

# Emerging Illinois Artists



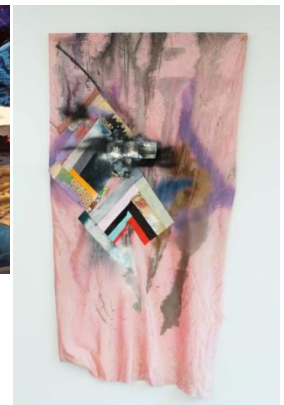
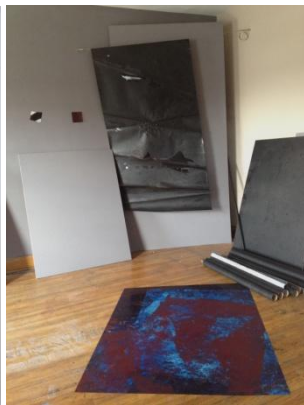
Featuring work by: Saul Appelbaum, Bogumil Bronkowski, Laura Colby, Maggie Crowley, Maria Dimanshtein, Erin Elizabeth, Brandon Ellis, Kevin Goodrich, Dan Gratz, Gina Hunt, Stacey Kalmanovsky, Megan Kathol Bersett, Clemens Klinkert, Tess Michalik, Boris Osterov, Krista Profitt, Steve Ruiz, Stoney Sasser, Carrie Schumacher, Harry Sidebotham

Emerging Illinois Artists is a triennial juried exhibition featuring works of art by MFA students currently enrolled or recently graduated from Illinois universities. Initiated in 2004, this year's competition resulted again in a challenging contemporary art exhibition with a competitive and celebratory nature. The exhibition is on view in the MCAC's Brandt Gallery May 3 through July 13, 2013. The opening reception, on Friday, May 3, 5pm to 7pm, is free and open to the public.

The MCAC received entries from thirty-four MFA students from six universities throughout the state of Illinois. All of the artists who entered this competition contributed to the exhibition's overall success. By entering, each artist added to the excellent quality of the field enabling juror Bill Gross, owner/director of gallery 65GRAND in Chicago, to choose not only single works by individual artists but a group of artworks that make a dynamic exhibition with lively juxtapositions and provocative thematic threads. Gross' selection – twenty-seven works by twenty artists – for Emerging Illinois Artists reflects the strength of MFA students in Illinois as well as a clear vision of what contemporary art can and must communicate. Juror Bill Gross selected a Juror's Choice award winner (\$500 and a 2016 solo exhibition in the Armstrong Gallery at MCAC) and 3 Merit Awards (\$200 each) that will be announced at the opening reception. Universities represented in the exhibition are Illinois State University, Northern Illinois University, The School of the Art Institute, University of Illinois Chicago, and University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign.

The MCAC offers, with its central location, accessibility to those from all over the state to visit the exhibition and see the work of the fine artists being educated at Illinois universities. Using the wide range of media offered to them, experimenting with scale and presentation, and probing the intellectual and emotional fabric of their lives, these twenty artists have produced works that engage the viewer in fresh, creative, and compelling ways.

## Award Winners (Left to Right)



Juror's Choice Award Winner *Homage to Mary*, Kevin Goodrich, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, toner and acrylic on canvas, 58" x 60". diptych.

Merit Award Winner *Untitled Permutations without Repetition: a totally unacceptable solution to an impossible problem ii*: Pl: 123458769(SWG:123458796(DWG:123458967((LR:123458976, 123459678, 123459687)(123459768))))), Saul Appelbaum, University of Chicago, Mixed Media, 10' x 10' x 8', 2012 - 13

Merit Award Winner *Return to Murder Mountain/The Last Baron*, Dan Gratz, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Oil on Canvas, 24" x 36", 2013

Merit Award Winner *Sisters*, Maggie Crowley, University of Chicago, mixed media and acrylic paint, 40" x 50"

**Emerging Illinois Artists is generously sponsored by the estate of Laura Sullivan, First American Title Insurance Company, Attorneys' Title Guaranty Fund, Dr. Harold & Marlene Gregor, and Illinois State University School of Art.**