.edu. Follow the Galleries online on Facebook or Twitter.