Press Release
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For Immediate Release

Public Art Receptions to Celebrate Art and Artistry at Northern Illinois University

DeKalb, IL – The Northern Illinois University Art Museum and the Office of the President are celebrating NIU's artistry and talent at a public reception in Altgeld Hall on Thursday, November 19 from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m., highlighting recent work by faculty and teaching staff from the NIU School of Art and Design exhibited at the Art Museum alongside selected NIU student artwork on display in the President's office gallery located on Altgeld Hall's third floor.

Please join us at this reception to mark the opening of the NIU School of Art and Design Faculty Biennial invitational exhibition presenting recent works by current NIU faculty and teaching staff opening November 17, 2015 and running through February 20, 2016. At the same time, enjoy access to NIU President Doug Baker's office galleries to applaud the student-curated display of NIU student photography and printmaking. During the reception, guests may enjoy seasonal refreshments, appetizers, desserts, and cider at the Art Museum located on the first floor, west end of Altgeld Hall and in the President's office foyer located on the third floor. This reception is hosted by the Office of the President.

About the Office of the President's Student Artwork Display
Two NIU School of Art and Design graduate students, Corey Stout and Kelsea Nichols, currently serve as curators for the Presidential galleries. Stout and Nichols, with the guidance of studio faculty member Jessica Labatte, are responsible for selecting and hanging student artwork for display on a semiannual basis in President Baker's office and home. This practice is evidence of the commitment to the arts on campus and to student career success. Student artists now on display include: Jennifer Knobloch, Katherine Houline, Amy Fleming, Joseph Randle, Juan Molina Hernandez, Timothy Riley, Abigail Searles, Shistine Peterson, Courtney Pratt, Amy Chow, Trent Pierson, and Tony Zanker.

About the Faculty Biennial Exhibition at NIU Art Museum
The 2015 – 2016 Faculty Biennial exhibition features new work and current research of faculty and teaching staff from all divisions of the NIU School of Art and Design. Every two years the biennial emphasizes the caliber of the faculty and the breadth and strength of the arts programs offered at NIU from various disciplines including fibers, time arts, visual communication and illustration, painting, sculpture, photography, ceramics, printmaking, metals and jewelry, art history, and art education. The work and research of thirty faculty and teaching staff are represented including: Michael Barnes, Todd Buck, Billie Giese, Alexandra Giza, Cynthia Hellyer-Heinz, Rebecca Houze, Barbara Jaffee, Joshua Johnson, Katie Kahn, James Kearns, Yih-Wen Kuo, Jessica Labatte, Christine LoFaso, Kimberly Martens, Jamie Obermeier, Peter Olson, Catherine Raymond, Michael Rea, Nina Rizzo, Kurt Schultz, John Siblik, Lee Sido, Geoffrey Todd Smith, Kryssi Staikidis, Ben Stone, Frank Trankina, Peter Van Ael, Shei-Chau Wang, Kathie Webb, and Bart Woodstrup. The exhibition is on display at the NIU Art Museum in Altgeld Hall through Saturday, February 20, 2016 with a closing public reception Thursday, February 18, 2016 from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.
Select Faculty Biennial Images

Left:
Michael Barnes. Concealing the Source. 2015. lithograph, (35 x 25 in.).
Courtesy of the artist.

Right:
Yih-Wen Kuo. Eternal Home. series n.d. (10 x 7 x 3 in.).
Courtesy of the artist.

High-resolution images will be sent as a separate attachment upon request.

Associated Events and Educational Programs
Please stay tuned for the public events associated with the Faculty Biennial exhibition, which will prove to be an exciting addition to the new year. Many of the Art Museum’s events and educational programs associated with the exhibition are free and open to the public. More information about the exhibitions, events, and educational programming at the NIU Art Museum may be found online by visiting www.niu.edu/artmuseum. To register for events please contact the Education Coordinator at 815-753-1936 or email shenn1@niu.edu.

Thursday, November 19, 2015
Public Art Receptions to Celebrate Art and Artistry
This reception hosted by the Office of the President
Altgeld Hall
NIU Art Museum, first floor, west end
President’s Office, third floor
5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 18, 2016
Closing Reception
NIU Art Museum, Altgeld Hall, first floor, west end
5:00 – 6:30 p.m.
**About the NIU Art Museum**

The NIU Art Museum contributes to the University's educational curriculum and provides opportunities for art education and cultural enrichment throughout the community. The Museum serves to educate, preserve, exhibit, and enlighten by balancing the challenges of contemporary art with the riches of traditional media for a comprehensive examination of visual culture.

The exhibitions and programs of the NIU Art Museum are sponsored in part by the Illinois Arts Council Agency; the Friends of the NIU Art Museum; and the Dean's Circle of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, NIU Foundation.

**Gallery Hours**

Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Saturday 12 – 4 p.m.; by appointment for group tours. Exhibitions are open to the public and admission is **FREE**, but donations are always appreciated.

**The Museum galleries will be closed November 26 – 30, 2015 for Thanksgiving break and December 19, 2015 – January 11, 2016 for Winter break.**

The NIU Art Museum is located on the first floor, west end of Altgeld Hall, located on the corner of College Avenue and Castle Drives on the campus of Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL. Parking is available in the Carroll Avenue Visitor's Pay Lot; handicapped and metered spots in front of Altgeld Hall; and during public receptions and programs in Lot 3 northeast of Gilbert Drive and College Avenue. Campus parking is free on weekends and after 7 p.m. weeknights.

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Altgeld Hall 116, First Floor, West End  
1425 W. Lincoln Hwy., Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115 / 815-753-1936  
www.niu.edu/artmuseum