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VIVID: The NSCAD University Newsletter for Alumni and Friends

VIVID VOLUME 8, FEBRUARY/MARCH 2009

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@Lab Opens the Door to New Collaborations

On January 28, more than 75 friends, faculty and community leaders attended the official opening of @Lab, a research centre dedicated to the design of electronic textiles for architectural applications.

A joint initiative of NSCAD University's Centre for Cultural Technology and Innovation and the Dalhousie University School of Architecture, @Lab's work is generously supported by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) and the Atlantic Innovation Fund (AIF).

[Learn more about @Lab's exciting work and other NSCAD research initiatives.](#)

Photo: Steve Farmer



Textile Project Inspires New Ways of Seeing a Surface

Weavings produced by NSCAD students do more than enhance the otherwise non-descript cinder-block walls of the Sir Frederick Fraser School for the Visually and Hearing Impaired in Halifax. They help non-sighted students and others recognize locations throughout the first floor of the school.

"The program, 'Tactile Explorations,' has made hall travel at our school a sensory adventure and altered our soundscape in a perceptible way," explains Steve Trussoni, Music Instructor at the school. Each piece in the installation is accompanied by the artist's statement in type and in Braille.

Janet L. Sponagle Hopper, B. DES '80, NSCAD instructor Sandra Brownlee, BFA '71, and several advanced students in the Weaving, Surface and Story workshop explored weaving as a narrative tool in this special project, a collaboration with the Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority.

Image: Janet Hopper, *Scarlet Wind Chime*, detail. Photo courtesy of Leah Hoyles and Janet Sponagle Hopper



NSCAD ALUMNI RING





More Access = More Knowledge

Thanks to the Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN) Digital Content Initiative, the NSCAD Library recently added Adam Matthew Digital, JSTOR, Periodicals Archive Online, plus two e-book collections to the university's research databases. Library users can now access a range of new content,

ranging from books, articles, and letters to music scores, maps, artwork and other visual material.

Acquisition of these new databases was made possible with joint funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) and Nova Scotia Research and Innovation Trust (NSRIT).

Home and Auto Insurance Program

Preferred group rates
for professionals and alumni



Trading Spaces: NSCAD MFA Students Exhibit in Australia

In Return, an exhibition showcasing work from current students and recent graduates of NSCAD's MFA program, opens March 5 at the Sydney College of Art. The month-long exhibit is a follow-up to the SCA graduate student exhibition held in the Anna Leonowens Gallery in

2008. Through the use of diverse materials and media, *In Return* highlights the unique practice of each artist while revealing how the MFA students exchange ideas and learn from each other's strengths.

Image: Alicia Coutts, MFA '09, *Poznan Swimming Pool Synagogue Series: The Lost Synagogues of Poland*, Photograph 2008

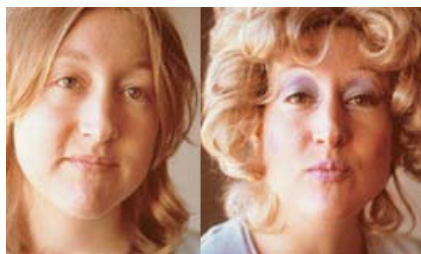


One Handkerchief Makes a Small Quilt

Nova Scotia quilter, Margó Takacs Marshall recently launched her new book, *One Handkerchief Makes a Small Quilt*. Her motto of "recycle, re-use and revalue" led Margo to make a series of 58 quilts that incorporated recycled handkerchiefs, textiles and buttons. In this colourful publication, available through Chapters and Glen Margaret Publishing, Margo

shares her techniques for making small, personal handkerchief quilts that measure only 20" x 20". <http://www.glenmargaret.com/info70.htm> .

Margó Takacs Marshall and her husband Rowland are long-time supporters of student scholarships at NSCAD.



Performance Artist Martha Wilson Speaks at NSCAD

Martha Wilson, Founding Director of Franklin Furnace Archive, will speak about her early career in Halifax and the development of Franklin Furnace at a lecture on March 18, 7 p.m. at the Port Campus. Her presentation, entitled

Staging the Self, is part of the NSCAD Public Lecture Series.

Franklin Furnace Archive, established in 1976, is a museum in lower Manhattan that presents and preserves temporary installations, performance art, along with temporal art, artists' books and multiples produced internationally after 1960.

Ms. Wilson lectures widely on the book as an art form, on performance art and on "variable media art." Between 2003 and 2006, she served as guest editor of *Leonardo* magazine's feature sections on live art and science on the Internet. Ms. Wilson has also developed

exhibitions, publications, courses and pedagogical resources concerning post-modernism.

Martha Wilson, *Painted Lady*, 1972, photo: Richards Jardens



NSCAD Designers Recognized for Excellence

The Halifax Chamber of Commerce recently honoured MOXI Creative as 2008 New Business of the Year at the annual awards dinner held on January 29. Senior members of MOXI's creative team include NSCAD faculty members Jeff Domm and Frank Orlando, BD '98, alumnus Clarke MacDonald, BD '99 and

recent graduate Andrea Wray, BD '08. Together they form a virtual team providing unorthodox and imaginative marketing solutions.

BD '04 grad Julia Rivard's company, Queen Street Studios, was a finalist for the same award in 2007. Her creative hub was also named one of the "Top 10 Start-ups in Nova Scotia" by the *Nova Scotia Business Journal*.



Rain/Drizzle/Fog Launch Scheduled for April 4

Rain/Drizzle/Fog: Film and Television in Atlantic Canada, edited by Media Arts Professor and Canada Research Chair, Dr. Darrell Varga, marks the first scholarly study of film and television from the Atlantic region. Published by the University of Calgary, the work also features a chapter by Professor Bruce Barber, Director of the NSCAD MFA program.

A reception marking *Rain/Drizzle/Fog's* launch is scheduled for Saturday, April 4, 3 – 5 p.m. at the Academy Building, 1649 Brunswick Street, and will feature a

screening of works celebrating the spirit of the region's independent film industry.



Canadian Art Features NSCAD MFA Grads

In the winter issue of *Canadian Art* magazine, contributing writer Leah Sandals, BFA '05, takes a look at the nation's top ten graduate students in her article, "Class of 2008." In it, Montreal-based MFA '08 and 2008 Joseph Plaskett Award winner, Nguyen Duc HuyNan, credits his MFA program at NSCAD as key to breakthroughs in his work. Josh Schwebel, MFA '08, currently pursuing his PhD studies at the University of Western Ontario, is referred to by Sandals as a "cheeky interventionist," and

his controversial "zero" graduation exhibition is featured on page 69.

www.canadianart.ca/art/features/2008/12/01/class-of-2008/

Condé and Beveridge: Class Works Launched in Ontario

NSCAD Press recently launched *Condé and Beveridge: Class Works*, the first comprehensive examination of the collaborative art practice of Toronto artists



Carole Condé and Karl Beveridge, at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre in Kingston, Ontario.

The 160-page book, published in association with the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, is edited by NSCAD Professor Bruce Barber. *Class Works* includes

critical essays by Jan Allen, D'Arcy Martin, Declan McGonagle, Allan Sekula, and Dot Tuer along with an interview with the artists by Clive Robertson, a chronology of their extraordinary art, and 112 colour reproductions illustrating their major photographic projects.

Publication of *Condé and Beveridge: Class Works* was assisted through the financial support of Halifax law firm Pink Breen Larkin.

Montreal Launch:

Condé and Beveridge launch at [Dazibao centre de photographies actuelles](#) 4001, rue Berri, espace 202, on Thursday, April 16 at 5pm.