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Sculptors to Exhibit at Galleries

Oct. 31, 2014

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— Exhibits by sculptors working in different media will be featured this month at the Merwin and Wakeley Galleries at Illinois Wesleyan University.

Installation sculptor Alexandra Zealand will present an opening lecture Nov. 10, and ceramic sculptor Gerit Grimm will present an opening lecture Nov. 12. Both lectures will begin at 4 p.m. in Room 218 of the Joyce G. Eichhorn Ames School of Art building, 6 Ames Plaza West, Bloomington.

Grimm's Merwin Gallery exhibit is entitled *Restposten* and will remain on display through Dec. 8. Born in the German Democratic Republic, Grimm is now an assistant professor of art at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In 2002, she was awarded with the German DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) Government Grant for the University of Michigan School of Art and Design, where she graduated with a master's degree. She received a Master of Fine Arts degree from the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University in 2004.



"Tree of Love" by Gerit Grimm



"Moths to a Flame" by Alexandra Zealand

"As a sculptor, my work appropriates historical figuration derived from the content of fables and myths that are then reinterpreted and pushed to physical limits through the materiality of ceramics," she said. "My artworks offer a glimpse into the ominous side of fables that presents a history that is at once revealed and concealed through figurines, fairytales and myths." More information about Grimm is available at www.geritgrimm.com

Taking Flight by Zealand will be on display in the Wakeley Gallery. Originally trained in theater design, Zealand earned an MFA in sculpture from the Pratt Institute in 2003. She created her first installation during graduate school, after a close friend died unexpectedly of pneumonia. Only 27 years old, his death marked the beginning of Zealand's exploration of the fragility, beauty and fear she felt in relationship to living. Her pieces evoke flight and falling, and play with light and movement. Gathering familiar, defunct objects together such as coffee filters and camera films, she transforms them into dynamic sculptures and explores our relationship with the objects we discard. In addition to her installations, she works in web and video at the Arlington (Va.) Public Library. Visit her website at www.alexzealand.com.

Merwin and Wakeley Gallery hours are Monday-Friday 12 to 4 p.m., Tuesday evening 7 to 9 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday 1 to 4 p.m. The galleries will be closed Nov. 25 to Nov. 30 for Thanksgiving, and on Dec. 1 for A Day Without Art. More information is available by calling 309-556-3391.

