



Winter 2-28-2006

IWU Galleries to Host Painting, Ceramic Exhibits

Rebecca Welzenbach
Illinois Wesleyan University

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Recommended Citation

Welzenbach, Rebecca, "IWU Galleries to Host Painting, Ceramic Exhibits" (2006). *News and Events*. 3404.

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IWU Galleries to Host Painting, Ceramic Exhibits

February 28, 2006

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. - The Illinois Wesleyan University School of Art's Merwin and Wakeley Galleries will present *Vibrations*, a new painting exhibit by fine arts graduate students at Indiana University (IU) in Bloomington, Ind., and *Five*, a ceramic exhibit by Elizabeth Coleman. The galleries are located in the Joyce Eichhorn Ames School of Art (6 Ames Plaza West, Bloomington).

The exhibitions, which are free and open to the public, begin Tuesday, March 7 and continue until Friday, March 31. Gallery hours are as follows: Monday - Friday 12-4 p.m., Tuesday evening 7-9 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 1-4 p.m. The galleries will be closed during IWU's spring break, from Saturday, March 18 to Sunday, March 26.

A group discussion involving all featured artists will take place at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7, in the galleries, followed immediately by a reception at 5 p.m.

On display in the Merwin Gallery will be *Vibrations*, which will highlight both figurative and abstract paintings. The master's painting program at IU is known for its balanced emphasis on tradition and innovation. The featured painters, Brad Archambault, Amy Cline, Jamie Combs, Ian Hagarty, Jessica Held, Anne Markwith, Allen Marshall, Jen Meanley, Christine Mugnolo, Anthony Ragucci and Eva Speer, are trained to paint from observation, incorporating formal structure and narrative content as they express themselves individually and develop a unique language of painting.

The Wakeley Gallery will showcase *Five*, an exhibition of the recent works of Elizabeth Coleman, who earned her bachelor's of fine arts from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and her master's of fine arts from The Ohio State University.

Coleman's sculptures, including large carved ceramic panels as well as smaller works, explore the story of women and how dominant ideas of gender appear in both public and private spheres. Coleman points out that while her middle-class, Midwestern suburban upbringing informs her work, she finds equally influential sources of inspiration in fairy tales, myths and popular culture, especially advertising.

For additional information, contact Jennifer Lapham, director of the Merwin and Wakeley Galleries, at (309) 556-3391.



Five, earthenware by Elizabeth Coleman

Contact: Rebecca Welzenbach, (309) 556-3181