

McDonough Museum of Art

YSU's Center for Contemporary Ideas, Art, Education + Community



For Immediate Release:

The Biennial Faculty Exhibition, *Immersion*, will be on display at the John J McDonough Museum of Art from January 26–March 2, 2018. *Immersion* is an exploration of innovation and tradition. This biennial exhibition of current research by Department of Art faculty imparts new vision and re-investigates long standing practices in the fields of Art and Design. An opening reception will take place on Friday, January 26 from 5-7pm.

We welcome Robert Twomey, Dr. Johnathan Farris and Jennifer Kirkpatrick, recent additions to the Department of Art. An Assistant Professor in Digital Media, Robert Twomey is an interdisciplinary artist exploring the poetic intersection of human and machine. Trained as a painter and engineer, he integrates traditional forms with advanced technologies to create hybrid interactive artworks. He is currently completing his dissertation at the Center for Digital Arts and Experimental Media at the University of Washington. Twomey received his MFA in Visual Arts from the University of California, San Diego. He has shown his work in the US and abroad.

Dr. Johnathan Farris is an Assistant Professor of Art History. His recent research has focused on the artistic and architectural products of cultural exchange between Asia and the West from the 17th through the early 20th centuries. His published work has dwelt on the environments of the China trade in the 18th, 19th, and early 20th centuries. Before coming to Youngstown State University, Farris lived and taught in Hong Kong for seven years. He has numerous publications and book reviews. Dr. Farris received his PhD from Cornell University.

The Department of Art's new Studio Art Support Specialist Jennifer Kirkpatrick, completed her Master of Fine Arts at Penn State University in 2015. She received her Bachelor of Science in Art Education and Bachelor of Fine Arts from Northwest Missouri State University. Her work has been exhibited nationally and she has a permanent installation at the Penn State Center of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

YSU, Department of Art Faculty Talks: Several of the participating artists will be giving talks throughout the run of the exhibition. The schedule includes: Dragana Crnjak, Missy McCormick and Robert Twomey on February 12 at 1pm; Claudia Berlinski, Joy Christiansen Erb and Chris McCullough on February 14 at 12pm and RJ Thompson on February 21 at 12pm.

Mad About the Arts, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 7:00 – 10:00pm, Enjoy an evening of contemporary art, jazz, wine tasting and food sampling at the 23rd Annual Mad About the Arts located at the John J McDonough Museum of Art on the campus of Youngstown State University. Mad About the Arts benefits the McDonough Museum of Art, YSU's Center for Contemporary Art, and 88.5 FM WYSU, the Valley's Public Radio.

The *Immersion* exhibition is made possible in part by state tax dollars allocated by the Ohio Legislature to the Ohio Arts Council (OAC). The OAC is a state agency that funds and supports quality arts experiences to strengthen Ohio communities culturally, educationally, and economically.

Youngstown State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, disability, age, religion or veteran/military status in its programs or activities.

Museum Hours • Tuesday through Saturday 11am to 4pm • 330.941.1400
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