American Academy of Arts and Letters

633 WEST 155 STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10032



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Souhad Rafey (212) 368-5900 academy@artsandletters.org www.artsandletters.org

EXHIBITION ARTISTS

Frances Barth Larry Bell Huma Bhabha Jim Campbell Paul Chan Mike Cockrill Cora Cohen Linda Cross Paul DeMuro Rochelle Feinstein Janet Fish Erik Foss Kenji Fujita Rachel Harrison Elliott Hundley Gillian Jagger Brandt Junceau Shirley Kaneda Suzanne McClelland Judith Murray Forrest Myers John Newman Joyce Pensato Don Perlis Elizabeth Peyton Ann Pibal Nathlie Provosty Tom Sachs Joan Semmel Nancy Shaver Stephen Shore Michael E. Smith Rebecca Smith Elisa Soliven Carrie Mae Weems Karl Wirsum Nicole Wittenberg

B. Wurtz

THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND LETTERS ANNOUNCES 2012 INVITATIONAL EXHIBITION OF VISUAL ARTS MARCH 8 – APRIL 15

January 30, 2012 – Over 110 paintings, photographs, sculptures, and works on paper by 38 contemporary artists will be exhibited at the galleries of the American Academy of Arts and Letters on historic Audubon Terrace (Broadway between 155 and 156 Streets) from Thursday, March 8 through Sunday, April 15, 2012. Exhibiting artists were chosen from a pool of nearly 175 nominees submitted by the 250 members of the Academy, America's most prestigious honorary society of architects, artists, writers, and composers.



















Top row: Judith Murray, *Trans Pac*, 2011; Erik Foss, *Native America*, 2011; Mike Cockrill, *Hatari*, 2008-09. Middle row: Rebecca Smith, *Green Insect*, 2009; Huma Bhabha, *Untitled*, 2010;

Karl Wirsum, Chard, 2011; Forrest Myers, Dream Cycle, 1997-2010.

Bottom row: Don Perlis, Madama Butterfly, 2009-11; John Newman, Lute, lime and level, 2010.

ART AWARDS AND PURCHASE PROGRAM

The Academy's art awards and purchase programs serve to acknowledge artists at various stages of their careers, from helping to establish younger artists to rewarding older artists for their accumulated body of work. Paintings and works on paper are eligible for purchase and placement in museum collections nationwide through the Hassam, Speicher, Betts and Symons Funds. Works by Amy Bennett (The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY), Ellen Lanyon (National Academy of Design, New York, NY), Willie Cole (Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, VA), and Don Voisine (Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.) are among the sixteen works purchased last year. Reginald Marsh and Guy Pene du Bois were some of the program's earliest beneficiaries. Since the purchase program's founding in 1946, through the legacy of Childe Hassam, more than one thousand works have been purchased and donated to museums throughout the country.

For further information, please visit http://www.artsandletters.org/awards2_art.php.

THE ACADEMY

The American Academy of Arts and Letters was established in 1898 to "foster, assist, and sustain an interest in literature, music, and the fine arts," and is chartered by Congress. Founding members include William Merritt Chase, Kenyon Cox, Daniel Chester French, Childe Hassam, Henry James, Theodore Roosevelt, Elihu Vedder, and Woodrow Wilson. Each year, the Academy gives approximately one million dollars in awards to artists, architects, writers, and composers. It presents exhibitions of art, architecture, and manuscripts, and subsidizes readings and performances of new musicals. The 114-year-old organization is located in three landmark buildings, designed by McKim, Mead & White, Cass Gilbert, and Charles Pratt Huntington, on Audubon Terrace at 155 Street and Broadway.

THE INVITATIONAL EXHIBITION OF VISUAL ARTS

MARCH 8-APRIL 15, 2012 Thursdays through Sundays 1 to 4 p.m.

Closed Easter weekend (April 6-8).

Enter on Audubon Terrace, west side of Broadway
between 155 and 156 Streets, New York City.
#1 train to 157 Street and Broadway; Bus: M4, M5 to 155 Street and Broadway

www.artsandletters.org

