

ALUMNI BIENNIAL (THREE) - UCONN STORRS CAMPUS

SFA - Contemporary Art Galleries

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ART GAL
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January 26 – March 11, 2016

Monday – Friday 10 – 4 & Sun 1 to 4

The Artist and Jay Lehman in Conversation

January 26 @ 5pm - Art Building, CAG

Exhibition and Artists' Reception

January 26 from 6 - 7 pm - Art Building, CAG

Alumni Biennial (Three)

The Contemporary Art Galleries announces its upcoming alumni exhibition, *Alumni Biennial (Three)* January 26th through March 11th. The exhibition will feature four graduates from the University of Connecticut's Master of Fine Arts program. Juried by Jay Lehman, co-owner of New York City's Morgan Lehman Gallery. *Alumni Biennial (Three)* will feature recent artwork by Deborah Zlotsky (MFA 1989), Jenn Dierdorf (MFA 2008) Siobhan Landry (MFA 2011) and Jared Holt (MFA 2014). Connecting each of these artists is a strong sense of play, either through style and appropriated imagery as with Dierdorf's new flower portraits, through response to medium and process as with Zlotsky's paintings and wall drawings, through the interactivity of Holt's *Typewriter*, or through the dream-like engagement with narrative in Landry's video, *A Place to Put Her*. What starts as play gives way to complexity, engaging with important ideas of gender, sexuality, life, death, and the artist's response.

The Artists

Jenn Dierdorf is a painter and printmaker who is interested in the bizarre, uncanny, absurd, and contradictory. She uses the visual language and humor of the cartoon line combined with art historical references such as the Chicago

imagists, Rococo, and Impressionists, to create playful images that discuss gender and sexuality in visual art.

Jared Holt works with installations and sound to explore the simultaneous nature of past and present events. His work often explores the ephemerality of sound, and how sounds from the past can affect current events through their recollection of moments and memories.

Siobhan Landry working in video and photography plays with the inherent contextual deficiency of her medium. She is interested in how talking in the form of storytelling can be overactive, nonsensical, and self-defeating, and her engagement with narrative is akin to dreaming. Elements are garbled up, re-contextualized, maybe even transformed, but nevertheless tethered to reality.

Deborah Zlotsky's paintings emerge from choices and decisions that blur her understanding of the difference between accident and intention. Revisions begin to create new structures, which lead to new systems or languages. Continually rupturing and repairing new passages allows the oscillation between mistake and correction to remain, thus invigorating her canvases.



About UCONN's Contemporary Art Galleries

The CAG has an outstanding history of presenting cutting-edge artwork. The quality of our curatorial work was praised when our exhibit, *Kiss: When a kiss isn't just a kiss*, was selected as one of the four best museum shows of 2005 in North America by the American Association of Museums. Last year, CAG's invitation/brochure was given first place in the AAM's annual publication competition. Recently the CAG has featured major works by artists such as: Shirin Neshat, Neo Rauch, Gregory Crewdson, Thomas Ruff, Thomas Eggerer, Yinka Shonibare, Carsten Höller, Sally Smart, Ed Ruscha, On Kawara, Robert Longo, Andrea Fraser, Janine Antoni, Janet Biggs, Kiki Smith, Fred Tomaselli, Diane Arbus, Marina Abramovic, Alfredo Jaar, Nari Ward, Julian Opie, William Kentridge, Josephine Meckseper and Vik Muniz.

You can find more about CAG by visiting: <http://contemporaryartgalleries.uconn.edu/>