From Alumni Relations

Laura Daroca
Director of Alumni Relations

I am thrilled to announce the launch of the new Otis Alumni Council. This important group will serve in an advisory capacity to represent the interests of Otis’ diverse alumni base with the principal goals of strengthening alumni connections to each other and to Otis and enhancing their shared aspirations. To meet the 17 members of the 2012-14 Otis Alumni Council, comprised of outstanding fine artists and designers who represent all decades from the 1970s-2010s, go to http://www.otis.edu/alumni/alumni_council.html.

From Student Affairs

Center for Creative Professions

The Office of Career Services has changed its name to the Center for Creative Professions (CCP), and two new professional staff have joined Assistant Director Denise Gianoussopoulos. The new Director of the CCP, Donna Lee Oda, has almost 20 years’ experience in Student Affairs and comes to Otis most recently from Mount St. Mary’s College. Prior to Mount St. Mary’s, she worked at Loyola Marymount University, and University of California Santa Barbara. Donna has a master’s degree from University of Maryland, College Park and a bachelor’s degree from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. Sounjew Phommala is the new On-Campus Student Employment Coordinator in the CCP, overseeing all student jobs on campus. She has a Master of Science degree from University of La Verne and a bachelor’s degree in Apparel Merchandising and Management from California Polytechnic State University, Pomona. For more information, visit www.otis.edu/ccp.

Congratulations to Fine Arts alumna Rebecca Argudo (’88) for being selected as the alumni relations engagement survey iPad winner! Thanks to all of our alumni who participated in the survey! We are working on implementing your feedback into the programming and services we offer you.

Holiday Shopping

Support our alumni this holiday season! For information on retail stores where you can purchase items designed by alumni, shops owned by alumni, and web sites where alumni products can be purchased, visit www.otis.edu/alumni/holiday_gifts.html

Canvas birds crafted by Product Design faculty member Tanya Aguiñiga

Mark Your Calendars

Jan. 26, 2013, 4-6pm
Opening Reception, Bridging Homeboy Industries: Fabian Debora, Alex Kizu, and Juan Carlos Muñoz Hernandez. Curated by Annie Buckley (’03 MFA)

Connect with Otis Alumni

New Otis videos

See the new videos introducing Otis to prospective students, including “It Starts at Otis,” featuring some of our successful young alumni, and the new graduate programs video.

www.otis.edu/admissions       www.otis.edu/gp

Sustainability

Shashi Caan will serve as Donghia Designer in Residence in March, 2013. She will teach a master class to Architecture/Landscape/Interiors students, and present a public lecture. Born in India, educated in Scotland and N.Y., Caan promotes green materials and products in her work, including “Fractalis,” the environmentally friendly architectural finishing product developed for an Italian company.

Fashion Design Chair Rosemary Brantley attended the 2012 Sustainable Textiles conference in Hong Kong in October.

On campus, Interdisciplinary Studies and Creative Action: Integrated Learning organized an exhibition of sustainable art & design by students and recent alumni from eleven AICAD schools involved in the Partnership for Academic Leadership for Sustainability, through Nov. 23 on the 6th floor of Ahmanson Hall.
Alison Saar ('81) was honored with a USArtists grant, one of fifty awarded to America’s finest artists. Her fellowship carries a $50,000 grant.

On Oct. 25, approximately 160 Japanese college students from the consortium Jikei COM participated in Exploring Creativity, the second annual digital media workshop at Otis.

CE expanded its online offerings from developing smart phone apps to include a media literacy class this term.

Amy Gantman, Dean of Continuing Education and Pre-College Programs, and Inez Bush, Associate Director of Pre-College Programs, presented on the Jikei COM workshop and the Teaching Learning Initiative at the Association of Independent Colleges of Art and Design’s (AICAD) Continuing Education Deans and Directors Conference in October.

Alumni News

Aaron Philip Clark ('08 MFA) released a new crime novel, *A Healthy Fear of Man: A Paul Little Novel*, the second in a series.

Michelle Chong ('06 MFA) and Matt MacFarland ('03 MFA) were included in "The Subterraneans/XYZ: The Geometric Impulse in Abstract Art," Torrance Art Museum through Nov. 3.

Brian Dailey ('75 MFA) has a solo show "Americans in Color," at Stephan Stoyanov Gallery, N.Y. through Nov. 18.

Diane Gamboa ('84) and Maryrose Mendoza ('85) received 2012 City of Los Angeles (C.O.L.A.) artist fellowships, and displayed their work at the Municipal Art Gallery through Oct. 28.

Architecture/Landscape/Interiors grads Justin Kang ('11), Joem Sanez ('10) and Sam Tanis ('11) pursue Master of Architecture studies at USC, Columbia and Univ Ill Chicago, respectively.

Rick Klotz ('90), founder of Freshjive, sold his Warriors of Radness line to American Apparel.

Alexander Kroll ('08 MFA) had a solo exhibition at James Harris Gallery, Seattle, in September.

Lan Chi Lam ('98) designed new smart phone apps for L.A. Metro.

Continuing Education

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Izzy Lamas ('07) now with RipBang Studios, Venice, designed the decorative stair for Scavolini SOHO Gallery, N.Y., in collaboration with Ryan Spruston and Enrico Como of SPaCe.

Sandeep Mukherjee ('96) has a solo show in N.Y. at Brennan & Griffin through Nov. 25.

Felicia Martin ('02) is working with CO Architects, L.A. after returning from Spain in early 2012. She received a Master of Architecture from Yale, and worked for Francisco Mangado in Pamploma on the winning competition for Torribera Food Campus.

Jacob Melchi ('03 MFA) showed new paintings at George Lason Gallery through Oct. 6.

Kent Twitchell ('77 MFA) was selected to paint three murals in Bob Hope Patriotic Hall, L.A.

Sam Watters ('02 MFA), author of *Gardens for a Beautiful America, 1895-1935*, delivered a lecture on his book at LACMA’s Bing Theater on Sept. 19.

Mary Younakhof ('06 MFA) produced a video installation at the Pacific Design Center through Oct. 31.

Edith Beaucage ('10 MFA) and Whitney Stolich ('03 MFA) showed in concurrent one-person exhibitions at CB1 Gallery, L.A. through Nov. 11.

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Faculty News

Product Design faculty member Tanya Aguinga (at right, bottom) is featured in “Craft in America: A Journey to the Artists, Origins, and Techniques of American Craft,” a PBS series.

A screening of the film, Ai Weiwei: Never Sorry (right) was shown to a capacity crowd. Movies That Matter series organizers Perri Chasin and Judy Arthur, Liberal Arts and Sciences faculty members, moderated a Q & A with LACMA Assistant Curator, Chinese and Korean Art, Christina Yu Yu following the screening.

Liberal Arts and Sciences faculty member Scarlet Cheng moderated the panel discussion “Film as Culture/Culture in Film” as part of the Chinese Film Biennial, Hammer Museum on Oct. 27.

Foundation faculty member Roni Feldman is part of the group show “The Subterraneans/XYZ: The Geometric Impulse in Abstract Art,” at the Torrance Art Museum through Nov. 3.

Ysamur Flores-Peña presented “Logun-Ede/Legunede Art and the Art of Transformation: Intersexuality in Lucumí Religious Narrative” at the American Folklore society meeting in New Orleans.

Graduate Writing faculty member Peter Gadol will spend part of his spring sabbatical at the Djerassi Resident Artists Program in Northern California.

Liberal Arts and Sciences Assistant Chair Parme Giuntini gave a paper “Out of the Cave and into Cyberspace or Lessons I learned While Rethinking Art History, Technology and Pedagogy in the Classroom,” at the Southeastern College Art Conference in Raleigh-Durham in October.

Fine Arts faculty member Steve Hurd was awarded a City of Los Angeles 2012 C.O.L.A. Individual Artists Fellowship in Visual Arts, and his work was included in the exhibition at the Municipal Art Gallery through Oct. 28.

Heather Joseph-Witham presented “Ghost hunting, Folk Drama and the Burden of Proof!” at the American Folklore Society Conference in New Orleans.

“Midday Moon,” an exhibition of new work by Program Director of Photography Soo Kim, is on view at Angles Gallery through Dec. 22.

Patricia Kovic (Product Design, Comm Arts, IL, ACT) and Michele Jaquis (Director of Interdisciplinary Studies and IL) were the In-School Artists in Residence at the Skirball Cultural Center through Nov 3. Their project, “Re-Creating the United States” with AP English class students at Granada Hills Charter High School uses the artifacts featured in the exhibition, “Creating the United States.” (below)

Foundation Chair Katie Phillips curated “Split Realities,” an exhibition of work by seven painters at Nan Rae Gallery, Woodbury University through Nov 17, including faculty members Jacci Den Hartog, Christopher Warner, Roy Dowell, and Edith Beaucage. (‘10 MFA)

Holly Tempo, Associate Professor of Painting, received a 2012 Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant. These grants are awarded to professional visual artists internationally, based on the dual criteria of artistic merit and financial need.

Student News

Digital Media junior Jackie Kan (Image of her work below) was awarded a scholarship from The Entertainment Software Association Foundation (ESAF), which provided scholarships to 30 students in video-game related fields.

Architecture/Landscape/Interiors initiated the first annual Awards for Excellence in Design Studio. Studio instructors selected one student for the award based on: consistent presence, participation and effort; development and use of skills; clarity and incorporation of concept; creativity and excellence of design; consistent design development; clarity and scope of presentation. Winners were Melissaah Bridge Gunawan Wibisono, Lori Choi, Julia Sieh, Stephanie Robbins, Sandra Sadauskaite, and Thomas Acosta.
Trustee Christopher Wicks along with several alumnae are acting as mentors for Fashion Design projects: Cynthia Vincent (‘88), Claire Pettibone (‘89), Heather Brown (‘04) for Urban Outfitters, and Marisol Gerona (‘93) for Disney. Among the other professionals acting as mentors are Bob Mackie, Marie Mazellis of Halston, Venus Williams of EleVen, Mandy Robinson of Billabong, Mary Jo Bruno, and Betsy Heiman of Western Costume Company.

Counterclockwise from upper left: Christopher Wicks, Ugo Capasso of EleVen Venus Williams, Marie Mazellis of Halston (left), Mary Jo Bruno, Mandy Robinson of Billabong, and Cynthia Vincent.

All photographs by Byron LiCausi.
iTunes U tweeted to its 72,000 followers: “Zoom through an artistic journey from cave-painting to impressionism with 33 5-minute lectures by LAS faculty member Jeanne Willette from Otis College.”

Leah Ollman reviewed the Alison Saar exhibition at the Ben Maltz Gallery in Art in America, stating “Saar’s work is personal, but so deeply informed by myth and history that its narratives become universal and inclusive.”

Fashion design alumni Cynthia Vincent (’88) and Kiana Anvaripour (’03) both appeared in print recently.

The L.A. Times Home featured work by El Dot, the design/build firm started by alumni Leo and Lishu Rodriguez (’01) shown at Architecture/Landscape/Interiors alumnus Robert Apodaca’s (’03) Fifth Floor Gallery in Chinatown.

Alumna Renee A. Fox (’02) listed in CBS “Best Art Curators of Los Angeles”

The Huffington Post featured cartoons by faculty member Lalo Alcaraz on Oct. 2 and 4.

K CET Artbound featured the Graduate Public Practice event “What Can We Learn from dOCUMENTA (13)?”


**Otis press releases include:**


“Literary Translation as Creative Practice” picked up by 115 sites, 31,110 newsfeed impressions, and 6,718 onsite impressions. Including Yahoo News, SF Chronicle, Boston Globe, and San Jose Mercury News, and The Brooklyn Rail linked to otis.edu

“Color Coding the American Electorate: D.C. Artist (alum) Brian Dailey reflects the regional diversity of American politics during a polarized national Election,” picked up by 15 sites, 54,242 newsfeed impressions, and 3,350 onsite impressions.

“Influential Author, Journalist, and Cultural Critic Diedrich Diederichsen to Speak in L.A.” picked up by 8 sites, 52,292 newsfeed impressions, and 3,952 onsite impressions

These releases were picked up by USA Today, Yahoo News, SF Chronicle, San Jose Mercury News, CBS 5, and the Boston Globe, among others.

**Ben Maltz Gallery**

Upcoming exhibition, “Bridging Homeboy Industries” runs from Jan 2 - Mar 23, 2012

Get behind the scenes of the curatorial effort for the upcoming exhibition “This Side of the 405” at the Ben Maltz Gallery in April.