

Fosdick-Nelson Gallery opens fall season with 'Tradition/Collision'

8/28/07

The Fosdick-Nelson Gallery at Alfred University launches the 2007-08 gallery programs on Friday, Sept. 7 with "Tradition/Collision," featuring painting, prints, sculpture and installation works. The exhibit opens with an artists' reception from 7-9 p.m.; the show runs through Thursday, Oct. 4. The Gallery, located in Harder Hall, is open Monday-Friday 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 1-3 p.m. The Gallery is closed during University holidays. "Along the timeline of history and from a vast spectrum of cultures, a number of time-honored artistic traditions have been established," said Sharon McConnell, Fosdick-Nelson director. "Many of these art forms have become synonymous with the culture and period that generated them. While in their day these art forms may have been considered fresh and cutting edge, now they are regarded as sanctioned yet conventional icons of another era." "Tradition/Collision" presents a diverse group of artists who explore these traditions as structural and cultural foundations from which to express a contemporary experience of the world," McConnell continued. "At first glance, a viewer might feel he or she had stumbled back in time, upon being confronted with a series of Indian illuminated manuscripts, Japanese woodblock and screen-prints, Oriental/Persian carpets, Audubon prints, Chinese scrolls and 15th century master prints. Closer inspection reveals a collection of artists carrying an ongoing vital dialogue with tradition; the past colliding with the present. Art forms that might have been considered constraining are reinterpreted, providing an understructure from which contemporary social and artistic issues are embraced. The resulting works are highly personal, smartly audacious and acutely political." The featured artists include Sandow Birk, Walton Ford, Linda Ganjian, Yun-Fei Ji, Whitfield Lovell, Andrew Tavarelli, Masami Teraoka, and Saira Wasim. The exhibit is curated by Lise Lemeland, assistant professor of painting at AU, and Glenn Macura, art adviser and curator for the General Electric Corporate Collection. In conjunction with "Tradition/Collision," Birk's full-length film, "Dante's Inferno," will be presented and screened by the artist at a time and location to be announced. For more information, call the Gallery at 607.871.2149.