I am delighted to use this venue to announce the long-awaited opening of OSU’s Postal Plaza Gallery with the “Sharing a Journey” exhibition, curated by the Art Department’s Faculty Curator of Collections, Assistant Professor Louise Siddons. The Gardiner Gallery in the Bartlett Center continues its exciting exhibition calendar with a series of spring shows, beginning with the environmentally engaged work of Mark H. Cowardin in “What’s Up,” which opens on January 13. Complementing the fall 2013 exhibition “China: Lost/Found” of photographs by Dallas-based artist and designer Ka Chuen Yeung, the spring schedule features “Across the Divide,” which highlights the work of eighteen contemporary Chinese artists who teach art in the United States. The art historians continue their Roundtable Series in the spring with five scheduled talks. The Roundtable, which features the research of art history faculty and advanced graduate students, is free and open to the public. Spring is also the semester in which we celebrate the art work of our students at OSU, with studio and graphic design exhibitions and the juried student exhibition at the end of the semester. I am also very pleased to announce the arrival of Parkerson (Parker) Seward, who is the new Manager of the Gardiner Gallery. Parker has an MFA in painting from Edinboro University in Pennsylvania, where he also managed the Bruce Art Gallery. We hope that you will join us by attending the many exhibitions and programs that we have planned over the course of the semester!

Rebecca Parker Brienen, Ph.D.
Vennerberg Professor of Art and Professor of Art History
Head, Department of Art, Graphic Design and Art History
This inaugural exhibition at the Postal Plaza Gallery represents the ongoing commitment of OSU’s faculty, students, staff, alumni, and friends, who have worked together to build an outstanding collection for the university and our community. This exhibition highlights the generosity of many donors, who continue to help the museum develop a world-class collection. The exhibition’s comprehensive scope serves as a frame for the collection’s areas of focused strength: printmaking and photography, modern and contemporary art including Native American art and the Oklahoma avant-garde, and art from across Africa.

The recently completed mural by Yatika Fields, commissioned for the Postal Plaza Gallery, calls attention to a signature element of the collection. Modern and contemporary Native American artists nuance our understanding of how art developed in the United States – and particularly the ways in which modernism emerged in Oklahoma. With notable works by Oklahoma artists such as Oscar B. Jacobson, Eugene Bavinger, and Dord Fitz, as well as pieces by former OSU faculty members Ella Jack, J. Jay McVicker, and Dale McKinney, the exhibition celebrates the contributions of regional artists to international movements.

The extensive collection of works on paper features prints by Jacques Callot, Honoré Daumier, William Merritt Chase, Thomas Hart Benton, Isabel Bishop, Salvador Dalí, Warrington Colescott, and Robert Rauschenberg, and photographs by Walker Evans and Imogen Cunningham. Started by OSU faculty member and artist Doel Reed in the first decades of the twentieth century and steadily developed ever since, our collection documents social history, changing aesthetics, and artistic experimentation.

This exhibition is curated by Louise Siddons, Assistant Professor of Art History at Oklahoma State University.

**JANUARY 13 – MAY 24**
Postal Plaza Gallery

SHARING A JOURNEY: Building the Oklahoma State University Museum of Art Collection

**January 13 – May 24**
Postal Plaza Gallery

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Engage directly with works of art on view in this exhibition through a gallery talk by Dr. Louise Siddons, Faculty Curator of Collections. This talk will highlight specific pieces and discuss the history of building the OSUMA collection.

**Reception**
Thursday, January 30, 5 – 6 pm
Postal Plaza Gallery

**Curator’s Talk**
Thursday, January 30, 6 – 7 pm
Postal Plaza Gallery
Sound artist Jorge Bachman will work with students and faculty to create a media-based installation and performance inspired by the audio recordings of former OSU faculty artist Dale McKinney (1911–1994). Their work will be displayed in venues on campus and may include built objects, other media, and performance. A new work by Bachman based on McKinney’s recordings will be premiered at the Postal Plaza Gallery during his workshop.

A multimedia and sound artist, Bachman transforms field recordings exploring the strange, unique, and microcosmic sounds of everyday life into installations in unconventional environments such as a city bus or military bunker. Bachman has exhibited and performed in North America, Europe, Japan, and South America.

Painter, printmaker and sculptor Dale McKinney was well known for his nonobjective paintings and was an early practitioner of kinetic art. Over 1,400 reel-to-reel tapes recorded by McKinney are in OSU’s archive.

The OSU Museum of Art and the Department of Art, Graphic Design, and Art History are grateful to Ken and Mary Ann Ferguson, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the University of Central Oklahoma’s Academy of Contemporary Music for their support.

For more information, please contact Prof. Louise Siddons, louis.siddons@okstate.edu, 405-744-6086.

SPRING 2014

VISITING ARTIST SERIES: JORGE BACHMAN

SAVE THE DATES

Late Thursdays at the Postal Plaza Gallery

Our Late Thursdays will engage university students and members of our community every Thursday night from 6 – 8 p.m. at the Postal Plaza Gallery. Late Thursdays will begin in January and offer exciting experiences including live music, poetry readings, student-led gallery talks, artist forums, and film screenings. See our website at museum.okstate.edu or call 405-744-2783 for the schedule of activities.
This exhibition features a selection of recent sculptural works by Mark H. Cowardin, who explores the intersection of humans and the natural world. He is interested in the disconnection between people and the origins of the objects they consume, and how the consumption of resources alters the environment. In the exhibition, Cowardin draws his inspiration from the socio-political and historic events that have impacted our environment. Cowardin is currently an Associate Professor of Fine Art at Johnson County Community College in Kansas. He earned his MFA in sculpture from the University of Arizona and his BFA from the University of Kansas. He has had solo and group exhibitions nationally and internationally. Cowardin’s works are included in numerous public and private collections.

Reception
Thursday, January 23, 5 – 6 pm; Artist’s Talk, 6 – 7 pm Gardiner Gallery, Bartlett Center 109

JANUARY 13 – FEBRUARY 14
Gardiner Gallery

WHAT’S UP?

WORKSHOP WITH
MARK H. COWARDIN

10 am — 3 pm

Join Mark H. Cowardin in a workshop that parallels his own studio and art making process. Attendees will learn to observe the world around them and how they depend upon and impact nature in their daily lives. Armed with these observations, Cowardin will invite the attendees to create their own 3-dimensional representations by using found, recycled and reclaimed materials. Examples of creations could be small scale cars created from cardboard and paint, or power plants constructed from polystyrene foam and steel wire. Upon completion, these creations will be grouped together to create a mini cityscape or landscape diorama that represents how we as humans occupy and engage with the world on a personal level.

This free workshop is funded by the Oklahoma Arts Council. For required RSVP, please call 405-744-4143 or email Parker.Seward@okstate.edu

JANUARY 24
Stillwater Multi Arts Center
1001 South Duck Street, Stillwater

24
Xiaomiao Wang, Assistant Professor of Art, Southwestern Oklahoma State University

Xiaomiao Wang works on a unique, very fine type of porcelain that is only one millimeter thick. Her works are achieved by quick and delicate handling of the clay before it dries. After firing at a high temperature, the folds and shapes are permanent. She combines the use of porcelain, a century-old medium, with a contemporary aesthetic through the creation of abstract forms. The classical blue decoration over white glaze provides part of Wang’s artistic inspiration. She creates simplified and organic forms that look highly contemporary, but nonetheless represent the soul and spirit of classical Chinese porcelain.

Across the Divide presents the work of eighteen Chinese artists who are currently teaching studio art in universities across the United States. This exhibition provides an opportunity to examine the shared experience of Chinese artists entangled with individual endeavors negotiating their cultural roots, while pursuing professional artistic careers in the U.S. Most of them have a complex relationship with China, which has embarked on one of the most dramatic social and economic transformations witnessed in recent history.

All of the artists in this exhibition received their graduate training in art in the United States and they all hold teaching positions in art programs across the country. Drawing on their disparate experiences of living in both the United States and China, these artists are involved in cross-disciplinary experiments in visual arts as they create their own interpretations of the impact of globalization.

This exhibition is developed in collaboration with the Brick City Gallery at Missouri State University and the Department of Art at Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

FEBRUARY 17 – MARCH 21
Gardiner Gallery

ACROSS THE DIVIDE

Xiaohong Zhang, Associate Professor of Art, University of Wisconsin – Whitewater

Xiaohong Zhang’s work is based on the ancient Chinese art of paper cutting. In 2007 Zhang started to blend traditional paper cutting with digital printing on Japanese rice paper. By combining paper cutting with stylized depictions of contemporary consumerism, Zhang’s work explores the powerful impact of western culture on Chinese society. Zhang emigrated from China to the United States in 1997, and her experiences as a first-generation immigrant inform much of her work, which often interrogates historical and cultural themes from a Chinese perspective. The artist also addresses the challenges inherent in straddling two distinct cultures.

Reception
Thursday, February 20, 5 – 6 pm; Artists’ Talk, 6 – 7 pm
Gardiner Gallery, Bartlett Center 109

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MARCH 24 – APRIL 4
Gardiner Gallery

SENIOR STUDIO Capstone Exhibition
This exhibition presents the work of students graduating in May 2014 with their BFA degrees in studio art. Works on view feature painting, drawing, metalwork, and sculpture, and represent our student artists’ achievements obtained through their rigorous course of study at OSU. Mentored by faculty, students demonstrate their command of artistic techniques as well as critical thinking, communication skills and professional exhibition practices.

Reception
Thursday, March 27, 5 – 6 pm
Artists Talk, 6 – 7 pm
Gardiner Gallery

APRIL 9 – APRIL 18
Gardiner Gallery

GRAPHIC DESIGN Senior Portfolio Exhibition
This exhibition presents work by graphic design students graduating in May 2014 with their BFA degrees. Work on view represents all areas of study – illustration, digital animation, advertising design, and branding design. The artwork represents the culmination of each student’s artistic proficiency, achieved after several years of experimentation, research and critical thinking.

Reception
Sunday, April 13, 2 – 4 pm
Gardiner Gallery

APRIL 21 – MAY 9
Gardiner Gallery

ANNUAL JURIED STUDENT EXHIBITION
Open to students from all levels of undergraduate studies in studio art and graphic design, this highly competitive exhibition honors the artistic excellence achieved by our talented students while they learn and mature as artists at OSU. Each year we invite one visual arts educator and one professional graphic designer from the field to serve as the jurors. The exhibition showcases the works selected by the jurors. Our student artists offer the viewers a broad range of experiences through their engaging works, some demanding active participation and others requiring a more contemplative examination of content.

Reception
Sunday, April 27, 2 – 3 pm
Gardiner Gallery

Award Ceremony: 3–4 pm
Seretean Center Concert Hall
ART HISTORY FACULTY AND GRADUATE STUDENT ROUNDTABLE SERIES

In the Spring of 2014, the art history faculty and graduate students will continuously present a series of roundtable discussions focusing on their recent research. Students and community members will learn about exciting topics from each presenter’s research and publication projects. This Roundtable Series will present the excellence in scholarship recently achieved by the art history faculty and graduate students at the Department of Art, Graphic Design and Art History.

Wednesday January 22  Krystle Brewer (Art History Graduate Student)
Wednesday January 29  Mary Kathryn Moeller (Art History Graduate Student)
Wednesday February 26  Louise Siddons (Assistant Professor, American Modern & Contemporary Art)
Wednesday March 26  Priscilla Schwarz (Adjunct Professor, 19th Century French Art)
Wednesday April 23   Rebecca Brienen (Professor, 17th Century Dutch Art)

All roundtable discussions will be held from 11:30 am through 12:30 pm in Bartlett Center 104. Free and open to the public.

For more information about each talk, please visit museum.okstate.edu or call 405.744.4143.

ART HISTORY SENIOR SYMPOSIUM

This symposium offers our graduating art history students a forum to deliver their original research and engage with faculty, fellow students, and the public audience—novice and expert. The papers presented by the students are the culmination of their years of study and exploration in art history and cover a broad range of topics.

Karen Eileen Overbey, Associate Professor of Art History at Tufts University, will serve as this year’s evaluator and keynote speaker. Dr. Overbey’s research focuses on portable objects and decorative arts in medieval Ireland and Britain and engages problems of aesthetics, historicism, and subjectivity. Her current book project explores the materiality and performativity of “broken things,” including a badly damaged rock crystal reliquary from Scotland, and late medieval English wall paintings that were destroyed in the nineteenth century.

Saturday, April 12  Bartlett Center 109

IMAGES

Cover: Xiaohong Zhang, Green Blue Mountain, 2012, digital printing on Japanese rice paper, 45"x26"
Postal Plaza Gallery
Oklahoma State University Museum of Art

720 S. Husband Street | Stillwater, OK 74074
FREE ADMISSION

HOURS
Monday – Saturday: 11 am – 6 pm
Open until 8 pm on Thursdays
Closed: Sundays and OSU holidays

Gardiner Gallery
Department of Art, Graphic Design & Art History

108 Bartlett Center for the Visual Arts
Oklahoma State University | Stillwater, OK 74078
FREE ADMISSION

HOURS
Monday through Friday: 8 am – 5 pm
Saturdays: 12 pm – 5 pm
Closed: Sundays, University holidays, home football game days, and gallery installation days. See museum.okstate.edu for specific dates.

t. 405.744.2780  |  f. 405.744.2800
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youtube.com/okstatemuseum

The exhibitions and programs of the Oklahoma State University Museum of Art and Gardiner Gallery are sponsored by Art Founding Patrons, Friends of Art Charter Members, OSU Student Fees, the College of Arts and Sciences, Division of Institutional Diversity, and the Oklahoma Arts Council.