

KEEPING YOU IN...



The Loupe

The newsletter of the
Department of Art and Art History
Box 870270
Tuscaloosa, Alabama

The Loupe is the newsletter of the Department of Art and Art History, a NASAD-accredited department in The University of Alabama's College of Arts and Sciences, published at the beginning of the fall and spring semesters. Please send correspondence to Rachel Dobson, Visual Resources Curator, rdobson@bama.ua.edu.

Spring 2009

A VISION OF TEACHING WITH AFRICAN AMERICAN ART



Images of the Paul R. Jones press conference, and works from the collection. For more images go to <http://www.flickr.com/photos/uart/sets/72157608061866367/>.

In November 2008, Paul R. Jones bequeathed his 1700-piece collection of African American twentieth-century art valued at \$4.8 million to The University of Alabama. Jones wants the works to be used to teach art and American history to viewers.

At a press conference in the Sarah Moody Gallery of Art, Dean of Arts and Sciences Robert Olin, who has worked for several years to bring the collection here, acknowledged Jones's bequest: "This is a major gift to the state of Alabama, and we are honored that the Paul R. Jones Collection has been placed into our care to share with teachers, students, and citizens throughout the state. The art, the lives of the artists, their place in modern American art and history and the personal vision of the man who collected the works have much to teach us."

Jones clearly has teaching as part of his personal vision. In an interview with UA's Sarah Colwell, Jones articulated his vision of art as a teaching tool: "I didn't want to keep it close to my chest. I wanted to share it. I've always wanted to see African American art woven into the teaching of American art because I think that

[African American artists] are American artists who just happen to be of color."

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STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

GRANT PROJECT | Adam Weinstein, grad student in printmaking, received a grant in 2008 from the Arts and Humanities Council of Tuscaloosa County for his participatory art project that will involve flying handmade silkscreened or lithographed kites *en masse* at several locations around the state. He writes, "The kites are to act as a catalyst for conversations about ecology, development, and the environment." Weinstein continues, "If that's successful, I'm going to expand the project to follow the migration route of the Bachman's warbler, which will take me all the way to Cuba."



Adam Weinstein, "Bird Falling, 2008, lithograph. Image

all the way to Cuba."

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For more information about grants, go to <http://www.tuscart.org/smallgrants.html>. For more photos of printmaking classes and studios, go to <http://www.flickr.com/photos/uart/>.



Adam Weinstein in his Woods Hall studio.

INTERNSHIP | Viola Moten, art history BA 2008, has accepted a spring internship at the Birmingham Museum of Art in the education department. Moten is writing two artist bios for the Paul R. Jones Collection Artist Biography project.

FACULTY NEWS & NOTES

TALKING POINTS | Mindy Nancarrow presented the Murphy Distinguished Alumni Lecture at her alma mater, University of Kansas, Lawrence, in October. Her



Art historians Marilyn Stokstad, Mindy Nancarrow, Megan K. Young and Linda Stone-Ferrier gathered at the University of Kansas in October 2008. Photo courtesy of Megan K. Young.

talk, titled "Insiders and Outsiders: The Impact of Political Transformation in Spain on Research Opportunities for Art Historians," compared her experiences on a Fulbright scholarship to Spain and research in Córdoba in the 1980s with those now. Nancarrow reported that she had a wonderful time visiting her dissertation adviser Linda Stone-Ferrier, her former professor Marilyn Stokstad, and her former MA thesis student, Megan Young, MA 2007, now a University of Kansas PhD student.

In January, Cathy Pagani held a workshop titled "In Blue and White: Folk Embroideries of Rural Sichuan, China," in Manly Hall, the first in the 2009 Brown Bag Series sponsored by the Women's Resource Center and the department of women's studies. Pagani discussed the distinctive blue-and-white embroideries of the rural southwestern Chinese province of Sichuan and offered a look into the lives of non-elite rural women.

AWARDS | In September 2008, Brian Evans was awarded a Cultural Alliance of Greater Birmingham grant: the Mrs. Gloria Narramore Moody Award in the Interdisciplinary category to combine his work in music and digital art. The grant is "to create a new series of visual music in full resolution high definition video."

"DRAWING ON ALABAMA" | Department alumni Bethany Windham Engle, Clayton Colvin, Scott Stephens, and Pat Snow, and Moody Gallery director Bill Dooley have art work in Auburn University's "Drawing on Alabama 2009." The exhibition of thirty-three Alabama artists is a statewide competition juried by Maura Lynch, Curatorial Assistant in the Museum of Modern Art's department of drawing. Part of the aim of the exhibition is to broaden the viewing audience for Alabama artists by featuring two exhibition venues. It will remain at the Biggin Gallery on Auburn's campus through February 19. On March 13 the show will move to Mobile at Space 301 through May 3. For more information, contact Barb Bondy, AU Exhibitions and Lectures Coordinator, (334) 844-3483.

Andrea D. Taylor, MA 2003 and art history instructor since 2004, has developed and is teaching her second art



MOODY EXHIBITION SCHEDULE SPRING 2009

Bill Dooley, Gallery Director | Vicki Rial, Exhibitions Coordinator



Elizabeth Murray Prints **January 8 - February 8, 2009**
 A selection of prints by the late Elizabeth Murray will offer viewers insight into one of America's prominent contemporary artists. Murray's prints reveal the energy of experimentation inherent in her artistic process. The complexities of her artwork reflect those of an ambitious female New York-based painter immersed in the male dominated art world of the 1970s. Elizabeth Murray's works are represented in prominent public art collections across America and abroad, and she recently was the subject of PBS's ART 21. Works featured in this special exhibition are on loan from Gemini, G.E.L. of Los Angeles. The exhibition is made possible with the support of the Farley Moody Galbraith Endowed Exhibition Fund.



Windgate Fellows Exhibition **February 19 - March 29, 2009**
 This inaugural exhibition event will feature the work of Department of Art and Art History students who have been awarded Windgate Fellowship support to pursue studies in studio art media areas of Painting, Sculpture, Printmaking and Ceramics. Students will participate in the selection and preparation of works for the exhibit and the installation design.



Mary Hambleton: Paintings **April 9 - May 10, 2009**
 New York-based artist Mary Hambleton will exhibit a selection of paintings dedicated to the idea of painting as a means of surviving the world. She uses color, pattern, layering and form to engage in both micro and macro views derived from the cellular and ocular. Hambleton is professor of art in the fine arts department of Parsons School of Design. She has received numerous awards including the Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship (2007); Gottlieb Foundation Grant (2006); Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant (2002); and the Edwin Palmer Memorial Prize, National Academy of Design (2000).



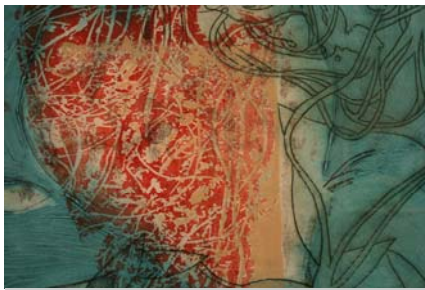
NEW GALLERY HOURS:
Monday through Friday 9:00am - 4:30pm
Thursday evenings: 5:00pm - 8:00pm
CLOSED SUNDAYS



ALUMNI NEWS

Ron Yrabedra, BFA 1966 and MA 1967, retired in May 2008 as Professor of Art Education at Florida A&M University, a position he has held for the past 34 years. His first job teaching art was at Cottondale Elementary School in Tuscaloosa County, where this editor was enrolled in the first grade. She remembers clearly his hieroglyphic-like chalk inscription on the blackboard illustrating to the class how to pronounce his name: Ear+a+Bed+ra. Yrabedra writes, "My teaching in the Tuscaloosa County School System laid the basis for the rest of my life." Since retirement, Yrabedra has been devoting full time to his art, painting, drawing, and making ceramics. For a sample of his work, go to: <http://www.bigbendcares.org/artopia08/pages/132.shtml>.

Judy Major-Girardin and Scott Stephens, who both earned MFAs in art at UA in 1983, exhibited prints and paintings in the Sarah Moody Gallery of Art in December 2008. Photos of the exhibit are posted at our Flickr site: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/uart/>.



Judy Major-Girardin, "Debris," detail, n.d., print media on paper, 40 x 34".

Ed McGowin, who earned his MA in art from The University of Alabama in 1964, retired from SUNY-Old Westbury in 2003. His works are in several national museums including the Whitney, the Hirshhorn, the Guggenheim, the Phillips Collection, and the Corcoran. They are also part of southern collections like the New Orleans Museum of Art, and the Mobile Museum. In 2007, his traveling one-man show appeared at the Moody Gallery of Art, "Ed McGowin: Name Change—One Artist—Twelve Personas—Thirty-five Years," to "celebrate 35 years of art production" with twelve distinct "alter egos" or styles of art making. *Ed McGowin Name Change* was published by the Mobile Museum of Art in 2006. He writes, "Right now I am working on a project for a sculpture park in Shanghai, China, that will include two five-meter-high bronze

sculptures that are powered by solar panels." For more, go to <http://www.edmcgowin.com/>.

Scott Jarrett, MA 2008 in sculpture, is in his first year of the MFA program at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. His first show, using salvaged construction materials, was installed at the Logan Square Kitchen (<http://testlogansquarekitchen.blogspot.com/2008/10/artist-installation.html>).

ALUMNI WEBSITES

William Christenberry - BFA, 1958; MA, 1959; faculty, 1959-61. <http://www.christenberryonline.com/> | <http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/face/Article.jsp?id=h-1624>

Rita DeWitt - MFA, 1972. <http://kemperartmuseum.wustl.edu/islandpress/html/A019.html>

David Gibbs - MA, 2003. <http://www.davidgibbs.com/>

Scott Jarrett - MA, 2008. <http://davidscottjarrett.com/home.html>

Khara Koffel - MFA, 2003. <http://www.kharakoffel.com/>

Ed McGowin - MA, 1964. <http://www.edmcgowin.com/>

Bertice McPherson - MFA, 1992. <http://berticemcpherson.com/index.html>

Jim Neel - MFA, 1973. <http://www.jimneel.com/>
<http://www.bsc.edu/academics/faculty/neel-james.htm>

Miyuki Okuyama - MA 2002; BA 2000. <http://www.miyukiokuyama.com/>



William Christenberry, "Star," ca. 1970s, mixed media with neon, 6 x 8¼ x 5¾", Sarah Moody Gallery of Art Permanent Collection, Gift of Morgan Family.



Paul Outlaw - BFA, 2004.
<http://www.pauloutlaw.net/>

Wayne Sides - BA, 1975 (New College).
<http://waynesides.blogspot.com/>

Scott Stephens - MFA, 1983.
<http://www.montevallo.edu/art/stephens.shtm>

Brian Thompson - MA, 2007.
<http://brianthompson57.com/home.html>

Stan Topol - MA, 1967.
<http://www.stantopol.com/>

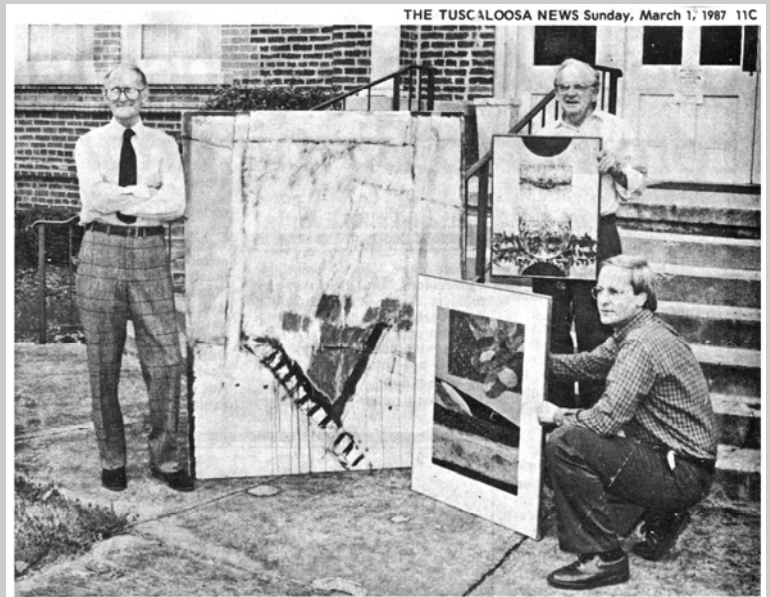
Thornton Willis - MA, 1966.
http://www.thorntonwillis.com/public_collections.shtml

OBITUARIES

Bruce Alan Crowe, alumnus and professor of painting at The University of Alabama for many years, died June 22, 2008. He earned a BS in education in 1971, an MA in art education in 1972 and an MFA in painting in 1974 from UA, before going on to Mississippi State for his PhD in education. He taught art for fifteen years at UA before his seventeen-year stint at Shoals Community College in Russellville, Alabama. Among many awards and prizes for his artwork and teaching, Crowe was chosen Art Educator of the Year in 1991-92 and in 1995-96 by the Alabama Art Education Association. A student of his in the 1970s, Frances Tucker remembers Crowe as "conscientious and hardworking; yet he had a wonderful, quiet sense of humor. I was impressed by his dedication to teaching and his willingness to spend time helping students." His obituary appeared in the Florence (AL) *TimesDaily*.

Melanie Renee Tyler Owen, 38, of Cleveland, Mississippi, and graduate student in sculpture, was killed in an automobile accident October 31, 2008. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations to a memorial art scholarship in her memory be sent to the Delta State University art department, P.O. Box 3141, Cleveland, MS, 38733.

Spring 1987 FACULTY EXHIBITION



News staff photo
 THE ANNUAL exhibit by the faculty of the University of Alabama art department will open with a public reception from 2-4 p.m. today in the Moody Gallery of Art in Garland Hall. Among the studio, art education and art history faculty members represented in the exhibit are (L-R) Al Sella, Dick Brough and Bruce Crowe. The exhibit will remain on display through March 19.

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Frank Gilson, who earned a BFA in art from The University of Alabama in the mid 1960s, died December 28, 2008, at Tallahassee Memorial Hospital after a brief illness. Fellow classmate **Ron Yrabedra** writes about Gilson: "We were students together in the '60s. He was so creative and intelligent that he baffled the professors. He served as a medic in Vietnam, traveled in the Mid East, and received an MFA from Florida State University in Islamic Art. He worked as an archaeological illustrator for the Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research for most of his career. He was also a beloved teacher of drawing and watercolor at LeMoyne Art Foundation in Tallahassee for many years." Frank Gilson's obituary appeared in the *Tallahassee Democrat*.

Please send your alumni news to rdobson@bama.ua.edu. Alumni webpages are bookmarked at <http://delicious.com/Resources4UAart/alums>.

**IMAGE RESOURCE CENTER
 MONDAY THRU' FRIDAY
 8AM-12NOON & 1PM-4:45PM**



William T. Dooley, "Untitled (Composition with Oxbow on Flesh Ground)," 2008, organic inks, pencil, and gesso on paper, 9¼ x 11¼". This and other department members' works appear in the Auburn juried exhibition, "Drawing on Alabama 2009." See page 2. Image courtesy of the artist.

JONES COLLECTION continued from page 1

In addition to the collection itself, the Department of Art and Art History has established the Paul R. Jones Artist Lecture series, with Fahamu Pecou as the first lecturer in January. Artists scheduled to lecture this semester will be Freddie Styles, Mario Petrirena, and Aimee Miller. For more information on Jones's gift: <http://ua.news.ua.edu/a/news2008/oct08/pauljones101408.htm>.

FACULTY NEWS & NOTES continued from page 2

history course, ARH 253, to go with ARH 252, both online. She also writes for *The Douglas (GA) Enterprise* as their Community Editor. She and her husband and one-year-old son live in Ocilla, Georgia.

Check for current art happenings here:

<http://www.as.ua.edu/art/>

Get forms, handbooks, and the *Loupe* here:

<http://www.as.ua.edu/art/resources.html>

See photos of departmental life here:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/uart/>

Find outside digital resources here:

<http://del.icio.us/Resources4UAart>

COMING THIS SEMESTER

January 28 – Fahamu Pecou, the first Paul R. Jones Artist Lecture, will lecture Wednesday, January 28, at 5:00 pm, in 205 Gorgas. The lecture is sponsored by the Department of Art and Art History, and the Office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences, with additional support from the Amelia Gayle Gorgas Library, African American Studies and the Black Faculty and Staff Association.

February 2-26 – Mississippi State University Exchange Exhibition, ASL Gallery, Woods Hall. Closing reception, Thursday, February 26, 6:00-9:00 pm.

February 4 – Patterson Sims, renown curator of American art, will present a lecture in conjunction with the current Moody Gallery exhibit titled, "Mixing it Up: Elizabeth Murray in 2-D and 3-D," at 4:30 pm in Ferguson Theatre. Sims is former director of the Montclair (NJ) Art Museum, and has served in curatorial and administrative positions at MOMA, the Seattle Art Museum, and the Whitney Museum of American Art.

February 20 – The 14th Annual Graduate Student Symposium in Art History will be held in 205 Gorgas Library. Along with graduate student presentations, guest speaker Krista Thompson of Northwestern University will present "The Sound of Light: Reflections on Art History in the Visual Culture of Hip Hop." The symposium is sponsored by the Joint Program for the MA in Art History at The University of Alabama and the University of Alabama at Birmingham. For more information, contact Rachel Dobson.

In March – Paul Jones Artist Lecturers Freddie Styles and Mario Petrirena will speak together on their divergent art styles and friendship. Aimee Miller will also lecture, all at a date and location to be announced, at 5:00 pm, with reception following.

March 30-May 16 – Graduate thesis exhibitions for Andrew Toth, Jamey Hudnall, Bruce Henry, Shelia McManus, Roger Jones, and Jason Doblin, in the ASL Gallery, Woods Hall. Dates and times TBA. Please check in Garland 103.