

MFA student's work included in Albright-Knox biennial

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Tammy Renee Brackett, who is pursuing a Master of Fine Arts degree in electronic arts in the School of Art & Design at Alfred University, is among the 58 artists whose work is included in Beyond/In Western New York, the expanded biennial exhibition founded by the Albright-Knox Art Gallery in 1977 as In Western New York. She will be exhibiting a piece entitled "Opus Musivum" a surround-sound installation based on the map of the human genome. Brackett is a new media artist and composer who explores the impact of new information and scientific knowledge on identity formation. In addition to pursuing her master's degree, she is president of White Dog Records, a record label dedicated to promoting independent musicians and songwriters. She is also the artistic and managing director of the Loupe, an arts center in Prattsburgh, NY, which aims to create a bridge between the urban art world and rural America. Brackett received her BA in Fine Arts degree, summa cum laude, from AU in December 2003. The expanded exhibition, which opens April 15 with a reception from 6:30-8:30 p.m., will unfold in across 12 different venues in Western New York, and will celebrate many of the top artists in the bi-national region of Southern Ontario, Canada, and Western and Central New York (primarily the Toronto, Buffalo and Rochester areas). "All of the participating local art organizations are excited that we will be able to showcase artists from Toronto - Canada's major art center and a truly international city," said Albright-Knox Director Louis Grachos. "Of course, they will be joined by outstanding artists from Western and Central New York, an increasingly recognized region for producing noted artists." The 58 artists' works span a spectrum of art practices, from traditional drawing, prints, painting, sculpture, and photography to video and 16 mm film, performance, and multimedia installations. After reviewing more than 700 submissions and over 14,000 slides (three elimination rounds), curatorial teams from the 12 participating local arts organizations made on-site visits to 86 artists' studios. After the studio visits, the curators had a roundtable discussion to determine the final selection and the venue for each artist's work.