S V A School of VISUAL ARTS

MFA ILLUSTRATION AS VISUAL ESSAY DEPARTMENT FACT SHEET

The MFA in Illustration as Visual Essay is designed to maximize students' opportunities as figurative artists, from the conventional gallery wall to the full range of 21st-century media. The program fuses the development of creative thinking with technical and communication skills. Additional focus is placed on best practices in navigating the visual art marketplace while empowering students to choose making art as a way of life.

The two-year, 60-credit curriculum capitalizes on students' technique and promotes the development of a strong personal viewpoint. The first year provides technical skills in creative writing, computer illustration and experimental drawing. In the second year, students focus on a thesis project to produce graphic novels, comics, illustrated books, children's books or a series of paintings.

2011 – 2012 student population
38 matriculated students

Department chair
Marshall Arisman, illustrator and painter

Faculty members
N.C. Christopher Couch, Gregory Crane, Carol Fabricatore, Mirko Ilic, Viktor Koen, Matthew B. Richmond, David Sandlin, Carl Nicholas Titolo and Michele Zackheim

Some notable alumni
Kelynn Alder, Gil Ashby, Jonathan Bean, Sungyoon Choi, Viktor Deak, Eric Dinyer, John Ferry, Nathan Fox, Douglas Fraser, Edward Hemingway, Garnet Henderson a.k.a. Edmund Guy, John Hendrix, Olivier Kugler, Dom Lee, Tao Nyeu, Michael Paraskevas, J. Brian Pinkney, Andy Rash, Lauren Redniss, Stephen Savage, Yuko Shimizu, Jeffrey Smith, Sara Varon, Riccardo Vecchio, Annabelle Jasmin Verhoye

Student exhibitions
There is an annual exhibition of books written and illustrated by first-year students and an annual exhibition of work completed in the Book Seminar class. Second-year students present their thesis projects each spring in a gallery exhibition.

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

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