BFA FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT FACT SHEET

The BFA Fine Arts Department at SVA prepares students to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing field head on. With a faculty of approximately 90 active artists, critics and curators, a distinguished roster of guest lecturers and various exhibition opportunities, the department offers direct and multifaceted engagement with the largest art community in the world. From coursework in anatomy, figure drawing and color theory, to interdisciplinary workshops in digital and photo-based media, the curriculum provides the broadest possible means of expression. A digital lab with state-of-the art recording, editing and projection technology, fully-equipped printmaking facilities and sculpture studios with computerized (CNC) milling machines are among the department’s many resources.

During their first year at SVA, students take a general survey of world art and literature along with six-hour studio classes in a variety of media, which are designed to build essential technical skills while allowing for experimentation. Class critiques develop communication skills. In the second and third years, students take up photography, sculpture, printmaking, video art and digital narrative. In the fourth year, they are given their own studio space, where they meet with a special team of faculty members for discussion, critique and weekly feedback.

2011 - 2012 student population
313 matriculated students

Department chair
Suzanne Anker, artist and theoretician

Some notable faculty members
Jan Avgikos, Alice Aycock, Beth B, Lynda Benglis, Patty Chang, Nancy Chunn, Stephen Ellis, Suzan Etkin, Andrew Ginzel, Charlotta Kotik, Tim Rollins, David Ross, Gary Simmons, Sue Williams, Jackie Winsor

Some notable alumni
Rosson Crowe, Barnaby Furnas, Rodney Alan Greenblat, Toland Grinnell, Keith Haring, Joseph Kosuth, Robert Melee, Elizabeth Peyton, Alexis Rockman, Tim Rollins, Kenny Scharf, Amy Sillman, Amy Wilson

Student exhibitions
Fine arts students have the opportunity to exhibit work at one of SVA’s two on-campus galleries as well as the Visual Arts Gallery, located in the Chelsea district of Manhattan. In addition, for one evening each fall and spring, the BFA Fine Arts Department invites the public to view artists’ work in their individual studio environments. Students gain experience in selecting and preparing art for installation and receive valuable feedback about their work from fellow artists, critics, collectors, dealers and other members of the city’s art community.

For further information, visit our Web site at www.sva.edu.