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**GROUP EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS BY WOMEN WILL BE DISPLAYED
AT RAMAPO COLLEGE**

MAHWAH – An exhibition of paintings by women artists, “*Affinities: Painting in Abstraction*,” will be presented in the Kresge Gallery on the campus of Ramapo College of New Jersey in November.

Represented in the exhibition will be a variety of approaches to abstract painting by eight women artists. While the paintings are seemingly disparate in structure, each exemplifies common attributes made visible through the artist’s engagement with process and practice. Each painting pushes the media through an active investigation and dissection of abstraction.

Paintings by Jacqueline Humphries, Jutta Koether, Suzanne McClelland, Rebecca Morris, Carrie Moyer, Dona Nelson, Amy Sillman and Laurel Sparks will be on view. “The artists suggest a trajectory that redefines, empowers and interrogates definitions of abstract painting,” said curator Kate McNamara.

“The sheer number of women who currently practice abstract painting and the undeniable quality of work being produced, force me to consider what abstract painting has to do with modernism, history and feminism.”

(more)

McNamara was the winner of The Ramapo Curatorial Prize, awarded each year to a second year graduate student at Bard College's Center for Curatorial Studies. Now in its 11th year, the Ramapo Curatorial Prize is selected by the Visual Arts faculty at the College. The winning curator organizes and presents an exhibition in the Ramapo College galleries.

McNamara is curatorial assistant at P.S. 1 Contemporary Art Center in Queens, New York and co-founder of Cleopatra's, a Brooklyn-based project space. Recent exhibitions include "*Ode to Joy: Zak Kitnick*," Cleopatra's, 2008; "*This is the Way the World Is*," Cleopatra's, 2008; "*Affinities: Painting in Abstraction*," The Hessel Museum at Bard College, 2007 and "*from Witness*," The Hessel Museum, 2006.

This program is made possible, in part, by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Pascal Gallery is located in the Berrie Center for Performing and Visual Arts at Ramapo College. Hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 1 to 5 p.m. and Wednesday, 1 to 7 p.m. For more information, call Sydney Jenkins, gallery director, 201.684.7147.

An opening reception and curator's talk will be given Wednesday, November 5, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Kresge Gallery. The exhibition runs November 6 through December 10.

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