



Two MIAD Exhibitions Open October 20: Chair⁵, An Interactive Exploration with the Chipstone Foundation, and FANTASTIC: Four Contemporary Illustration Artists

For release: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more info: Dana McCullough, Communications Manager, 414.847.3236,
danamccullough@miad.edu

PRESS RELEASE

MILWAUKEE... Two new exhibitions open October 20 at the Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design—**“Chair⁵: Perspectives on Form, Function and Innovation”** is a highly interactive and experimental furniture exhibition co-produced by the Chipstone Foundation and MIAD, and **“FANTASTIC: Four Contemporary Illustration Artists”** features the work of internationally renowned illustrator Henrik Drescher, among others. **The Opening Reception for both exhibits is October 20, 5 - 9 p.m.** at MIAD, 273 E. Erie St., during Fall Gallery Night in the Historic Third Ward.

ABOUT “CHAIR⁵: PERSPECTIVES ON FORM, FUNCTION AND INNOVATION”

Take a seat, literally, at Chair⁵, on view October 20, 2017 – March 3, 2018 in the Brooks Stevens Gallery. This exhibition introduces myriad ways to think about chairs, “chairness” and the physical act of sitting. Five distinctive exhibit spaces showcase historic, reproduction and contemporary seating furniture forms.

“Chipstone is excited to work with MIAD on this exhibit,” said Jon Prown, executive director and chief curator at the Chipstone Foundation. Prown co-curates the show with MIAD’s Eric Vogel, professor of Interior Architecture + Design, and Brent Budsberg.

The exhibition offers opportunities for physical interaction and considerations of each chair’s function, design and concept. Highlights include:

- an opportunity to sit in a series of seating forms to explore how posture has evolved.
- a period room where chairs hang on the wall as they did in Shaker times, and where visitors can take a seat off the wall—literally—to try it out.
- chairs by contemporary furniture designers and builders—including Mike Jarvi, Peter Opsvik, Herman Miller, Gustav Stickley, Gerritt Rietveldt and Jennifer Anderson—who take the concept of the chair beyond form and function.

This multidimensional approach to thinking about chairs is integral to MIAD’s new Furniture Design program, including an innovative furniture design class taught by Chair⁵ primary exhibit designer Brent Budsberg.

ABOUT “FANTASTIC: FOUR CONTEMPORARY ILLUSTRATION ARTISTS”

Extra-terrestrial. Political. Animalistic. Festive. While the illustrations in this exhibition cover divergent themes across a range of platforms, their exploration of media connects them and enriches their messages. The exhibit is on view in MIAD’s Frederick Layton Gallery October 20 – December 2, 2017. Artists Henrik Drescher and Frances Jetter will give a **public talk on Thursday, November 9 at 7 p.m.**

The exhibition features:

- Henrik Drescher’s large landscape paintings influenced by ancient Chinese-style panoramas with extraterrestrial features, in addition to drawings.
- Frances Jetter’s 40-foot-wide folio book condemning the practice of torture at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, as well as two other books, drawings and collages.
- Katherine Streeter’s 50 collage paintings featuring human and animal characters in various states of contemplation, expressing the human dilemma and its accompanying emotions.
- Carl Dunn’s collage paintings from his forthcoming book, “The Music Lesson,” and Halloween masks.

Prominent Madison-area art director Patrick JB Flynn curated the FANTASTIC exhibition.

MIAD’s galleries are free and open to the public, Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Free gallery tours are available at miad.edu/gallerytours.

At the Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design, students driven to become creative professionals have the freedom to develop their talents beyond traditional boundaries while immersed in a transformative studio, academic and career-driven curriculum. On graduation, they join thousands of successful MIAD alumni whose talents are continuously in demand, and whose lifework is driven by the passion to inspire, problem solve, and innovate for our economy and society. MIAD is where passion finds purpose.