

For Immediate Release: May 13, 2013

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Exhibition Title:
speed and pressure

Exhibition on View: **May 22 – July 27, 2013**

Receptions: **Friday, May 31, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.**

Artist Talk: **Saturday, July 27, 2:00 p.m.**

Location: **Kaplan Gallery**

Curator: **Susan Main**

Gallery Hours:

Wednesday: 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Thursday & Friday: 12:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday: 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Exhibitions are always free and open to the public.



Jan Razauskas, *still waiting*, Pigments, metallics and graphite on Dura-lar, 30 x 40 inches

speed and pressure

Rockville, MD- VisArts presents a group exhibition that examines how speed and pressure shape contemporary drawing as an activity and an idea. Ranging from traditional, observational drawing to expanded notions of drawing using algorithmic processes, the artists in this exhibition have in common an engagement with drawing as a primary activity or as the central focus of their creative inquiry.

Lines and marks comprise the core of the exhibition. Tying speed and pressure qualitatively to essential drawing elements, materials and processes, yields an extraordinary array of possibilities.



Kendall Nordin, *Entanglement—Spring in Alaska*, 2013, Performative durational drawing video

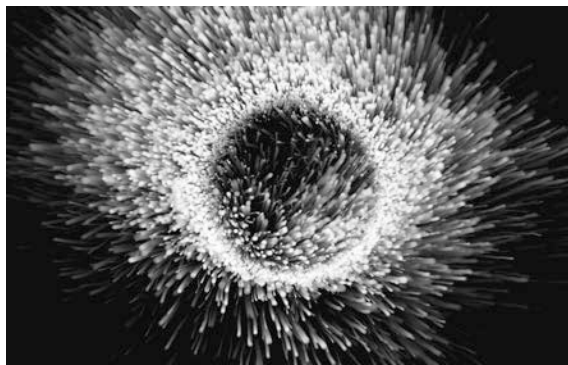
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Drawings in the exhibition are hand made, software-generated, heavy, fragile, quick, and slow. They appear on paper, in space, in sketchbooks and on screens. The artists use implied, immediate, planned, systematic, improvisational, navigational, observational, site-specific or conceptual processes. For this sampling of artists from the Washington/Baltimore metro area, drawing is a vital, captivating activity.

Featured Artists: Amita Bhatt, Hsin-Hsi Chen, Mei Mei Chang, Ian MacLean Davis, Dawn Gavin, Joe Giordano, Ryan Hoover, Warren Linn, Brandon Morse, Barry Nemett, Kendall Nordin, Jan Razauskas, Elzbieta Sikorska, Renee van der Stelt and Alice Whealin.

Joe Giordano, *Dove*, Sepia Ink Wash, 30" x 22"



Brandon Morse, *A Charged Shape*, 2011, Generative video



Renee van der Stelt, *Score & Fold: Irregular 10/25/2012*, Graphite on paper, 25 x 17 x 12.5" (above)



Amita Bhatt, *A Fantastic Collision of The Three Worlds # II*, 2009, Charcoal on canvas, 9 x 12 feet (left)

About the Artists:

Jan Razauskas: Jan Razauskas lives and works in Baltimore. Her drawings, paintings and interdisciplinary work have been exhibited widely, and recognized through granting sources including the Maryland State Arts Council, the Contemporary Museum in Baltimore and the Santa Fe Art Institute. Her work has appeared in *New American Paintings* and been reviewed in numerous publications including the journal *Artpapers*, and is included in private collections nationwide. She earned a BFA from MICA (Maryland Institute College of Art) and an MFA degree from Transart Institute; an international program based in Austria. Razauskas currently teaches as an adjunct professor. <http://www.janrazauskas.com>

Ian MacLean Davis: Ian MacLean Davis holds his MFA from the Mount Royal School of Art at the Maryland Institute, College of Art and was a Hamiltonian Fellow from 2008-2010. He exhibits nationally and is collected internationally. Ian lives, works, and teaches in Baltimore and its outlying counties. He's obsessed with the effects of mass culture and its images, and contributes semi-regularly to the contemporary art journal www.BmoreArt.com.

Brandon Morse: Brandon Morse is a Washington, DC based artist who works with generative systems as a means to examine the ways in which physical phenomena such as entropy and emergence can be simulated within the computer to serve as metaphor for broader social and political issues. Morse has shown his work in video, video installation and sound art in museums and galleries across the United States, Europe, and Asia including the Nanjing Museum, the Frankfurter Kunstverein and the Corcoran Gallery of Art. His work has been reviewed in *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Post*, *LA Weekly*, and *Art in America* among others. He is an associate professor of Digital Media at the University of Maryland. <http://www.coplanar.org>

Elzbieta Sikorska: Elzbieta Sikorska, a native of Poland, studied art at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. Over 25 years ago she moved to the US and settled in the Washington, DC area. She has been exhibiting widely in the US and in Europe and her work is in many public and private collections on both sides of the Atlantic: National Museum in Krakow, Poland, National Museum of Women in the Arts, and Library of Congress in Washington to mention just a few. She is also the recipient of numerous grants and awards. elzbietasikorska.com

Warren Linn: Born in Chicago in 1946, moved to New York City in 1978, living in Baltimore since 2002, Warren Linn has worked as an illustrator for major print and media clients for over 40 years. Of equal and concurrent importance, he has regularly and continuously exhibited his personal and exploratory work in a wide range of gallery venues in Chicago, New York, Nationally and Internationally starting at age 17. His work is in numerous private and public collections.

Linn holds a B.F.A. from *The School of The Art Institute of Chicago* in Painting and Printmaking, and studied with Milton Glaser at the School of Visual Arts in New York in 1977. He taught at *Parsons School of Design* in New York for 16 years, and at *RISD* in 1996/97. Linn has taught at the *Maryland Institute College of Art* since 1998, and joined *MICA's* Full-time Faculty in 2001. <http://www.warrenlinn.com>

Amita Bhatt: Raised in India, Amita Bhatt received her BFA from the M S University, Baroda and an MFA (painting) from the Maryland Institute College of Art. She is a visual artist who explores the classic themes of desire, conflict, struggle and transcendence. Bhatt's work has been exhibited at

prestigious venues such as the Museo Pedro de Osma (Peru, 2011), Walters Art Museum (Baltimore, USA, 2009), Die Monchskirche Museum (Germany, 2010), and The Station Museum of Contemporary Art (Houston, USA, 2004). She has also been the proud recipient of the Graduate Painting Prize (2009) and was a semi-finalist for the Janet & Walter Sondheim Award (2010) as well as the Joan Mitchell Award (2009). Her works are included in the private collections of Marilyn Oshman, Sharon and Gus Kopriva, John and Berthe Ford, Nancy Kienholz and most recently in the permanent collection of The Ogden Museum of Southern Art among others. The artist is looking forward to her upcoming solo at Bluestar Contemporary Art Center in June this year.

<http://www.amitabhatt.net>

Kendall Nordin: Kendall Nordin is a DC-based artist who has often spent time working in farflung places such as China, or most recently, southeastern Alaska. Her visual work has been exhibited in group and solo shows in the US, Australia, and Estonia and is included in the viewing program of The Drawing Center, NYC. Recent venues for performances and pieces include Black Mountain College, Chashama windows project, Transformer Gallery, and Project Dispatch. She received a grant from the DC Commission on Arts and Humanities in 2008. As well as practicing visual art she has performed music since 2000. Contributions to that world include PANIC, a 22-piece all girl rock improv orchestra. She completed her MFA at RMIT in Melbourne, Australia where she co-founded "The 24-hour Drawing Project". Before she left the written word behind, her poetry appeared in Wordwrights, Rain City Review, and Flat Bike, garnering an American Academy of Poets collegiate prize and a Lannan Foundation fellowship. She worked with filmmakers in the first part of the aughts, with a credit for Associate Producer of "The Ballad of Bering Strait", an early high-def feature length documentary. Kendall is a rabble-rouser and an instigator from teaching pre-school age children to lobbying for low power FM radio or provoking discussions about working space for artists. Occasionally she works under the name Le Chien Sauvage. <http://www.kendallnordin.com>

Alice Whealin: Alice Whealin was born in Philadelphia, PA. Since moving to the DC metro area, Alice's drawings, paintings and sculptures have been included in over 100 exhibitions. Whealin's most recent exhibits include a solo of her drawings at The McLean Project for the Arts, McLean, VA. Exhibits in the last year included her works in group exhibits at The Painting Center, NY, NY, the Charles Krause/ Reporting Fine Art gallery, Washington, DC, and the Esther M. Klein Art Gallery, at the Science Center, in Philadelphia, PA. Her exhibited work was published in the Philadelphia in articles citing the exhibit as a top pick for April there. Whealin was awarded a 6-year resident artist fellowship at the Arlington Arts Center in Arlington, VA in 2011. She currently maintains her studio practice there. alicewhealin.com

Joe Giordano: A straight ahead, blue collar painter, Joe Giordano is a National Endowment for the Arts, Individual Visual Artist Fellow. He received a New York State Council on the Arts Grant for Painting and grants for Dance Set Design from the National Endowment for the Arts and The New York State Council on the Arts. Museum Retrospectives include the Queens Museum, NY; Reading Public Museum, Reading, PA; University of Maryland Baltimore County; Moravian College, PA; and Salisbury University, MD. His paintings have been exhibited in solo and group exhibitions in the USA and Italy. His prints and paintings are in the collections of the Library of Congress, The Brooklyn Museum, the New York Public Library, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Others. National and International: Private and Corporate

Giordano received a BFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art and an MFA in Painting from the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School. He lives in Baltimore Maryland and Montegiovi,

Italy. giordanoart@gmail.com joegiordano.org

Barry Nemett: Barry Nemett has exhibited his artwork in museums and galleries throughout the United States, Europe, Asia, and Africa. Since receiving a Fulbright/ITT International Travel Fellowship to Spain, he has lectured worldwide, curated numerous traveling exhibitions, and has been a recipient of resident artist grants in the United States, Italy, France, Scotland, Africa, and Japan.

Upon receiving his MFA degree from Yale University in 1971, Mr. Nemett began teaching at Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA), where he has been Chair of the Painting Department since 1990. He has published essays and poetry for numerous magazines and is the author of the college textbook, *Images, Objects & Ideas* (MacGraw-Hill Publishers) and the novel, *Crooked Tracks*, (Barnhardt & Ashe Publishing Co.). A 260-page book, *Barry Nemett: Paintings, Poems & Passages* (AuthorHouse), was recently published in coordination with a two-year traveling exhibition of his paintings and drawings. Nemett is presently curating simultaneous exhibitions at Ethan Cohen Fine Arts in NYC and at Kunsthalle Beacon (KuBe) in Beacon, NY, which will open in September. barrynemett.com

Mei Mei Chang: Mei Mei Chang received her MFA in photography from Ohio University in 2002. As an installation artist, she uses mixed media to bridge her internal and external worlds. She is a lifelong student of the human psyche and is fascinated by the mind's ability to focus on details great and small. She creates rich visual images that are both highly personal and universally accessible.

Chang has had numerous artist residencies, including ones at the Vermont Studio Center, the Great River Art Association in Minnesota, the Honfleur Gallery in Washington, D.C., and Montgomery College in Maryland. She has won various awards, including second place in the Visual Art Exchange's Contemporary South exhibit. Chang's work has been featured in Studio Visit magazine.

Upcoming shows include "Voyage in Tangible Space" at the Margaret W. and Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery in Alexandria, Virginia; and an exhibit at The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation Arts Center in Silver Spring, Maryland. <http://www.meimeichang.com>

Dawn Gavin: Originally from Scotland, Dawn Gavin lives and works in Baltimore, Maryland. Her work investigates issues of identity and displacement, employing a range of media from collage and installed drawings to digital video. As an artist she has exhibited her work both nationally and internationally. Most recently, she has shown at the Baltimore Museum of Art, The John Michael Kohler Art Center (Sheboygen, MI), Maryland Institute College of Art, Meyerhoff Gallery (Baltimore, MD), The Philadelphia Art Alliance and The Washington Project for the Arts (Washington D.C.). She is an Associate Professor in Drawing and Foundations and Graduate Director at the University of Maryland, College Park. <http://www.dawngavin.com>

Ryan Hoover: Ryan Hoover is an artist who employs a wide range of digital and traditional media to explore technology and its history, critically reflecting upon the manner in which it structures our society and shapes us as individuals. He holds a dual degree from the University of North Carolina at Asheville in Philosophy and Fine Art (Sculpture) and an MFA from the Mount Royal School of Interdisciplinary Art at the Maryland Institute College of Art. In addition to maintaining his studio practice, Hoover serves as the Director of Fabrication Studios at MICA, where he also teaches in the Sculpture and Environmental Design departments. He exhibits throughout the US in galleries

and international art fairs, and abroad in contemporary art centers and museums. He lives and works in Baltimore with his wife and fellow artist, Lillian Bayley Hoover. <http://www.ryanhoover.org>

Renee van der Stelt: Renee van der Stelt received an M.A. in Art History in 1990, and an M.F.A. in Drawing in 1993 from the University of Iowa. She has received grants for her work from the Pollock-Krasner Foundation, the Baltimore Office for the Promotion of the Arts, Maryland State Arts Council, and the TKF Foundation. Residencies include the MacDowell Colony, Roswell Artist in Residence, and the Philadelphia Art Hotel. In the past, she has worked at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, El Museo del Barrio, New York, and The Center for Art, Design and Visual Culture at UMBC in Catonsville, MD. She has taught foundation and advanced drawing courses at various institutions including Cornell College, UMBC and MICA. Her work is listed in the Drawing Center's Artist Registry, NY., and her work is shown both regionally and nationally. She currently works as a faculty mentor for the MFA in Studio Art program at the Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD. <http://www.reneevanderstelt.com>

Hsin-Hsi Chen: Hsin-Hsi Chen received her MFA from University of Maryland at College Park in USA, 1996 and BFA from Tunghai University in Taiwan, 1992. Chen recently received the 2013 Maryland State Arts Council Grant/Individual Artist Award. She was the grantee of the 2007 Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant and was selected in The Drawing Center Viewing Program in New York 1995, 2006-2010. Chen has been invited five times for WPA Art Auction at Corcoran Gallery of Art and The Katzen Arts Center Museum, Washington, DC, 1998~2010. Her artwork has been included in the Permanent Art Collection at Brooklyn Art Library, Brooklyn, New York, 2011 and National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, 2006. Chen's artwork has been exhibited nationally in numerous group and solo exhibitions. <http://www.hsin-hsi-chen.com>

Exhibition Events & Programs:

Opening Reception and Artist Talk: Friday, May 31, 7:00–9:00 p.m. (free)

Additional Programs & Information: www.visartscenter.org

About VisArts at Rockville:

VisArts at Rockville is a dynamic, nonprofit arts center dedicated to engaging the community in the arts and providing opportunities for artistic exploration, education and participation. Through educational programming, gallery exhibitions and a resident artist program, VisArts provides children, teens and adults with opportunities to express their creativity and enhance their awareness of the arts.

VisArts is located in Rockville Town Square, three blocks from the Rockville Metro at 155 Gibbs Street, Rockville, MD. The three gallery spaces at VisArts are open on Wednesday from 12–4 p.m., Thursday and Friday from 12–8 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 12–4 p.m. For additional information, please visit www.visartscenter.org or call 301-315-8200.

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For information, images, or to arrange an interview or preview of the exhibition, please contact: Susan Main at (301) 943-4190, or smain@visartscenter.org