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Merwin and Wakeley Galleries: New Exhibits for Feb. 26-April 4

Feb. 22, 2013

BLOOMINGTON, III. – Illinois Wesleyan University's Merwin and Wakeley Galleries, located in the Joyce G. Eichhorn Ames School of Art building (6 Ames Plaza, Bloomington), will feature the artwork of Erin Anfinson and Sarah Rowland as well as Anni Holm from Tuesday, Feb. 26 to Thursday, April 4. Holm will commence the gallery openings with a lecture at 4 p.m. on Feb 26, followed by the opening reception for both galleries from 5-6 p.m.

Regular hours for the Merwin and Wakeley Galleries are Monday through Friday from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday evenings from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Both galleries will be closed from March 3-17 for spring break, and on March 31 for Easter.

Anfinson's and Rowland's display, "Within These Walls" will be featured in the Merwin Gallery.

Anfinson, an associate professor of art at Middle Tennessee State University, received her undergraduate degree from the University of Northern Iowa and her masters' degree in fine arts from the University of Connecticut. For over 10 years she has been creating paintings in encaustic media, which involves using heated beeswax to which colored pigments are added. She explains that she is fascinated with mechanisms and processes that influence major changes in a given environment. This particular body of encaustic work is focused on Anfinson's most immediate surrounding: the home. In particular, Anfinson concentrates on dirty laundry, which she feels is a "concrete representation of an evolutionary process and its grotesque nature."

Similarly, Rowland, who holds a bachelor of arts degree in art and art history from Stanford, a masters degree in teaching from Chapman University in Orange, California, and is completing a masters in fine arts degree in painting from Arizona State University, is primarily interested in the home as the center of family life. Through mixed media paintings, drawings and installations, she uses the walls and objects of the home as a site for the accumulation of memory and history.



Artwork by Erin Anfinson



Artwork by Sarah Rowland

Holm's display, "Photo ID," will be featured in the Wakeley Gallery. Holm, who immigrated to the United States from Randers, Denmark in 1999, received a bachelor of fine arts degree in photography at Columbia College Chicago. She currently works as an Artist in Residence at Durkin Park School through Chicago Arts Partnership in Education (CAPE) and the Director and Curator of People Made Visible. Her recent collection of work was inspired by the growing presence of photo IDs, and how "haphazard arrangements and appearances in front of the camera stand to identify us over a long period of time."

For additional information on the exhibitions and the Merwin and Wakeley Galleries, go to: www.iwu.edu/art/galleries /currentlyshowing.html or contact Carmen Lozar, director of the galleries at (309) 556-3391.



Artwork by Anni Holm

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