

# MILLS

## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 28, 2011

## Mills College Art Museum Announces an Exhibition of New Work By Mills College Undergraduate Students



### Opening Reception:

Sat, April 2, 6:00-8:00 pm

### Special Event:

Wed, April 13, 6:00-8:00 pm

Dru Anderson, Anna Basalaev-Binder, Jane Baker Bowyer, Rhea Cutillo,  
Xochiquetzal Lubin-Amaya, Aarika Martin, Meryl Olah, Kristin Palmbiad,  
Jennifer Peart, Alysson Raymond, Christine Shea, Emily Tang Yang Yang Spear

**Oakland, CA—February 25, 2011.** The Mills College Art Museum announces **An Artist's Dozen**, the senior thesis exhibition, on view from March 29 through April 17, 2011.

**An Artist's Dozen** celebrates the final bodies of work produced by the graduating class of the Mills College Studio Arts program as they launch their careers and lives in many different directions. The artists featured in this exhibition are undergraduate students presenting their final thesis projects, and wish to extend their utmost gratitude to the Mills College faculty and staff whom they have studied with: JoAnne Bernstein, John Bischoff, Jennifer Brandon, Ken Burke, Freddy Chandra, Julie Chen, Stacie Daniels, James Fei, Michael Hall, Samara Halperin, Stephanie Hanor, David Linger, Hung Liu, Kija Lucas, Marilyn Mary, Robin McDonnell, Barbara Mendoza, Mary-Ann Milford, Anna Valentina Murch, Ron Nagle, Lisa Regan, Moira Roth, Hannah Tandeta, Michael Temperio, Deirdre Visser, Catherine Wagner, Kathleen Walkup, and Ethan Worden.

**Dru Anderson** uses pastel chalks, oil, ink, and collage to capture the psychological and physical effects of war and domestic abuse on people of color.

**Anna Basalaev-Binder** explores ideas of what is imperfect, beautiful, industrial, ugly, and queer in her large-scale drawings and paintings. Her work often focuses on home and the places that she has lived.

**Jane Baker Bowyer** uses non-traditional painting tools such as sticks, brooms, sponges, and long branches to create a series of abstract paintings. She explores her identity and connection to a 300-year old oak grove outside her bedroom window, which acts as a “witness” to her everyday actions and feelings.

**Rhea Cutillo** is drawn to the idea of freedom, the open road, and to the connection and interaction between people. Her haunting photographs comment on society's approach to how we treat one another.

**Xochi Lubin-Amaya's** mixed media projects showcase an investigation and fascination with abundant findings of paper and plastic. Her collection references the bird nesting process of creating environments as well as comments on the role we play in the rapid production, consumption, and disposal of these materials.

**Aarika Martin's** recent work pays tribute to her late grandfather through painting, ceramics, and photography.

**Meryl Olah** examines the inextricable relationship between chance and control through sculpture and repetitious photographs.

**Kristin Palmblad** focuses on telling stories rooted in history and nature through detailed wire sculptures and ceramic scenes. She works to unravel a mystery for viewers to discover one clue at a time by manipulating surfaces.

**Jennifer Peart** re-contextualizes leftover fragments of past utopian thought and design to emphasize the correlation between architectural space and psychological space. In both painting and photography, she creates fantastical and impossible dream spaces that feed her own optimism and faith in human progress.

**Alysson Raymond** explores the relationships between nature and the human body, finding ways in which objects taken from nature transcend their original state when examined from a new perspective.

**Christine Shea** investigates the psychological, personal, and political questions of how we cope when we lose everything that defines who we are as individuals. Her pen and ink drawings, photography, and animated projections re-imagine the mundane, visit the past, and gain insight to the future.

**Emily Tang Yang Yang Spear** examines narcissistic fantasies and unfortunate events through video, or what she considers a visual poem.

**Special Events (please visit our website for updated details):**

**Sat, April 2, 6:00-8:00 pm**

Art Museum

*Opening Reception for An Artist's Dozen*

**Wed, April 13, 6:00-8:00 pm**

Art Museum

*Could you smell art and cry smart if we always glow?*

Join the Senior Exhibition Artists for an exciting performance and arts extravaganza, while viewing their thesis projects and enjoying a variety of games, snacks, and beverages.

**About the Mills College Art Museum**

Founded in 1925, The Mills College Art Museum is a forum for exploring art and ideas and a laboratory for contemporary art practices. Through innovative exhibitions, programs, and collections, the museum engages and inspires the intellectual and creative life of the Mills community as well as the diverse audiences of the Bay Area and beyond. The Mills College Art Museum is located at 5000 MacArthur Boulevard, Oakland, CA 94613. Museum hours are Tuesday-Sunday 11:00–4:00 pm and Wednesday 11:00–7:30 pm. Admission is free for all exhibitions and programs unless noted. For more information, visit <http://mcam.mills.edu>

**About Mills College**

Nestled in the foothills of Oakland, California, Mills College is a nationally renowned, independent liberal arts college offering a dynamic progressive education that fosters leadership, social responsibility, and creativity to approximately 950 undergraduate women and 550 graduate women and men. Since 2000, applications to Mills College have more than doubled. The College is named one of the top colleges in the West by *U.S. News & World Report*, and ranks as one of the *Best 371 Colleges* by The Princeton Review. Forbes.com ranked Mills 55th among America's best colleges and named it a "Top Ten: Best of the All-Women's Colleges." For more information, visit [www.mills.edu](http://www.mills.edu)

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