



Friday, November 19, 2004

## Super Sized exhibit opens at Meadow Brook Theatre

By **Dawn Pauli**, contributing writer

Detroit painter Douglas Bulka, paper care specialist at the Detroit Institute of Arts, is joining forces with **Meadow Brook Art Gallery** (MBAG) to present "Super Sized: Drawn to Completeness," which consists of large scale drawings from Michigan and New York, featuring the work of eight contemporary artists.

The exhibit opens Saturday, Nov. 20, and runs through Sunday, Dec. 19. The opening reception is Nov. 20 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Dick Goody, assistant professor of art and director of MBAG, is striving to expose students in the new studio art program to a broad variety of contemporary art practices exploring drawing, painting, photography and video art.

"We want our art students to have as much exposure as possible to all types of art," Goody said. "When Douglas Bulka approached me to work on this exhibit, I was delighted. He has handled thousands of drawings from every epoch and his level of knowledge about contemporary drawing is encyclopedic."

For more than 25 years, Bulka has worked painstakingly with the drawings in the DIA collections, handling thousands of drawings from every period.

"We often see large paintings but not so much large drawings. Drawing, which is so fundamental to the visual arts, is often considered something preliminary, something leading up to a finished work of art, but here drawing takes center stage," Goody said.

Goody describes the artists in Super Sized as "heavy hitters." Of the eight artists, five are from Michigan and three are from New York. The artists include Susan Campbell, Larry Cressman, Tony Hepburn, John Newman, Gordon Newton, John Richardson, Joseph Stashkevetch and Stephen Talasnik.

"These eight draftsmen combine their highly personalized mark making, with a commitment and insistence on the use of large-scale to present us with drawings that are able to take our breath away," Bulka said. "This complement of Michigan and New York artists provides the Detroit community a rare moment to get very close to a special group of artists who have been given both the wonderful gift of drawing and the ability to have truly mastered the media."

Most of the artists are teachers as well, with positions at the Center for Creative Studies, Wayne State University, Cranbrook and University of Michigan.

"The really exciting thing about this show is the scale and variety of the work," Goody said. "Interestingly, this exhibition features artists from several different disciplines. There's a 20-foot long scroll drawing by printmaker Susan Goethel Campbell and 73 drawings by sculptor/painter Gordon Newton. There are huge drawings by sculptors, which give a fascinating glimpse into their process. In a sense, they're a two-dimensional equivalent of their sculpture, but they are also powerful works of art in their own right. This is going to be a memorable exhibition."

The gallery, located in Wilson Hall across from the main entrance of Meadow Brook Theatre, is open every day, except Monday, from noon to 5 p.m. and during performances at **Meadow Brook Theatre**. For more information about the exhibit, visit the **Meadow Brook Art Gallery** Web site or contact the gallery at (248) 370-3005.

### SUMMARY

Detroit painter Douglas Bulka, paper care specialist at the Detroit Institute of Arts, is joining forces with Meadow Brook Art Gallery (MBAG) to present "Super Sized: Drawn to Completeness," which consists of large scale drawings from Michigan and New York, featuring the work of eight contemporary artists. The exhibit opens Saturday, Nov. 20, and runs through Sunday, Dec. 19. The opening reception is Nov. 20 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Created by CareTech Administrator (webservices@caretechsolutions.com) on Friday, November 19, 2004  
Modified by CareTech Administrator (webservices@caretechsolutions.com) on Friday, November 19, 2004

Article Start Date: Friday, November 19, 2004