



PRESS RELEASE

MIAD 2013 Senior Exhibition opens Gallery Night with reimagined gallery space, performances and more 60 students create for MAM After Dark: Black and White

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Summary: MIAD 2013 Senior Exhibition, April 19 – May 11; Opening Reception, April 19, 5 – 9 p.m.; Gallery Day Conversations, April 20, 1 – 5 p.m.; 273 E. Erie St.; Tuesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Free. 414.847.3200. miad.edu

MILWAUKEE... The MIAD 2013 Senior Exhibition – Wisconsin’s largest and most exuberant exhibition of emerging talent – returns Gallery Night, Friday, April 19, through May 11, with generous support from BMO Harris Bank. More than 140 seniors from all 11 Bachelor of Fine Arts majors and 16 minors will take over the galleries in the Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design, Wisconsin’s only independent, non-profit college of art and design.

Two Alumni Thesis Exhibition Scholarship recipients, Hayley Eichenbaum (Integrated Studio Arts) and Marissa Waraksa (Sculpture), incorporate performances into their work, and – new this year – five students have reimagined MIAD’s East Gallery.

Among the impressive work this year (viewable on [flickr](#)):

- Eichenbaum’s *Pilot* creates a living commentary on female narcissism, and the strain to fit into the societal definition of “woman” while struggling to reach an acceptable self-image. Performance-based, this installation features a vanity set that simulates a spaceship control panel and levitates cosmetic objects. Eichenbaum is currently interning at The Green Gallery in Milwaukee.
- *A Reaction* – In this work by Waraksa, highlighting the surfacing patterns of the human experience through wood, video and performance, she spins with tops ranging from one half inch in height to four feet. Waraksa was recently invited to participate in a one-on-one public critique with video and performance artist Wu Tsang.
- Printmaking major Ashley Sprecher creates a collection of hand-dyed fabrics in *Arrows*, featuring pattern work using traditional printmaking techniques and presented in their retail usage. Sprecher’s interest in textile design will continue after graduation, as she designs home collections full-time for Kohl’s Department Stores.
- Painting major Lindsey Skladanek’s *Retro Audio Visual Experience* transports the audience to the moment before a party or rave ends, where there is pure happiness, captivating the viewer with illuminated colors within darkness.
- *Guest Barn* – Interior Architecture + Design major Andrew Sumwalt creates distinct, contemporary spaces that celebrate and place attention on the humble beginnings of the farming family.
- Brett Pearson (Industrial Design) designs a gown for breast imaging that retains the dignity of the women wearing it while improving functionality. *Able* dives into the overall experience of the mammogram, and is one of several projects influenced by the MIAD + GE Healthcare yearlong collaboration, the [Compassion Project](#).
- Representing MIAD’s largest major, Andrew Coyle (Communication Design) created *KnoFolio*, a portfolio-building platform that allows artists and designers to create a free studio, take online courses and participate in critique. Coyle plans to pursue *KnoFolio* while continuing his current freelance work for his company [andrewcoyle.com].

For the first time, five seniors whose installations interact uniquely with space collaborated to reimagine MIAD’s East Gallery. Photography major Joshua Ramirez works with space to challenge traditional photography using images and sculptures; Sprecher creates a retail setting for *Arrows*; and Sculpture major Brennan Goodwin designs a mini-museum for artifacts and found objects.

Page 2: Students at MAM After Dark: Black and White; visit of James Ludwig for MIAD Creativity Series

On Gallery Night, April 19, nearly 60 Integrated Studio Arts students, ranging from freshmen to seniors, collaborate in groups to create works of art for a one-night-only exhibit at [MAM After Dark: Black and White](#), 5 p.m. – midnight. Participants also have the chance to test their skills with MIAD alum Daniel Fleming '10 in interactive artmaking.

MIAD Define, the college's day of campus-wide open exchange, Wednesday, April 24, offers one-of-a-kind interaction between students and the public. This year, **James Ludwig**, vice president of global design and engineering at Steelcase, joins in the MIAD Define discussion.

Ludwig's visit to MIAD is part of the MIAD Creativity Series. He will hold a free community talk, Tuesday, April 23, 6 p.m. Hosted by MIAD, "**Curiosity and Empathy as Essential to Design**" will be held in collaboration with Discovery World Center for Public Innovation at the center's location.

Students will be available Gallery Night, Friday, April 19, from 5 – 9 p.m. to speak with the public about their work, and again during special Gallery Day Conversations, April 20, 1 – 5 p.m. The [MIAD 2013 Senior Exhibition](#) is open through May 11 at MIAD, 273 E. Erie St. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Tuesday – Saturday.

MIAD is Wisconsin's only independent, non-profit college of art and design offering the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree – the most highly regarded undergraduate degree in the visual arts that is accredited at the national, regional and state levels. The college's graduates are creative thinkers whose leadership skills make them uniquely suited to address our 21st century economic and societal challenges.

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