

## ***Alma Mater***

**March 1 – 29, 2008**

### **@ Kinkead Contemporary**

For *Alma Mater*, Kinkead Contemporary presents a group exhibition highlighting an array of work by artists who at one time were, or currently are members of the Cranbrook "community of artists". Cranbrook Academy of Art, located in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, has a rich history of excellence in the arts. The nine painters and sculptors exhibiting in *Alma Mater* illustrate the creative tradition of Cranbrook.

#### **About the Artists**

**Trygve Faste** relocated to Los Angeles after receiving his MFA from Cranbrook Academy of Art in 2004. Since 2004, Faste has exhibited at the Lemberg Gallery (MI), The Brewery Project (L.A.), and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (CA). Faste served as the Interim Head of Painting Department at Cranbrook in the Fall of 2005.

**Samantha Fields'** paintings have been exhibited throughout Los Angeles at DiRT Gallery, The Standard Hotel, and Domestic Setting among others. Her most recent solo exhibition at Kim Light Gallery was in 2007. Fields received her MFA from Cranbrook Academy of Art in 1998. Her paintings have been reviewed in the L.A. Times, Artweek, and the LA Weekly. Fields currently lives in Los Angeles and is Assistant Professor of Art at California State University, Northridge.

Presently the Head of the Painting Department at Cranbrook Academy of Art, **Beverly Fishman** has two upcoming solo exhibitions in 2008 at Skestos Gabriele Gallery in Chicago, and Thessaloniki in Greece. Fishman's other solo exhibitions have included "Take as needed" at Michael Steinberg Fine Art (NY) and "Matrix" at Galerie Jean-Luc & Takao Richard (Paris). Her paintings have been shown extensively throughout the U.S. and abroad. Fishman currently lives and works in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

A current MFA candidate at Cranbrook, **David Duncan Hendren** received his BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Since 2005, Hendren has shown in group exhibitions at Outpost for Contemporary Art (Los Angeles), Museum of New Art (Pontiac, MI), Museum of Contemporary Art (Detroit).

**Erik Oost** is receiving his MFA from Cranbrook Academy of Art this year. Since receiving his BA in 2001, Oost's work has been exhibited at Kathleen Cullen Fine Arts (New York), Art Detour (Seattle), Forum Gallery (Bloomfield Hills, MI) and Shantou University in Guangdong, China.

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**Christian Tedeschi** had a solo exhibition at MorYork (L.A.) in 2007. Last year he also showed at A+D Museum (L.A.), Eyebeam (NY), Phantom Galleries LA (Pasadena), and MBAG (MI). Tedeschi lives and works in Los Angeles. He received his MFA from Cranbrook in 2001.

In 2008, **Britton Tolliver's** paintings have been included in group exhibitions in Brooklyn, NY and Abingdon, VA. Other exhibitions of Tolliver's work in previous years are: "Summer Group Show" at Angell Gallery in Toronto, Canada and "Can I Borrow Your Spaceship?" at Contemporary Art Institute in Detroit, Michigan. After receiving his MFA from Cranbrook in 2006, Tolliver moved to Detroit, Michigan, where he currently lives and works.

**Andre Yi's** most recent exhibitions have included "The Nature of LA" at Traywick Contemporary (Berkeley, CA), "Close to Home" at the Museum of Contemporary Art (San Diego, CA) and "Natural Disasters" at the Brewery Project (Los Angeles). Yi is currently represented by Carl Berg Gallery in L.A where he has had solo exhibitions in 2006, 2005, and 2003. Yi graduated from Cranbrook in 1998. Yi currently lives and works in Los Angeles.

Since receiving his MFA from Cranbrook in 2000, **Tao Urban** has had numerous solo exhibitions at Acuna-Hansen Gallery (Los Angeles). Urban's work has also been included in group exhibitions at the Torrance Art Museum (CA), New Langton Arts (San Francisco, CA), Armory Center for the Arts (Pasadena, CA), and the Sabina Lee Gallery Los Angeles), to name a few. He currently lives and works in Los Angeles.

### **About the Gallery**

Kinkead Contemporary is a new contemporary art gallery dedicated to emerging artists. Founded by collector John Kinkead, the gallery's mission is to introduce new voices through an ambitious series of solo and curated group exhibitions. Over the next 24-months a series of co-curated group shows are planned in concert with leading emerging gallerists from Chicago and New York. A native of California, John Kinkead is a graduate of both The Art Institute of Chicago and Cranbrook Academy of Art. A passionate art collector and patron, he is a member of the MOCA Contemporaries as well as LACMA's Print and Drawing Council.

For further information, please contact:

John Kinkead  
Kinkead Contemporary  
6029 Washington Blvd  
Culver City, CA 90232

Tel: (310) 838-7400  
E-mail: [john@kinkeadcontemporary.com](mailto:john@kinkeadcontemporary.com)