GUARDIAN OF THE REALM

MIRIAM NORRIS is making a home for the Paul R. Jones Collection of American Art at The University of Alabama. As the new collections manager, under the College of Arts and Sciences, within the Department of Art and Art History, she is creating a master inventory list for the multi-million dollar collection of paintings, photographs, drawings, and mixed media works, writing a collections management policy, securing the climate-controlled storage for the works, and that is just the beginning.

Norris is creating a collections database that will help her organize another aspect of her job: loaning the art, which will call for more hands-on work than the usual collections management. Not only will she be in charge of keeping track of loans -- part of the *raison d'être* of the Paul R. Jones Collection -- she will also be responsible for hanging and installing the loaned works at locations (see below).

Norris brings very interesting work experience to her new position at Alabama. For two years she was the project manager for The Heritage Center at Red Cloud Indian School in Pine Ridge, South Dakota, on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Not only was the content of the collection a contrast, including items made from animal parts, nineteenth-century textiles, and ceramics, but management practices at the Center were sometimes a cultural challenge.

The objects at The Heritage Center required not only physical care, but something akin to spiritual care. In managing the Native American collection, Norris worked with objects with a variety of handling specifications. For example, there were certain ceremonial objects that, because she was female, in the Lakota tradition, she was not allowed to touch. “You have to balance the cultural context with the care of the artwork,” she explains.

Along with her curatorial and collections management experience, Norris has a solid foundation in African American art. She received her MA from Cleveland State University in history with a specialization in art history, focusing on African and African American art and textiles. Her BFA is from Cleveland Institute of Art, where she completed a five-year program with a thesis show of forty pieces. She also did extensive coursework in chemistry.

IN SEPTEMBER, the UA Board of Trustees approved the naming of the gallery in Woods Hall the Sella-Granata Art Gallery in honor of Professor emeritus Alvin Sella and the late Professor Angelo Granata. The first exhibition in the gallery was the graduate show *Idle Hands* in September and October.
Faculty Art in West Alabama

CONGRATULATIONS to Sarah Marshall, whose intaglio print, “Frankly Will Not Fly,” placed third in the 25th Annual West Alabama Juried Show. The exhibition was open in November and December, in the Bama Theatre’s Junior League Gallery. Also in the show were works by Bethany Windham Engle (alumnus and former faculty), Brian Evans, Sky Shineman, and John Tilley (alumni).

BRIAN EVANS’ and Jerry Lamme’s photo works are included in the seventh annual Double Exposure Juried Photography Exhibition presented by the Arts and Humanities Council of Tuscaloosa County. The exhibition will run from January 24 through February 26 in the Junior League Gallery at the Bama Theatre. The exhibit opening and awards presentation will take place on January 24 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm in the gallery. The event is hosted by the Arts Council and sponsored by Harrison Galleries and American Shutterbug.

More Faculty Notes

SARAH MARSHALL’s printmaking class participated in an interdepartmental art project with UA creative writing, art, music, and dance students. “Collaborama” was a performance instigated by Robin Behn’s graduate Collaboration creative writing course this fall. At Morgan Hall in December, fifteen pieces were performed by students of Behn’s, Sarah Barry’s choreography class, and Marshall’s printmaking class.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mark Stevenson, our longtime Mechanician on his promotion to Arts Technician Senior! And welcome to Michael Dudley, BFA 2002 (painting), who has been hired as an assistant in the woodshop. Dudley, who earned his masters in architecture in 2005 from Yale University, is also teaching Drawing I, 2-D Design, and will be assisting in an Interior Design course, Advanced Non-Residential Design.

BESIDES HIS piece in Double Exposure, Jerry Lamme has had his work in several exhibitions across the country. Two pieces, including Chicago Vermeer, shown here, were juried into Photo-Alternative: The Past as Future, described as “a celebration of alternative processes and toy cameras,” last fall in Berea, Kentucky, as well as work in Travel Stories, in October in Altered Esthetics Gallery in Minneapolis. Lamme exhibited in the 2009 Hot New Pics Show in Wichita, Kansas, and had three works in Small Spaces/Big Creations at the 6th Street Gallery in Vancouver, Washington, in November.

SARAH MARSHALL will be sharing exhibition space with book artists. Marshall, along with UA book artists Anna Embree and Bridget Elmer are in The Book as Vessel at the University of North Florida Gallery of Art in Jacksonville, Florida, January 14 through February 4. The exhibition is curated by UA art alumnus, Raymond Gaddy, MFA 2000, the UNF gallery director, and has a nice slideshow on the website: http://www.unf.edu/dept/gallery/Current%20Exhibition.html.

TOM WEGRZYNOWSKI, Sky Shineman, and Jerry Lamme all have work in the first juried exhibition The Art of the State at the Tennessee Valley Museum of Art in Tuscumbia, from January 17 through March 7. According to program assistant Lori Curtis, the competition is open to all full- and part-time studio art faculty from any Alabama college or university. One of the exhibition’s purposes is to reveal directions art is taking in Alabama among those who teach.

UA Art Faculty at SECAC

SEVERAL ART faculty and one alum participated in the Southeastern College Art Conference in Mobile in October. Herb Rieth presented “Red Headed Stranger: Situating Painting within the

UNDERGRADUATES

LIZ WUESTEFELD’s BFA exhibition will be in the Sella-Granata Art Gallery February 22 through March 5. In the artist’s words, Little Things, a collection of her recent drawings, prints, and sculpture, is “about hiding and laughing and sometimes feeling really sad about being so small. And sometimes being happy about it.” The public is invited to the opening reception on Thursday, February 25 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm.

BFA CANDIDATE Molly Brooke Threadgill will have a solo exhibition at the Kentuck Gallery in Northport opening February 4, 5:00 to 9:00 pm. The exhibition will run until February 27.

THE UNDERGRADUATE JURIED EXHIBITION is one of two large undergraduate shows that will be presented this spring. It will be March 22 through April 2 in the Sella-Granata Gallery. Our Annual BFA Exhibition will be at the end of April at the Harrison Galleries in downtown Tuscaloosa. Stay tuned for further information.

GRADUATE STUDENTS

SARAH CUSIMANO MILES received a 2010 Society for Photographic Education Student Award. In March her work will be exhibited at their national conference in Philadelphia and recognized at the awards ceremony. She writes, “The best part is that my work will be featured at a convocation of around 1000 academic photographers - it is an amazing opportunity for my work to be seen by this community.”

OBSTRUCTED VIEW Exchange Exhibition traveled (via Wedderspoon wagon) to the University of Nebraska at Lincoln in October. This is the second exhibition with the Nebraska sculpture students, whose sculpture professor Santiago Cal was in graduate school at VCU with Craig Wedderspoon. Exhibitors were Barbara Lee Black, Sarah Cusimano Miles, Joe McCreary, Jason Doblin, S. McManus, Bruce Henry, Raven Felice, Mari Muller, Andrew Toth, Amy Feger, Aynslee Moon, April Livingston, and Leigh Walker. Livingston wrote that she and Bruce Henry went up for the snowy opening: “The campus featured outdoor sculpture by Richard Serra and Roxy Payne. The show had a southern flavor to it, with Joe’s red iron work and Bruce’s red dirt.”

BARBARA LEE BLACK’s photographs were included in Celebrating Contemporary Art in Alabama, at the Johnson Center for the Arts, in Troy. It was an invitational exhibition featuring works by artists who have received an Artist Fellowship from the Alabama State Council on the Arts. Alumnus Karen Graffeo, MFA 1987, was also in the exhibition. Black also exhibited her photos this winter at the Alabama Artists Gallery at the State Council on the Arts in Montgomery.
IN NOVEMBER and December, Jason Doblin and recent visiting artist Micah Cain had an exhibition of their ceramic work at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Gautier.

CLAIRE LEWIS EVANS is a non-degree student in studio art and Digital Projects Editor for the UA Press who has studied sculpture and ceramics in the department. In August, she had a one-woman exhibition, In Form, at the Junior League Gallery in the Bama Theatre. Lewis Evans and sculpture grad student April Livingston participated in The Show at Woodlawn in historic Woodrow Hall in October, sponsored by the Birmingham Art Collective.

ART STUDENTS REVIVE TRADITION

THE SECOND COMING OF ED FLESH was a recent juried exhibition that revived an art student happening of the 1970s. Grad student April Livingston and ceramics instructor and alumnus Daniel Livingston organized the one-day event with help from a slew of fellow students. The idea for the original “Graduate Exhibitionists” came from then-grad student Sam Hicks (MFA 1979), who noticed the name “Ed Flesh,” in the scrolling credits of a late-night TV show. According to legend, Sam suddenly wondered, “Who is Ed Flesh and what kind of art would he make?,” and an impromptu art construction competition was born. The original participants had thirty minutes to construct a piece of art that was “the type of art that Ed Flesh would make.” The first show was hung in the old Ferguson Center gallery (now the Alabama Credit Union branch). Professor Granata saw to it that the gallery’s glass walls were covered with brown paper due to the risqué nature of some of the works. Students painted the paper with the words, “Mature Subject Matter Inside,” which, of course, drew large crowds to see the show.

In the new version, graduate and undergraduate art students put together their works in an hour, with materials costing less than $50. Patrick O’Sullivan, Ginger Baker, Patricia Davis, Lindsay Jones, Jeremy Davis, Mara Lattanzi, Joe McCreary, Jason Doblin, Bruce Henry, Amy Feger, Aynsley Moon, Andrew Toth, and April Livingston made art, installed it, and opened and closed the show in one day.

The three guest jurors for the exhibition all had experienced the original version. Daniel Livingston, ceramics instructor, and Flesh alumnus, provided history about the first happening and an original poster silkscreened by Leslie Burns, MFA 1978. Juror Elizabeth Keyser Wilson, an alumna and art professor at Stillman College for two decades, filled in the historical gaps. The third juror was Professor emeritus Alvin Sella who has taught many students in both generations. Joe McCreary took first place with his five foot wood and metal tower, more literal than most. April Livingston’s tongue and honey sculpture, Honey, you shouldn’t have, won second, and Aynslee Moon’s Sweet Dreams, made of foamcore, pink Snowballs and Hershey’s Kisses, took third place. More photos at: http://www.flickr.com/photos/uaart/.

SLIP NOTES from the Crimson Ceramics Society

Cuban Ceramic artist Angel Rogelio Oliva was in residence here in October. He presented a digital slideshow of Cuban ceramics, worked on ceramic sculptures, and talked to students about their work. His visit was sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences and the Crimson Ceramics Society.

(Above center) Al Sella examines April Livingston’s entry, Honey, you shouldn’t have. (Below left) Livingston prepares for the reception.
**Sarah Moody Gallery of Art Schedule of Exhibitions Spring 2010**

**(Tw)In Site(s): 2010 Biennial All-Faculty Exhibition**  
14 January - 15 February

This biennial exhibition features art work created by the current studio faculty, emeritus faculty and adjunct faculty members. Over 50 works of art in all media created by 23 artists are on view in two sites: the Sarah Moody Gallery of Art and the Sella-Granata Art Gallery. The pieces on exhibit represent several genres, a reflection of a diverse artistic philosophy of our department’s faculty. There will be no Thursday evening hours for this exhibition.

**Jasper Johns: Prints from the Walker Arts Center Collection**  
25 February - 9 April

The Sarah Moody Gallery of Art will present a selection of editioned prints by the world-renowned artist, Jasper Johns. More than twenty works will be on loan from the Walker Arts Center, known for its contemporary arts programming and notable collections holdings in all media.

**HANGA: TWO HUNDRED YEARS OF JAPANESE WOODBLOCK PRINTS**

This annual project by Dr. Catherine Pagani will be on exhibit March 4-31 in the Ferguson Center Art Gallery, opening Thursday, March 4, at 6:00 p.m.

Included in the exhibit are examples of *ukiyo-e*, or “pictures of the floating world,” from the 17th through 19th centuries by such well-known masters as Utamaro, Hiroshige, and Hokusai. The exhibit will also feature works by 20th century masters from a folio, “The Modern Japanese Print: An Appreciation,” put out by James Michener in 1968 from the Birmingham Museum of Art. The gallery will be open daily on a limited basis and by appointment with Dr. Pagani at (205) 348-9944.

**Jasper Johns: Prints from the Walker Arts Center Collection**

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**An Eye Full: Selections from the Permanent Collection**  
22 April - 4 June

The gallery’s collection was begun in the late 1960s with an emphasis placed on modern and contemporary works on paper and photography. In recent years painting and sculpture have expanded the reach of the collection. Internationally known artists represented in the collection include Robert Rauschenberg, Sally Mann, Elizabeth Murray, Chuck Close, Lee Krasner, Carrie Mae Weems, Wassily Kandinsky, Luis Jimenez, William T. Wiley, Samuel Mockbee, Robert Kushner, Jim Dine, Judy Pfaff and Walker Evans.

**Funding support for the Sarah Moody Gallery of Art comes from The University of Alabama Department of Art and Art History and the College of Arts and Sciences. Receptions and lectures are free and open to the public.**
ALUMNI NOTES

ANN MOTTERSHEAD-BETAK, MFA UA, and former instructor in the department, was the featured artist at Kentuck Museum for September with an opening on Art Night, held the first Thursday of every month.

JONATHAN BORDEN, MFA 2005, writes, “I live in Hoover in a neat 1960s ranch style house with my wife and two chihuahuas. I’m teaching part-time at UAB. And I’m still creating little creatures.” And you can see them here: http://webpages.charter.net/bordjon/main.html.

WILLIAM CHRISTENBERRY, MA 1959, had a homecoming exhibition in the Sarah Moody Gallery of Art in November and December. William Christenberry: Land/Memory, curated by William Dooley, focused on several smaller house sculptures, a few photographs, and drawings. Included were drawings in ink and in colored pencil not previously exhibited, some small and some with a monumental quality, expressing in new ways his well-documented relationship to the land of west Alabama.

COREY DZENKO, MA 2007, passed her PhD comps at the University of New Mexico and will be advancing to candidacy. In February she will present “Performing as the Everyman: The Photographs of Kerry Skarbakka and Paul M. Smith” at the University of South Carolina’s interdisciplinary conference Bodies. A version of this paper, “Everyman’s Actions: The White Male Body in Performance Photographs” will be published in Florida State University’s Department of Art History publication Athanor 28 in September, 2010.

MARIO GALLARDO, MFA 2002, and Robert Hendrickson, MFA 2004, co-founders of the Walnut Gallery, in a renovated hall in downtown Gadsden, Alabama, celebrated a grand opening in October. Gallardo, executive director of the non-profit gallery, writes that they would love to have UA alumni, students, and faculty exhibit. Along with an art gallery, they are developing an artist residency program, and a school of fine arts.

KAREN GRAFFEO, MFA 1987, spoke to Gay Burke’s photo class about her art work in October. Graffeo is a multimedia artist whose photographic work ranges from experimental to documentary and includes photographs of Roma refugee encampments in Europe. She is an associate professor of photography at the University of Montevallo. In May 2010 she will be conducting a 10-day tour of Italy.

JAMEY GRIMES, MFA 2007, opened a solo exhibition in October in Wilmington, Delaware. Throughfall, a site-specific installation at the Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts, runs through January 31. Firmly planted in our physical world, Grimes’ ethereal environment of light and shadow makes a statement about the balance of life.

LEIGH BRISTOL HOLDEN, MFA 2007, taught a six-week book binding course in the fall at the Tri Lakes Center for the Arts in Palmer Lake, Colorado, where he has been living. He will be teaching the same course, “Non-Adhesive Book Binding,” again...
in early spring. Holden has posted photos on Facebook.

GREG HOPKINS, BFA 2001 and MA 2003, lives and paints in Brooklyn, New York. He received his MFA in painting in 2005 from Rhode Island School of Design. In 2009 he had two solo shows, Sub Rosa at Sloan Fine Art, New York, and Distrac tions at Galleria Glance, Turin, Italy.

THANKS to KHARA KOFFEL, MFA 2003, for filling in our online alumni form with information about herself (http://web.as.ua.edu/art/site/?page_id=368). She will be coming up for tenure at MacMurray College in Jacksonville, Illinois, in the spring. She writes, “[Sculpture professor] Craig Wedderspoon was by far my greatest influence. His work ethic and teaching style still influence the amount of time that I spend in my studio and the way that I work with my students.”

JAMES EMMETTE NEEL, MFA 1973, exhibited Babel, an installation of his sculpture, at the Durbin Gallery, Birmingham-Southern College, in November and December.

SUSAN ROBERTS, MFA 2007, accepted a position as assistant professor of art at Walters State Community College in Morristown, Tennessee, this fall.

GIFTS FOR EVERY OCCASION
We have notecards by undergraduate fine arts students now on sale. Proceeds go to benefit student research scholarships in the department. A set of 15 cards and envelopes costs $20 and features five designs.

ART T-SHIRTS
Office associates Jennifer Maddox and Brittni Jones commissioned Laura Lineberry’s design class to create official department T-shirts. All sizes at a great price. Call us at 348-5967 for more information.

THE BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM OF ART recently purchased a work of Pat Snow, BFA 1990: The EL, an ink and watercolor piece about riding the subway in Chicago. Alabama Power has also commissioned Snow for a piece. In October, he had a one-man exhibition at Bare Hands Gallery in Birmingham, “Would you like me better if I made you a pretty picture?” curated and installed by Ron Platt, Hugh Kaul Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Birmingham Museum of Art. In November, Snow, along with Dale Wilson Kennington, BA 1956, was in Visual Narrative: Object and Story/Text and Image, curated by Georgine Clarke, at the Alabama Artists Gallery in Montgomery.

E. KEYSER WILSON, MFA 1978, has been teaching painting, drawing, design, and photography at Stillman College in Tuscaloosa for more than twenty years. Wilson sat down with us in November to reminisce about the old days in the department, particularly about “The Graduate Exhibitionists” like Leslie Burns (MFA 1978), Roddy Capers (MFA 1981), Carol Eichelberger (MFA 1980), Nathan Goodson, Betty Groover (MFA 1978, BFA 1976), Sam Hicks (MFA 1979), J. P. Hutto (MA 1980), and Leeann Lutz. Wilson, who received her BFA from Birmingham-Southern College under Dr. Virginia Rembert, acted as one of the jurors in a revival of the “The Graduate Exhibitionists”: “The Ed Flesh Show.”

ALUMNI, send us your news! Email to rdobson@crimson.ua.edu, or mail to The Loupe, Dept. of Art and Art History, Box 870270, Tuscaloosa, AL, 35487.
Alumni: Send us your news, memories, and ideas! | mailto:rdobson@crimson.ua.edu