Finger on the pulse of media-producing community, MIAD and new exhibition redefine time-based media

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For more info: Jamal Currie, Curator, Time-Based Media Professor; 414.847.3326, home, 414.298.1582; jcurrie@miad.edu. Vivian M. Rothschild, Communications Director; 414.847.3239, cell, 414.507.7364; vrothsch@miad.edu.
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Summary: Calling Forth Certain Experiences…., Oct. 31 – Dec. 16, 2006; Reception and performances, Friday, Nov. 3, 6 – 8 p.m. Frederick Layton Gallery, 273 E. Erie St. Tues. – Sat. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Free. 414.847.3200.

MILWAUKEE… With its finger on the pulse of Milwaukee’s media-producing art and design community, MIAD announces an innovative group exhibition opening October 31 that redefines the genre of time-based media. MIAD is Wisconsin’s only independent, fully accredited college of art and design, offering the bachelor of fine arts degree in 11 majors.

Some 30 widely exhibited artists of diverse disciplines, visions and generations explore the spectrum of time-based media in Calling Forth Certain Experiences… an exhibition that includes video, animation, music and soundscapes, installations, performance and sequential works. Professor Jamal Currie, the first full-time professor in MIAD’s new time-based media major and recipient of numerous honors and grants, is curator.

“Time-based media is often defined simply by the meaning of the words ‘time-based’ and ‘media,’” said Currie. “But the genre requires a deeper and broader definition that opens up new possibilities and directions for generations of students as well as for current practitioners.

“The exhibiting artists – almost all of whom are from Milwaukee and many of whom are part of the MIAD faculty and alumni community – embody the breadth and diversity of form-in-time artworks that time-based media represents. With expertise in disciplines as diverse as painting, animation, sculpture, drawing and design, these artists span not only the modes of artistic expression but also feed the media-producing infrastructure in our city.”

Calling Forth Certain Experiences… runs from Oct. 31 – Dec. 16 in MIAD’s Frederick Layton Gallery, with a reception and performances on Friday, Nov. 3, 6 – 8 p.m. It includes works by:

Ray Chi – Part-time MIAD Foundations Faculty member and multidisciplinary artist named an Artist of the Year in 2005 by the Milwaukee Arts Board. Chi draws on his background in architecture and as a professional cellist, using also sculpture and film, to choreograph human experience.

DONEBESTDONE – Mike Winkelmann, Jason Nanna and Kyle Vande Slunt – A multimedia performance collective that integrates photography, video, music, drawing, writing and animation.

Express Yourself Milwaukee, Inc. – A non-profit arts education organization that provides an arts curriculum to schools and youth organizations serving underprivileged and adjudicated youth in Milwaukee. As an artistic team member, Currie has implemented several video and animation projects for the organization, including the innovative work to be shown, a piece based on animation work done at the Milwaukee Youth Detention Center.

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Sonja Thomsen – Part-time MIAD Photography Faculty member and Milwaukee photographer whose works are in the permanent collection of the Milwaukee Art Museum. Her piece “Swept” comprises 12 minimalist photographs of a white river taken at intervals of 1/125 of a second that document the wind sweeping across its surface.

Will Pergl – New MIAD Professor of Sculpture who combines time-based media and sculptural form to produce a poetic link between the recognizable, the imagined and the emotional. In his film “Recur,” he explores his body image as an amputee, using cycles of sound, light, shadow, video and emerging digital technologies to map the interplay between his remembered body’s image, his current embodied form of subjectivity and metaphors associated with disembodiment and virtual space.


Frankie Martin – A Milwaukee-based, internationally exhibited multimedia artist whose work uses sculpture, video, music, mobiles and human interaction in an intersection of culture, fantasy, craft, music and color. Her video “crump_clownz” is part of a full-length, self-improvement DVD entitled “A Beautiful You,” to be released in 2007.

Additional participating artists include: MIAD Faculty James Barany, Brandon Bauer, Paul Caster, Currie, Waldek Dynerman, Molly Mann, katie e. martin ’01, and Jason Yi; MIAD alumni Marla Sanvick ’06 and Steve Sorrentino ’02; and Portia Cobb, ESVC (Experimental Sound and Video Collective performance group), Thomas Gaudynski, Minneapolis-based Mark Edward Hayden, Nicholas Lampert, Hal Rammel, Grant Richter, Meredith Root, Renato Umali and Mike Winkelmann. For more information on these artists, visit www.miad.edu.

Currie has developed MIAD’s time-based media major, founded in 2005, which exposes students to traditional and computer animation methods, video, sound, pre- and post-production, as well as to experimental film, video and installation art. Its graduates fill a fast-growing and critical economic niche that includes opportunities in advertising, television, video, radio, animation, web and digital media design, while also possessing the ability to explore personal fine-arts pursuits.

Calling Forth Certain Experiences… takes its name from a quote by Arjen Mulder: “Art need not be discussed ponderously; no one knows what it is, and everyone must discover for themselves what it might be. [A]rt … is considered a certain way of handling media and using them to call forth certain experiences.”

MIAD is Wisconsin’s only college devoted exclusively to the education of professional artists and designers. Founded in 1974, it is accredited to award the bachelor of fine arts degree in 11 majors. With 80 percent of its 1,800 graduates living and working in Wisconsin, the college contributes a vital “brain gain” to the state that shapes its creative and economic future.