

DEPARTMENT HAPPENINGS

Claudia Bernardi pays special visit to graduate students

This September accomplished Argentinean artist and activist, Claudia Bernardi, visited our department to meet with our MFA students and have an open discussion on their current work and the development of their theses. Her willingness to voluntarily speak with students on an individual level gave students invaluable information and insight on how to further develop their work and specific talents as a whole. Ms. Bernardi is internationally known and works in the fields of art, human rights, and social justice. She combines installation, sculpture, painting, printmaking, and recently she has focused her art praxis in community and collaborative art projects working with and in collaboration with communities that have suffered state terror and violence as well as with victims of human rights violations.



Anthony Adcock schedule to lecture & conduct MFA critiques this October

Chicago-based artist, Anthony Adcock, will be visiting the department at the end of October for a lecture and critique of our MFA students' work. Adcock is a multi-media artist who blends his unique experience as a Local one Ironworker, collegiate instructor, and as an artist to create works that focus on the relationship between labor and value. Using hyper-representational paintings, illusionistic sculpture, and short films, he distorts the line between reality and perception to question the importance and relevance of authorship. His work has been published in *New American Paintings* and exhibited throughout the country in various galleries and venues, some of which have included Packer Schopf Gallery in Chicago, Lovetts Gallery in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and at the M Gallery of Fine Art in Charleston, South Carolina.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: Gero family travel grant winners

This summer, two BFA seniors studying studio art were awarded the Gero Family Travel Grant. This newly offered grant was made possible by Notre Dame alumna and artist, Debi Gero. The students were awarded over \$3,000 each to travel abroad to conduct research for their senior thesis projects and gained valuable experiences unique to their interests.

Mary McGraw travels to Ireland

Mary McGraw (BFA '17) was one of two winners who received the Gero Family Travel Grant. Her prize funded her summer trip to County Galway, Ireland, where she researched women and their Catholic vocation at Kylemore Abbey. McGraw plans to make a return visit in December to the Abbey and will utilize her experiences and research from these two trips to further develop her senior thesis photography project.



Abigail Wilson studies in Italy

Abigail Wilson (BFA '17) was the second winner of the Gero Family Travel Grant. This summer, she attended a five-week program at Studio Art Center International (SACI) in Florence, Italy. During that time, she worked on restoring antique artworks owned by the Italian State. Wilson also studied images of women in art during the Renaissance and Baroque periods to support the theme of her senior thesis painting project.

FACULTY NEWS

Brian Edlefson joins the visual communication design faculty

Professor Edlefson is a graphic designer who influences organizations to leverage design's ability to communicate across a variety of surfaces (architecture, environments, products, print and interactive experiences). He has worked with major companies throughout his career, creating award-winning and attention-getting solutions for companies like Whirlpool, Maytag, Kenmore, and Amana. He has also worked with the design team and curatorial staff at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, and was a senior graphic designer for Herman Miller.



Neeta Verma becomes senior faculty member in visual communication design

Professor Verma is the second graphic designer to join our visual communication design program. She has defined her role and the role of graphic design as one that serves as a catalyst within a societal context. Her areas of research interest explore historical influences in graphic design and how these cultural differences have defined the profession today. Growing up in India, she has been fascinated by similarities and differences in the visual manifestations (architecture, artifacts, books, prayer and recitation) and the history of mark making within these religious traditions.

Scott Shim joins industrial design as senior faculty member

Professor Scott Shim is an industrial designer coming to us from The Ohio State University, where he was the industrial design program coordinator. His design work is recognized internationally with many of his projects appearing in a number of global publications, including the cover of *TIME Magazine*. His professional experience includes more than 10 years in product development, during which time he obtained more than 30 design patents and multiple design awards.



ALUMNI STORIES

Will McLeod: inventor, entrepreneur, and writer

Will McLeod graduated from our program in 2009 with a BA in industrial design, but in 2007 he became the inventor and later the founder of SmarterShade. SmarterShade, now owned by a new company and called VG glass, is a smart-glass company that manufactures windows that can brighten and darken a room in response to light and temperature as well as be controlled by an app. After selling his 6-year-long endeavor, in 2013 McLeod co-founded the smart home products company, Keen Home, with which he is still heavily involved. From all of his successes and various other experiences in engineering and manufacturing, he is now cultivating his current project: a practical how-to book, *Mechanical Engineering for Hackers*, which is set to release this November. Will was recognized in January as a Forbes 30 under 30 honoree in the manufacturing industry.



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