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Cultural Affairs Distinguished Lecture Series

Cultural Affairs Committee

4-2010

## Without Borders 7 Contemporary Arts Festival

Department of New Media

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# CULTURAL AFFAIRS/DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES <u>GRANT APPLICATION</u>

- I. Applicant/Organization: Dr. Owen F. Smith/Department of New Media and Intermedia MFA Program
- II. a. Responsible Organization Officer: Dr. Owen F. Smith
  - b. Title: Without Borders VII and visiting artists program
  - c. Campus Address (include Email and Telephone): 5713 Chadbourne Hall, Rm 404 Orono, ME 04469 (207) 581-4389, owen.smith@umit.maine.edu
- III. Summary of program requiring funding (title; featured artist(s); speaker(s); scheduled date(s):

Program: Intermedia: Without Borders 7 Contemporary Arts Festival, Lord Hall Galleries

**Dates:** August 21<sup>st,</sup> 2010 / October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Intermedia, is the seventh iteration of the annual exhibition and festival, Without Borders Contemporary Arts Festival. The exhibition will take place in the Lord Hall Galleries from August through September of 2010. Presenting the work of UMaine Intermedia MFA graduate students as well as collaborating artists from around the country, this series highlights a wide range of work focused on exploring the spaces between culture, art, science, and technology. The festival will focus on artistic forms that utilize technology and analog materials and processes in either production or presentation of the work. It will include a main exhibition centered around a variety of digital forms, installation sculptures, photos, prints, and various conceptual forms that are produced through collaborative processes, as well as performances, live music and video screenings, all of which serve to create a daily fertile exchange of creative ideas and artistic explorations. This year we will extend the festival by inviting some of the artists to come to campus to do lectures, workshops and/or critiques in the first part of the Fall Semester.

Information on previous Without Borders is viewable at: http://www.withoutbordersfest.org/links.html

In general this exhibition and associated lectures, performances and other presentations, focus on the possibilities of working creatively in the spaces or gaps "between" media, thus the term Intermedia. The title for this year's exhibition, Intermedia, is a reference to the ideas of the writer and critic Dick Higgins who felt that the most "interesting" new work being done was always between what was seen as traditional media. The show will highlight a variety of artists' work that emphasizes hybrid forms of art such as time-based media, digital and video art, installation, performance art, artists' books and multiples, community-based social art practices, conceptual art, net art, generative art forms (algorithmic art forms), and other new forms produced by artists associated with the University and artists from around the country and the world. In addition to these works, the festival will present a juried selection of contemporary video works from Maine, around the US and from Europe. This video series will also be published as a DVD for distribution with the exhibit catalog.

This year's Without Borders will again feature the production of a printed catalog to document the events and exhibition, as well as extend the range of the works presented, well beyond the geographic region of UMaine, and the time frame of the physical exhibit. The catalog will be a two-part publication. Part one will be a 46 page, coil bound, 9x7 full color catalog and part two will be a DVD of Audio, film and performance pieces. Part one will also include two essays, one on Intermedia and the history of the concept and one introducing the topic of the show and contextualizing the works presented in it.

We will be initiating a new extension of the festival by inviting two of the exhibiting artists to come to Orono in September and October to work with students, do a public lecture and other educational activities such as critiques, workshops and the like. The two artists we will bring to campus are Reza Safavi and Owen Mundy.

Reza Safavi, born in Canada in 1977, received an MFA in Digital Arts from the University of Oregon and a BFA from the University of Victoria. His work has recently been exhibited/screened at the Forum des Images (France), Apexart (New York), WSU Museum of Art (Washington) and the Prichard Gallery (Idaho). He is a recent recipient of an Artist Trust GAP grant. He has been living in Washington for the last 3 years and is Assistant Professor in the Department of Art at Washington State University, Pullman. His current work examines how the presence of technology in daily life shapes human experience: our perceptions, social behavior, economics, entertainment and the way we meet our basic needs. He uses video, photography, sound, sculpture and digital devices to create interactive experiences that foreground the interface between people and machines. Reza will be giving an artist's talk, a day of consultations with students and a half-day workshop on interactivity. For more on Reza and his work see his web site at: <a href="http://www.hi-reza.com/">http://www.hi-reza.com/</a>.

Owen Mundy is an artist who works in photography, video, and digital media. He completed the U.S. Navy's Defense Photography program (1994), has a BFA in Photography from Indiana University (2002), and an MFA in Visual Arts from the University of California, San Diego (2008). He is currently based in Tallahassee, FL and is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Art at Florida State University. Owen's work has been presented in numerous exhibitions including solo shows such as, You Never Close Your Eyes Anymore, at the AC Institute [Direct Chapel], New York, NY, 2010 and Active Duty: New Work by Owen Mundy, California Center for the Arts, Escondido, CA He has given numerous talks and presentations such as the paper "Intervention and the Internet: New Forms of Public Practice," at the Inter-Society for the Electronic Arts (ISEA) Conference, Belfast, U.K. in 2009. More of his activities and samples of his work can be seen on his web site at: <a href="http://www.owenmundy.com">http://www.owenmundy.com</a>. Owen will be giving a public talk on his work and cultural interventions as a creative practice as well as doing student critiques and visiting NMD 100 to share his work to first year students.

Without Borders 7 Contemporary Arts Festival, Intermedia, has numerous and wide-ranging benefits to the Departments of Art, and New Media, the Intermedia MFA Program, the School of Performing Arts, the University of Maine and the community of central Maine that include but are not limited to: exposure to new and alternative forms of contemporary art, providing opportunities to experience work produced by people from different ethnic, cultural, and critical backgrounds, and opportunities for our students to experience and interact with exciting forms of contemporary art. The festival also aims to serve as a catalyst to arouse wider public interest in the arts and to encourage artistic dialogue and cultural exchange. Without Borders 7 has real potential to act as a stimulus for artistic innovation and provide a pivotal springboard for many artistic careers, in the State of Maine and beyond.

IV. Budget Proposal Form - see attached budget.

Funding for current application is contingent upon submission of reports for any previous grant awards, including final budget and attendance figures.

SMEND COMPLETED APPLICATION VIA EMAIL TO:

wlegere@maine.edu

### Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Fund Budget Proposal Form

Applicant/Organization: New Media Department and Intermedia MFA Program

Responsible Officer: Dr.

Dr. Owen F. Smith

Event Title:

Without Borders VII: Intermedia Contemporary Art Festival

Event Date:

8-21-10 / 10-25-10

Total Program Budget:	\$10,375.00
Total Amount Committed by Applicant Organization:	\$5,325.00
Department of New Media	\$1,000.00
MFA Program	\$4,325.00
Amount Requested from CA/DLS Committee:	\$5,050.00*
Revenues, if any, expected (fees, ticket sales):	\$0,000.00

### Program Budget

CADLS	Other
\$400.00	\$1300.00
\$600.00	\$600.00
\$1000.00	\$300.00
\$400.00	\$300.00
\$650.00	\$650.00
\$500.00	\$300.00
\$ 0.00	\$250.00
\$1000.00	\$1055.00
\$ 0.00	\$ 570.00
\$500.00	\$ 0.00
	\$400.00 \$600.00 \$1000.00 \$400.00 \$650.00 \$500.00 \$ 0.00 \$1000.00 \$ 0.00

Total Expenses from CA/DLS funds: \$5,050.00\*

Total Expenses from other funds:

\$5325.00

(These two totals should equal the "Total Program Budget" listed above)

9/08

<sup>\*</sup>These amounts should be identical and should not exceed 50% of the total program/event budget. Please note that CA/DLS funds may not be used for receptions and do not normally fund UM employee wages. If an award is granted based on this proposal, reimbursement of expenses will not exceed the total CA/DLS request and will be limited to the types of expenditures outlined above.

## Cultural Affairs Committee

and
Distinguished Lecture Series
c/o Wanda Madden-Carr
201 Alumni Hall
University of Maine

April 9, 2010

To: Owen Smith

From: Dorothy Croall & Dan Sandweiss, Co-Chairs

On behalf of the Cultural Affairs Committee and Distinguished Lecture Series, it gives us great pleasure to inform you that your proposal, Without Borders 7 Contemporary Arts Festival, has been awarded \$5050.00.

Please contact Wanda Madden-Carr at 1-1516 to discuss the procedures in place for the submission of financial expenses related to this award at your earliest convenience.

The following acknowledgement is required on <u>ALL</u> promotional material: *This event was supported in part by a grant from the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series.* 

Attached is a form for your use to summarize the benefits derived from this grant. This form should be submitted within 30 days after the conclusion of the event. Timely submission of your summary will be considered as part of any future funding requests.

The Cultural Affairs Committee members congratulate you and wish you much success on this project.

cc: Velma Figgins