
Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design

2006 Graduate Exhibition offers one-stop viewing of creative excellence

Challenging juxtapositions, Folliard Gallery Project winner add new excitement

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One of Milwaukee's most eagerly awaited exhibitions, MIAD's 2006 Graduate Exhibition, opens April 21 from 6 – 10 p.m. as part of Gallery Night, and for the first time, offers visitors the opportunity to view the creative excellence of MIAD's bachelor of fine arts recipients in one location.

The 2006 Graduate Exhibition continues through May 13, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Tuesdays through Saturdays, on MIAD's River Level and 4th floors. Admission is free.

This year's exhibition, formerly called the senior thesis show, celebrates the creative excellence of 140 bachelor of fine arts recipients. For the first time it will be solely located in MIAD's Erie Street building, fostering an interdisciplinary approach that will engage viewers with interesting connections and challenging juxtapositions of art and design disciplines.

Also new this year is inclusion of the works of the first Folliard Gallery Project Recipient, Liz De Decker, a senior painting major chosen from among 15 in a juried, educational collaboration by MIAD and the Tory Folliard Gallery to foster the works of emerging MIAD artists. De Decker's works will also be exhibited at the Folliard Gallery on Gallery Night and through May 13. (IMAGES AVAILABLE).

MIAD's annual rite of spring presents the best work of the next generation of artists and designers, including painters, photographers, printmakers, sculptors, animators, digital videographers, communication designers (web and graphic) and interior architectural and industrial designers.

"There is a great deal of interest nationwide in the artwork of people in their twenties," said MIAD President Robert Rindler, "and the fact our graduates choose to remain in Milwaukee speaks to the opportunities here to have their work shown and promoted."

Many of the works at the 2006 Graduate Exhibition are for sale, and the MIAD graduates are on hand to talk about their work on Gallery Night. They will receive their degrees in commencement exercises May 13.

MIAD is Wisconsin's only college devoted exclusively to the education of artists and designers. Founded in 1974, it today enrolls 650 talented students from across the country who are taught by artists and designers recognized regionally and nationally for their professional and educational accomplishments. Its unique academic approach blends curricular and extracurricular experiences, a community service requirement, and liberal studies in 11 majors toward the bachelor of fine arts degree. As critical thinkers, MIAD's graduates are educated to be Wisconsin's and the Midwest's next "creative class" -- people who become change agents not only in art and design, but also in our culture and our society.