

Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art

1701 Main Street, Peekskill, NY 10566 | 914.788.0100 | www.hvcca.org

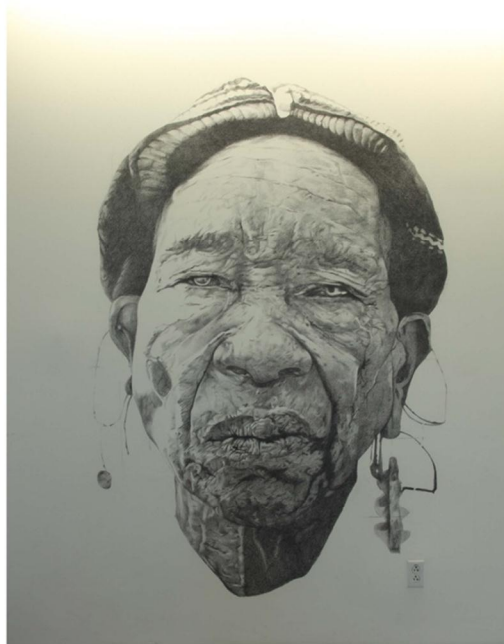
FIRST LOOK III

Outstanding MFA students from across the United States

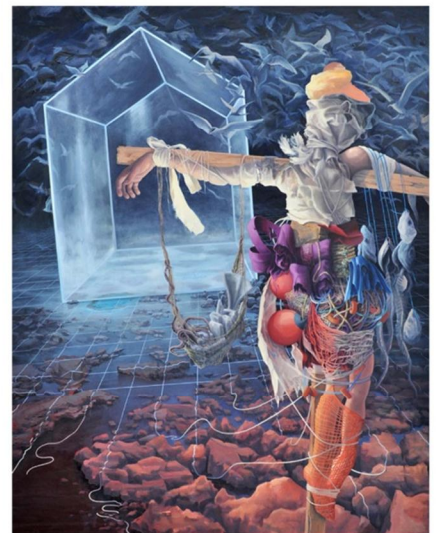
May 22 - July 24, 2011



Irvin Morazan



Meleko Mokgosi



Virginia Wagner

For immediate release

April 29, 2011

Peekskill, NY-The Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art is pleased to announce the opening of FIRST LOOK III, on May 22, 2011. First Look III will showcase 12 outstanding MFA students from across the United States. This is the third iteration of the enormously popular First Look exhibitions, which took place in 2005 and 2007. The reception for this exhibition will take place on Sunday, May 22 from 4 to 7pm.

In organizing the exhibition, the HVCCA arranged a curatorial team, which visited over 30 universities and close to 2000 studios. Over 90 artists were nominated for the exhibition and 12 were selected. The Review Committee included skilled gallerists, artists, curators and collectors, who focus on new talent as well as HVCCA staff and artists from the past shows. Artists selected include: Steven Chapman (School of Visual Arts), Gabriel Dawe (University of Texas at Dallas), Nadja Frank (Columbia University), Shadi Harouni (New York University), Yoshiaki Mochizuki (Hunter College), Meleko Mokgosi (University of California Los Angeles), Irvin Morazan (Hunter College), Jong Hyun Oh (School of Visual Arts), Erik Schoonebeek (Rutgers University), Joseph Varas (School of Visual Arts;), Virginia Wagner (Maryland Institute College of Art), and

Samantha Wall (Pacific Northwest College of Art).

HVCCA's First Look has proven to be a must-see for collectors, galleries and international museums interested in seeing new talent, and are highly regarded among MFA students. It is distinguished by the fact that all artwork included resulted from personal studio visits and nominations.

Historically, the exhibition has served as a jumping point for previously unknown young artists. Artists from prior First Look exhibitions include: Tamy Ben Tor (Zach Feuer), Francesca DiMatteo (Salon 94), Michael Brown (Yvon Lambert Gallery), Bryan Zanisnik (Sunday LES), Ryan Pierce (Elizabeth Leach Gallery), and Justin Allen (Robert Miller Gallery).

First Look III opens on Sunday, May 22, 2011 and will remain on view through July 24, 2011.

Opening Reception: Sunday, May 22 from 4 to 7pm

**** Performance by Artist Irvin Morazan will take place at 6pm on May 22nd**

Opening reception will include musical performances by Phineas and the Lonely Leaves (<http://www.lonelyleaves.com/>) and This Old Ghost (www.myspace.com/thisoldghost).

All events on Sunday, May 22nd are free and open to the public



Steven Chapman



Joseph Varas



Gabriel Dawe

For more information and/or images:

Jessica Denaro

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