



Fall 10-21-2013

## School of Art to Host Guest Artist Talk

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### **Recommended Citation**

Dhue, Hannah, "School of Art to Host Guest Artist Talk" (2013). *News and Events*. 2073.  
<https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news/2073>

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## School of Art to Host Guest Artist Talk

Oct. 21, 2013

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— The Joyce Eichhorn Ames School of Art will host guest artist and educator Michelle Renee Perkins, who will give a talk about her work on Thursday, October 24 at 4 p.m. in the Art Auditorium 218 (6 Ames Plaza West, Bloomington). The event is free and open to the public.

Perkins received a bachelor of arts degree from Hampton University in Virginia, and earned a master's degree in painting from Howard University in Washington, D.C. She is currently a doctoral candidate of art theory and philosophy at the Institute of Doctoral Studies in Visual Art.

Originally from Lawrenceville, New Jersey, Perkins lives and works in Chicago, where she is an assistant professor of art at Malcom X College. Her teaching philosophy focuses on what has been described as “the binary belief that the creation of powerful art involves an inward and outward movement: inwardly, towards introspection and greater self-awareness, and outwardly, towards becoming visually literate and productive members of a community.”

As an artist and image-maker, Perkins attempts to expand the viewer's perception of specific aspects of her life's journey, which is inspired by the history and narratives of Africans and African Americans. The primary mediums she uses are oil and acrylic-based paints, collages and mixed-media sculptures. Perkins' work has been shown in local and national exhibitions, most recently in the South Side Community Art Center, the oldest existing African American art center.

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