



FLATEN ART MUSEUM
stolaf.edu/collections/flaten

HOURS
Monday–Wednesday: 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
Thursday: 10 a.m.–8 p.m.
Friday: 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday: 2 p.m.–5 p.m.

Closed for Fall Break, October 16–19

CHRISTINE BAEUMLER, GUIDO ALVAREZ,
JIL EVANS, CHRIS LARSON, JILL EWALD

Also featuring 13 contemporary and historical prints on loan from the Minneapolis
Institute of Arts. A list of prints is available at stolaf.edu/collections/flaten.

THIS NATURE AND HUMAN HERE CONSCIOUSNESS NOW

SEPTEMBER 18 – OCTOBER 31, 2010

JIL EVANS

Jil Evans exhibits her paintings and prints nationally and internationally. Her work is in private and public collections across the country. She has received many grants, including the Jerome Foundation Grant, Arts Midwest, National Endowment for the Arts, two Minnesota State Arts Board grants, the Pew Grant to study and paint in Italy, and residencies at the American Academy in Rome and the Atlantic Center for the Arts. She currently lives in Minneapolis, where she maintains a painting studio and is a founding member of Form + Content Gallery.

“‘A New Book of Nature’ is an animation involving images of tension and conflict created by shadowed objects on the artist’s notebook. The images were captured on site in the Galapagos Islands.”

GUIDO ALVAREZ

Guido E. Alvarez earned his B.F.A. in design from Universidad del Azuay in Cuenca Ecuador, his hometown. He also holds an M.F.A. in visual communication and design from Virginia Commonwealth University, and he is currently a doctoral student in the media, art, and text program there. He works as an assistant professor of art and art history at St. Olaf College.

“I am engaged in a life-time battle against nobody. I want to demonstrate that reality is no longer a possibility but a mental construct mediated by technology. We, modern electronic humans, are not only incapable of perceiving the differences between the concepts of ‘here’ and ‘now’ but more importantly we do not need to touch a ‘this’ to perceive it as ‘real.’ ‘Temporal Flow’ will attempt to construct this reflection.”



St. Olaf College
1520 St. Olaf Avenue
Northfield, MN 55057

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SEPTEMBER 18 – OCTOBER 31

OPENING RECEPTION: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 6–8 P.M.

PANEL DISCUSSION: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 7 P.M., DITTMANN 305

“‘Nature and Human Consciousness’ from artistic, historical, philosophical, and religious points of view.” Participants: Exhibit artists, Assistant Professor of Religion Mara Benjamin, Associate Professor of Art History Matt Rohn, and Professor of Philosophy Charles Taliaferro

THIS HERE NOW: NATURE AND HUMAN CONSCIOUSNESS is an exhibit of historical and contemporary art that addresses questions of deep philosophical and religious significance: What is consciousness and meaning? Are they reflections or clues of some deeper, meaningful or purposive reality (perhaps God) or are they accidental bi-products of an impersonal, mechanical reality not driven by purpose and meaning? Is consciousness itself only a complex physico-chemical process or is it some new reality that is more than physical processes? Some of the great world religions (Judaism, Christianity, Islam, some Hindu traditions, and more) see the natural world in purposive terms and recognize subjectivity and experience as unique realities. While some philosophers embrace reductive forms of materialism, others counter that subjectivity, experience, and purposiveness are foundational, irreducible realities. Such debate forms an important part of the contemporary conversation about science and philosophy, religion and the liberal arts.



CHRISTINE BAEUMLER

Christine Baeumler earned her B.A. from Yale University and her M.F.A. from Indiana University in Bloomington. She is currently an associate professor in the Department of Art at the University of Minnesota, and the artist in residence for Saint Paul Watershed districts through Public Art Saint Paul.

“My travels to the Amazon rainforest, the Galapagos Islands, and to Charles Darwin’s home in Kent, UK, have inspired artwork that shadows naturalist explorers of the past and draws connections between the diminishment of ecosystems and species with the extinction of human experience of these environments.”

JILL EWALD

Jill Ewald earned her B.A. from St. Olaf College and her M.F.A. from Vermont College. Since the mid-1990s, she has explored how to make visual interior and exterior human experiences and connections. She is the director of St. Olaf’s Flaten Art Museum.

“This work reflects my experience sailing and moving through light and space above the Arctic Circle in the midnight sun. It explores the sublime — both the beauty and the danger of life; it questions our perceptions about the reality of experience.”

CHRIS LARSON

Chris Larson was born in 1966 in St. Paul, Minnesota. Since earning his M.F.A. from Yale University in 1992, he has exhibited widely throughout the United States, Europe, and Argentina. Today his sculptures, films, and photographs are collected and recognized around the world. He has received the Bush Foundation Artist Fellowship, the McKnight Foundation Artist Fellowship, the Jerome Foundation Fellowship, and the Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Fellowship. Larson is currently represented by Magnus Müller in Berlin and is an assistant professor at the University of Minnesota.

“I build objects/worlds/spaces that look familiar but have been severely affected, disfigured, or transformed by something such as nature, location, cause and effect, and/or knowing neglect. In my work, I hope to dissolve the boundaries between human and machine, purpose and absurdity, and the possibility of spiritual transcendence versus mechanistic determinism.”