



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 29, 2014

**NEW YORK ACADEMY OF ART 2014 MFA THESIS EXHIBITION  
May 20 – June 7, 2014**

**Opening Reception: Tuesday, May 20, 6-9pm**

New York, NY – Join us on **Tuesday, May 20** to celebrate the opening of the **New York Academy of Art's 2014 MFA Thesis Exhibition** from **6-8pm** at **Wilkinson Gallery, 111 Franklin Street**. The exhibition, curated by Dean of Academic Affairs Peter Drake and Faculty Chair Wade Schuman, encompasses a wide range of ideas and methods from fifty artists-in-residence graduating from the rigorous MFA program this May. Featuring new paintings, sculptures and drawings from our distinct group of artists, the exhibition aims not only to represent the thrilling culmination of two years of exploration and intensive practice but also signify what's to come in the next phase of their promising careers.

As no two experiences from the Academy's program are alike, neither are the artistic visions of the artists. For their individual thesis projects, each artist will present work that represents one to two years of critical thinking, experimentation and mastery. The resulting exhibition, showcasing the varying interpretations of the Academy's education in practice, will feature conceptually aware, technically informed works by artists who have their fingers on the pulse of contemporary figurative art.

The exhibition will remain on view through June 7 and will be open to the public from 2-8pm daily. A catalogue will be available featuring an essay by independent curator and art critic Lilly Wei.

For more information, please visit [nyaa.edu](http://nyaa.edu) and contact [exhibitions@nyaa.edu](mailto:exhibitions@nyaa.edu)

**About the New York Academy of Art's MFA Program**

The New York Academy of Art is an accredited two-year graduate program that combines intensive technical training in the fine arts with active critical discourse. The Academy believes that rigorously trained artists are best able to realize their artistic vision. Therefore, Academy students are taught traditional methods and techniques and encouraged to use these skills to make vital contemporary art.

**About the New York Academy of Art**

The New York Academy of Art was founded in 1982 by artists, scholars and patrons of the arts, including Andy Warhol, to foster a resurgence in the training of figurative and representational art. The Academy has since developed into a non-profit cultural institution housing the nation's first graduate school of figurative art, a continuing education program, the region's most in-depth figurative art library, a robust exhibition and programming schedule open to the public, and iconic New York City events such as Take Home a Nude and Tribeca Ball.

**Media Contact**

Folake Ologunja, Public Relations Director  
New York Academy of Art  
[fologunja@nyaa.edu](mailto:fologunja@nyaa.edu)  
(212) 842-5975