SUNY New Paltz MFA student receives fellowship

January 28, 2014

NEW PALTZ – Kaitlyn (Kate) Gesel, a Master of Fine Arts candidate (2015) in the SUNY New Paltz Printmaking program is the recipient of a Southern Graphics Council International (SGCI) Graduate Fellowship. The SGCI is the largest print organization in North America, and its annual conference provides an opportunity to feature the work and philosophies of a program’s faculty and students. The award is highly competitive and is given to one person only each year.

“This is a highly regarded prize at one of the most important events in the field,” says Jill Parisi-Philips, SUNY New Paltz assistant professor in Printmaking. The SGCI conference brings together “thousands of artists, critics, curators, faculty members, and students from all over the country and internationally,” she explains.

The fellowship award includes membership in the SGCI, conference admission, a $500 travel stipend to attend this year’s conference in San Francisco, and a solo exhibition of Kate’s work at the 2015 SGCI Conference in Knoxville, TN.

“I have been experimenting with the idea of the print as a 3-dimensional, collaborative object,” Kate describes. “I have made prints into interchangeable pieces. The viewer is given the opportunity to create their own version of my artistic vision... These objects allow the viewer to directly connect and have a personal experience (with) my art.”

SGCI encourages print collecting and print connoisseurship, and shares safety, technical, and commercial information concerning print and printed media.

The artist (below) and her work.

Kaitlyn Gesel
*The Stories We Share, The Stories We Create*
(interaction detail)
Paper lithograph prints in handmade books and wooden tiles with handmade wooden stands and boxes
Books: 9.5in x 6.5in Tiles: 2.5in x 0.5in x 3in Stands: 10in x 4in x 11in Boxes: 2.5in x 7in x 11in
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