Features

New Graduate Studios in Culver City

Soon joining the burgeoning Culver City art scene will be a new facility for Graduate Fine Arts and Graduate Public Practice at 10455 W Jefferson Blvd near Overland. The 13,200 sq. ft. concrete block bow truss building, built in 1962, is being renovated to provide 39 individual studios, galleries, crit spaces, lounges and a computer room.

Bright Careers of Otis Grads

In London Sanya Richards-Ross (at left), the 2012 Olympic Gold Medal Champion in the 400-meter, wore a Nike Pro TurboSpeed kit designed by Scott Williams ('90), Creative Director of Sport Innovation and Olympics at NIKE. The apparel research took 12 years and more than 1,000 hours of wind tunnel testing.

Danny Phillips ('08) and Kim Karlsrud ('07) of COMMON Studio were selected from 450 entries for the U.S. Pavilion at the Venice Architecture Biennale, through Nov. “Seed Bombs,” one of 124 “Design Action for the Common Good” urban interventions displayed, is a guerilla gardening project through which 75 million seeds have been distributed into urban landscapes throughout the world.

Erica Bell ('12) has a full time job in the design department at world-renowned agency Deutsch. At the same firm, Donna Ko ('08) created an internet TV spot for VW that went viral immediately: “The Bark Side: 2012 Volkswagen Game Day,” and current senior Jusung Woo works on national campaigns.

The City of L.A. awarded 2 of 8 mid-career fellowships in August to Diane Gamboa ('84) and Maryrose Mendoza ('85). The California Community Foundation (CCF) awarded 20 mid-career visual artist fellowships of $20K, including alumni Alan Nakagawa ('86) and Mario Ybarra Jr. ('99).

The influential blog ARTINFO named Jessica Silverman ('05), now a San Francisco gallery owner, one of “30 under 30” influential arts professionals.

Mark Your Calendars

Nov 4    Alison Saar with Sarah Lewis about art, race, and gender, 2 pm
Nov 8    Visiting Fine Arts Critic Lecture
          Diedrich Diederichsen,
          German cultural critic
          LACMA, Bing Auditorium, 7:30 pm
Nov 22 – 25    Thanksgiving Holiday Break
Ask Dad

ED SCHOENBERG, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

A Snapshot of the 2012 Entering Class

Hi Dad,
Our daughter is a new Foundation student. She travelled to California on her own as we were unable to accompany her. I know that Otis must share information about the new student class with parents and students who attend Orientation; could you share that information with those of us who couldn’t attend?

Thanks, Midwest Parents

Dear Parents,
I’m happy to tell you about new students, both Foundation and transfer. It was another competitive year for spaces in our entering class. Otis evaluated more than 2,000 total applications, and admitted about 60% to yield a new student class of 315. These entering students come from 40 of the 50 states, and 28 different countries from six of the seven continents. The students come from as nearby as neighboring Culver City and as far away as Ethiopia. The youngest person entering Otis this fall is fifteen, and the “most seasoned” new student is 60. They come from high schools with as few as one in the graduating class to as many as 500. The percentage of women and men has remained consistent over the past several years at 65% and 35% respectively. Many of the new students indicated that they have served in leadership positions, and are interested in using their art and design skills to help solve societal challenges. Finally, the 80 sophomore and junior transfer students come from community colleges as well as other four-year colleges. Our biggest contingent (22) of transfer students comes from Santa Monica College. Otis-sponsored housing at Playa Del Oro is at capacity with 136 students, who are supported by eight resident assistants and two professional staff members who live on site. I hope that this brief snapshot of the new students gives you a sense of the exciting community your daughter has joined.

Prior to his current position Ed Schoenberg served as the Vice President of Enrollment Management. He is also a proud Otis dad as his daughter Jessica graduated from Otis in 2002. You are welcome to submit questions for Ed to address in future columns at eschoenb@otis.edu

On the bus to O CAMP
The Office of Student Activities hosted O CAMP, the first annual overnight camping experience for all new foundation and transfer students, the week before classes started. O CAMP was developed to build community amongst new students, to help new students achieve academic success, to connect them with their peers, and to prepare them for responsible lives in a diverse, interconnected and changing world.

More than 140 students made the trip to Frazier Park to participate in activities led by faculty members and peer mentors. Keynote speakers addressed topics ranging from student life to the essence of creativity.

I consider myself fortunate to have participated in this very first O CAMP, because it gave me a chance to meet many of our new students. One young man told me about his four-day trip by train from Chicago. Another young woman shared that this was the first time she had been outside her home state of Texas. A transfer student told me that he is paying for his education with money he earned designing, producing and selling his own line of graphic tees.

As I write this, I am watching Product Design students “dive head first” into their first projects of the year. This is my 15th fall term at Otis but I never cease to be amazed at the talent, the drive and the energy of the new students who choose to join the Otis Community!

Highlights: Students participated in collaborative exercises including an “Exquisite Corpse” drawing (2 lower right), and a “Martian Artist” project (left top and bottom).

Photos by Kelly Dawn Noel Hopkins ('13)
Recent Grants Received
The California Arts Council awarded a $17,500 grant for planning and research to expand the Creative Economy Report statewide.

The Surdna Foundation awarded an $180,000 grant for scholarships in the Summer of Art program over the next three years.

The Toy Industry Association, Inc. awarded $40,000 for scholarships and departmental support.

Billboards Made in LA
Graduate Fine Arts Chair Roy Dowell and Fine Arts Chair Meg Cranston designed billboards that were displayed during July and August, respectively, on La Cienega Blvd as part of the Made in L.A. 2012 exhibition.

Appearing at the Tate Modern
Graduate Public Practice Chair Suzanne Lacy’s The Crystal Quilt (1987), was re-created for London’s Tate Modern, July 18 – October 28, as part of the current London 2012 Festival in conjunction with the Cultural Olympiad. Lacy’s work is also included the Liverpool UK Biennial of Contemporary Art through Nov 25, and in L.A. at Blum & Poe Gallery, July 14 – Aug 25.

Come Show me the Way
Sculpture/New Genres Program Director Jacci den Hartog’s solo show, “Come and Show me the Way,” is at Rosamund Felsen Gallery, Santa Monica, through Oct 6.

iTunes U
Our iTunes U site now has 436 video and audio files. One of the most visited is a video narrated by Art Historian Dr. Jean Willette on prehistoric art.

SIGGRAPH in L.A.
Digital Media Assistant Chair Kathleen Milnes recruited 18 local high school students to participate in the annual SIGGRAPH in L.A. in early August. This conference on computer graphics and interactive technologies draws more than 20,000 people from around the world.
Faculty News

Product Design faculty member Tanya Aguinga was included in an exhibition at the A+D Museum, “COME IN! Les Femmes,” July 12 – Sept 8.

Graduate Fine Arts faculty member Judie Bamber participated the exhibition “All I Want is a Picture of You,” Angles Gallery, L.A., July 14 – September 1.

Fashion Design Chair Rosemary Brantley wrote the introduction to Bonhams auction catalog on vintage fashion in June, stating “the current trend of buying vintage fashion and luxury goods is a reaction to the globalization and tech-driven nature of today’s design process.”

Communication Arts faculty member Rebecca Chamlee (‘85) (below) is featured in The Vandercook 100, a book celebrating 100 artisans and 100 years of letterpress printing. Her book Azusa: a sequel, with poems by Graduate Writing Chair Paul Vangelisti, was included in the recently published 1000 Artists’ Books, Exploring the Book as Art by Quarry Books. Three of her letterpress printed broadsides will be exhibited in the Letterpress Guild of New England 30th Anniversary Broadside and Poster exhibition, August 30 – September 30.

Communication Arts Associate Chair Barbara Maloutas is included in the downloadable anthology The L.A. Telephone Book of poetry and text art, which also includes work by, Graduate Writing Chair Paul Vangelisti, and Larkin Higgins, MFA alumna.

Graduate Fine Arts faculty member Kori Newkirk’s work was at Blum & Poe Gallery, L.A., July 14 - August 25.

Fine Arts faculty member Adam Overton received an emerging career grant from the California Community Foundation.

Graduate Fine Arts faculty member Renee Petropoulos performed with alums Elena Rosa (‘12) and Sojung Kwon (‘07) in the Venice Beach Biennial, part of the Made in LA 2012 Biennial exhibition, July 13 - 16. Petropoulos’ “Meditation on Plaid” was in the journal Material issue #3, launched in Berlin on August 11.

Student News

Digital Media senior Wendy Pham was named one seven finalists in the Computer Graphics international competition for student of the year. Out of 360 entries, Wendy was recognized for her expertise in compositing, lighting and texture painting.

Catherine Hernandez, Architecture/ Landscape/Interiors senior, won a 2012 IES Illuminating Engineering Society Russell Cole Design Competition Award in the Undergraduate Student Lighting Category.

Ben Maltz Gallery

Exhibition Catalogues Available

Exhibition catalogs from the Ben Maltz gallery are now available online. Amazon.com

Above: Still from Pham’s award-winning work.
Carlos Almaraz ('74 MFA)’s work was featured in “A Life Recalled,” a chronological survey at the Vincent Price Art Museum, Monterey Park.

Tuna Bora ('09) joined another agency leader, Brand New School, as a concept artist.

Tami Demaree ('02 MFA) showed her work (above) in “Savages” at Rosamund Felsen Gallery, Santa Monica, this summer.

Ian Falconer ('83)’s newest book from Simon & Schuster, Olivia and the Fairy Princesses, was released on August 28.

Danny Phillips ('07) and Kim Karlsrud ('08) for Educational Initiatives, and Joong Han Lee ('09) for Interaction Design, won 2012 Core 77 design awards.

The California Community Foundation (CCF) awarded 20 mid-career visual artist fellowships of $20K to alumni Alan Nakagawa ('86) and Mario Ybarra Jr. ('99).

Kaitlynn Redell ('09) participated in “Grouping: Curating Identity” April 2012 Anthropology Conference: Rethinking Inheritance at The New School for Social Research where she is studying for an MFA.

Interview magazine July 19 issue did a story on how Ashkahn Shahparnia ('06) brings LA to NY with his cards, bags, pillows and other accessories.

Masami Teraoka ('68) has a solo show at Samuel Freeman Gallery, Culver City, through Oct 13, “The Cloisters Last Supper.”


Mario Ybarra ('99) has a solo show at Santa Barbara’s Contemporary Arts Forum through Sept 30. His organization, Slanguage, presented community programs and exhibitions at LAXArt for the Made in LA 2012 Biennial.

“Boom LA. 2012,” an exhibition at the Pacific Design Center, highlighted artworks by MFA graduates from invited SoCA institutions, including 2012 Graduate Fine Arts alums Christina Hendershaw, Bridget Kane, Lisa Oxley, Shalini Patel, Elena Rosa, Tammy Vo, Brandy Wolfe, Bethany Wray, and Rodd Zinberg, July 27 – August 24.
Since April, we have been aggressively posting new content on our social media channels and seeing great results. We now have branded channels for Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr, Youtube, and iTUnesU. Below are statistics that compare the three-month period April-August against the same time period last year.

**Organic Search**
Searches related to terms such as “art school,” e.g.
+ 37%

**Facebook Referral**
+ 153%

**Mobile Facebook**
+ 712%

**Twitter Followers**
(1,174) + 46%

**Facebook Likes**
(6,200) + 30%

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**Social Media**

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**Otis In the News**

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**Product Design**

6.26 “Milkweed: The Best Green at Dwell on Design”
On student Alison Tsztoo’s planter box from the Gainey Ceramics collaboration

**Digital Media**

7.6 Huffington Post 2012 graduate Macauley C. Johnson’s video “Equality for Humans”

**Scholarship Benefit and Fashion Show In Print:**
7.9 LA Business Journal “LA Business SEEN”
7.12 Angeleno “On The Scene”
GenLux magazine Summer Coast magazine “Fashion Fetes”
7.9 CA Apparel News “Wading into Swimwear”

**Bolsky Gallery Exhibition**
7.19 “Invoking L.A.” at the Bolsky Gallery show got a good review in the LA Weekly

**Fashion**
7.23 Alumna Kiana Anvaripour’s lingerie line was featured in LA Business Journal “Getting in Shape”

**Academics**
7.31 The blog Daily TEKK 7 listed Otis as one of ten great design schools in their “200 best graphic, app and web design tools and resources” (scroll way down)