MILWAUKEE INSTITUTE OF ART & DESIGN

MIAD exhibitions show Illustration's breadth and diversity: Kroninger and Society of Illustrators span decades and genres

For release: November 2, good through December 11

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Summary: Dual Exhibition: Stephen Kroninger! Experimental Collage Art from the 1980s and

Illustrators 52, Nov. 9 – Dec. 11, 2010; Thursday, Nov. 11, Kroninger Artist Talk, 5 p.m., Reception, 6 – 8 p.m. Frederick Layton Gallery, 273 E. Erie Street, Tues. – Sat.

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free. 414.847.3200 miad.edu



PRESS RELEASE

MILWAUKEE... A dual exhibition of graffiti-inspired collage art by internationally renowned illustrator Stephen Kroninger, and 40 incredible works selected by the Society of Illustrators showcase Illustration's diversity and breadth November 9 through December 11 at the Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design, Wisconsin's only independent, non-profit college of art and design.

Kroninger will give an artist's talk on Thursday, November 11, at 5 p.m., before an opening reception from 6 – 8 p.m. at MIAD's Third Ward campus, 273 Erie St.

"Kroninger! Experimental Collage Art from the 1980s" and the Society of Illustrators' "Illustrators 52" span decades of Illustration, and traditional and contemporary mediums from oil paint to photography and digital media. They are two of four Illustration exhibitions on view.

"As some of the most prominent visual communicators of our time, illustrators today know no limits to their art," says Christine Beetow, MIAD Associate Professor of Illustration, which is one of MIAD's largest design majors.

"Illustration is art for the living world, creating windows that allow people to see abstract ideas come to life, whether through advertising, videogames and t-shirt graphics, or magazine covers, children's books and films."

Credited with reviving collage art and compelling his audience to abandon preconceived notions of Illustration, Stephen Kroninger's work reflects his earliest influences: the street graffiti, jazz and hip-hop culture of New York City in the 1980s. On view with his seminal, large-scale works, which emphasize the many facets of Illustration, are early sketchbooks and recent artwork from Kroninger's long and diverse career.

Kroninger's photocollages have graced the cover of Time Magazine, and his editorial illustrations regularly appear in Time, Newsweek, The New Yorker and the New York Times, in addition to many international publications. Kroninger has also written and illustrated three award-winning books and produced short films. His work is in the permanent collection at MoMA and the National Portrait Gallery of the Smithsonian Institute.

Forty preeminent works selected from the Society of Illustrators' annual, juried exhibition – "Illustrators 52" – appear together with Kroninger's exhibition. The exhibition showcases both emerging and well-known talent in the genre, including such notable illustrators as Serge Bloch, Joseph Ciardiello, Jody Hewgill, Gary Kelley, Anita Kunz, Tim O'Brien and Yuko Shimizu. Their works span six categories: Advertising, Book, Editorial, Institutional, Sequential and Uncomissioned.

In conjunction with "Kroninger! Experimental Collage Art from the 1980s" and "Illustrators 52," MIAD is hosting two Illustration exhibits of local artists. "Milwaukee Area Children's Book Illustrators" is on view in the Entrance Gallery, with works by Linda Bleck, Bonnie Leick, Jeff Newman and Renee Graef, illustrator of the popular Kirsten series for American Girl, and MIAD faculty Christiane Grauert, Susan Estelle Kwas and Carol Schwartz. Rarely seen original artwork is on view side by side with the books in which the work appear.

(MORE)

"Tom Noffsinger: New Work" is also on view in the River Level Gallery, featuring the art of MIAD Professor of Illustration Tom Noffsinger.

"Together, the four exhibitions provide a survey of Illustration's most diverse tangents," says Director of Galleries Mark Lawson.

Alumni of MIAD's Illustration program exemplify this diversity. Comic book creator Rob Schrab (Illustration '92) has directed, produced and written for film and television, including co-writing the Oscar-nominated animated film "Monster House," and directing and producing two seasons of The Sarah Silverman Program on Comedy Central. He includes an Emmy among his prestigious awards.

More recently, Illustration alumni include Mark Holzer (Illustration '07), lead designer at Milwaukee's Center for BioMolecular Modeling, who designs interactive materials for science education. Jenny Kim '02 is graphic designer at Rishi Tea Company, Brianna MacWilliam '04 is Senior Rehabilitation Counselor at Lincoln Medical + Mental Health Center and Erica Lyn Huppe '06 is Scientific Illustrator at the Burpee Museum of Natural History.

Illustration alumni work in areas as varied as editorial illustration, cartooning, comic book design, interactive design, animation, game design, fashion design, film, television, video design, environmental graphic design, package design and publication design for prominent local and Fortune 500 companies.

Hi-resolution images, catalogs of the Kroninger and Illustrators 52 exhibitions, and bios of the area children's illustrators are available on the MIAD ftp site: http://snipurl.com/miadillustration

User: miadmedia Password: Media2010

To view a slideshow of images click here.

MIAD is Wisconsin's only independent, non-profit college of art and design offering the Bachelor of Fine Arts degreethe most highly regarded undergraduate degree in the visual arts that is accredited at the national level. The college's graduates are creative thinkers whose leadership skills make them uniquely suited to address our 21st century economic and societal challenges. With its students, graduates and faculty, MIAD plays a transformational role in education, culture and business in Milwaukee and beyond.