

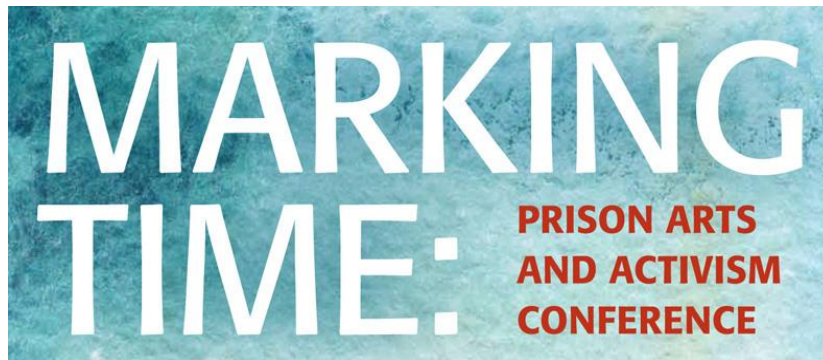
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**Note:** Photos related to this release may be downloaded from:

<http://irw.rutgers.edu/programs/199>

## Institute for Research on Women to host Groundbreaking Prison Arts Conference and Exhibition at Rutgers, October 8-10, 2014



**(New Brunswick, NJ, September 10, 2014)** The Institute for Research on Women (IRW) announced today that it will hold its *Marking Time: Prison Arts and Activism Conference and Exhibition* at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ on **October 8 – 10, 2014**. The conference, the first of its kind, will bring together scholars, writers, artists, and activists from across the nation and from overseas to explore the cultural aspects of imprisonment through a focus on art produced by prisoners and in response to mass incarceration.

“From photographs taken in visiting rooms to poetry and theater, art serves as an expressive tool, a means of political protest, and a creative survival strategy for many prisoners,” said Dr. Nicole R. Fleetwood, the conference lead organizer who is writing a book about art made in prisons. The conference includes three days of panels, workshops, lectures, poetry readings, performances and presentations by artists, activists, scholars, and community groups. Reginald Dwayne Betts, poet and author of *A Questions of Freedom: A Memoir of Learning, Survival, and Coming of Age in Prison* and *Shahid Reads His Own Palm*, will give the keynote address. Other artists and speakers include: David Adler, Regina Austin, Pete Brook, Russell Craig, Michelle Handelman, Ronak Kapadia, Phyllis Kornfeld, Jesse Krimes, Deborah Luster, Ojore Lutalo, Jaso Nomo, Lisa Jesse Peterson, Gilberto Rivera, Jackie Sumell, Kevin Veal, and participants from Alabama Prison Arts and Education Program, Prison Creative Arts Project at the University of Michigan, PUEG Center at UNAM (National University of Mexico), William James Association, and many others.

In addition to the conference, IRW is organizing a curated exhibition of art by current and formerly incarcerated individuals, as well as works made in collaboration with non-incarcerated artists and community organizations. IRW has partnered with **Alfa Art Gallery, Rutgers Art Library, Eagleton**



**Institute of Politics, Heldrich Hotel, New Brunswick Public Library, and the Zimmerli Art Museum at Rutgers** to display art in the City of New Brunswick for most of the month of October. A range of photography, painting, video, and sculpture will be on view. The exhibitions seek to examine, explore, and highlight the visual art and practices emerging inside prisons and about prison life.

“There is a huge gap between the dominant public perception of prisoners – as lacking in value – and their humanity and productivity, as individuals who dream and envision brighter futures and as cherished ones whose families love and care for them.” said Dr. Fleetwood. “Prison art helps to challenge the dehumanization of the incarcerated.”

The conference and exhibitions are free and open to the public. Please see the attached calendar for the *Marking Time* conference and exhibitions schedule. For more information, visit [irw.rutgers.edu](http://irw.rutgers.edu) or email the Institute for Research on Women at [rutgersprisonarts@gmail.com](mailto:rutgersprisonarts@gmail.com).

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## LIST OF EVENTS

### Conference Schedule Highlights

The complete schedule and location code are available at <http://irv.rutgers.edu/programs/spring-colloquia>

#### **Oct 8, 2014**

9:30am-4:00pm: Panels and workshops by various scholars, artists, activists, and educators

5:30pm-6:30pm: Artist Talk: Jesse Krimes at Zimmerli Art Museum at Rutgers—New Brunswick

7:30pm-9:00pm: Keynote Speaker Dwayne Reginald Betts at Kirkpatrick Chapel

#### **Oct 9, 2014**

9:30am-5:30pm: Panels and workshops by various scholars, artists, activists, and educators

5:45pm-6:45pm: Reception and Networking event at New Brunswick Public Library

7:00-9:00pm: Artist Talk: Russell Craig, Dean Gillispie, Deborah Luster at Alfa Art Gallery

#### **Oct 10, 2014**

9:30am-4:00pm: Panels and workshops by various scholars, artists, activists, and educators

6:30pm-9:00pm: Evening Performances

*Tales from the Cell*, Mountainview Program

*The Peculiar Patriot*, Liza Jessie Peterson

*Women on Our Own*, acapella group of formerly incarcerated musicians

### Art Exhibition Dates:

#### **Alfa Art Gallery**

*Prison Obscura Exhibition*

In collaboration with Cantor Fitzgerald Gallery and Campus Exhibitions and curator Matthew Seamus Callinan

Dates: Oct 7, 2014 - Nov 1, 2014

Gallery Hours: Tues- Sat 11am-6pm

Free Admission

#### **Art Library-Rutgers**

Paintings, backdrops and photographs by a range of artists

Dates: Oct 1, 2014 – Oct 31, 2014

Hours: Mon - Thurs 8:30 am - 10 pm; Fri - 8:30 am - 5 pm; Sat 10 am - 5 pm; Sun 2 pm - 10 pm

Free Admission

#### **Eagleton Lawn**

Mark Strandquist's *Windows from Prison* (public art exhibition)

Dates: Oct 7 - 26, 2014

Hours: all day

Free Admission

#### **Heldrich Hotel**

Paintings, prints, and photographs by a range of artists

Dates: Oct 1- Oct 31, 2014

Gallery Hours: Normal business hours

Free Admission



**New Brunswick Public Library**

Paintings, three-dimensional art, and photographs by a range of artists

Dates: Oct 1-Oct 26, 2014

Hours: Mon – Thurs 10 am to 9 pm; Fri & Sat 10 am to 5 pm; Sun 1 pm to 5 pm

Free Admission

**Zimmerli Art Museum at Rutgers-New Brunswick**

***Jesse Krimes: Apokaluptein:16389067***

Dates: Sept 2, 2014- Dec 14, 2014

Museum Hours: Tues- Fri 10am-4:30pm; Sat-Sun noon-5pm; Art After Hours: First Tuesdays (open to the public), Tues, Oct 7, 5pm-9pm

Free Admission