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October 23, 2012

Ramapo Curatorial Prize Exhibition Features Theme of Interruptions

(MAHWAH, NJ) - The 2012 Ramapo Curatorial Prize exhibition "A study of interruptions" opens at Ramapo College on Wednesday, October 31 in the Pascal Gallery. The opening reception will be from 5 to 7 p.m. A curator's talk by Natasha Marie Llorens will be presented at 6:30 p.m., followed by a performance by artist Chris Domenick.

The Ramapo Curatorial Prize is awarded each year to a second-year graduate student at the Center for Curatorial Studies at Bard College. The 2011 winner was Natasha Marie Llorens.

This innovative exhibition poses a number of questions. What roles do the story and the picture play in our encounter with the world? What if these are broken, stuttered out, or haltingly interrupted? Do they still serve us as faithful representations of what is, if we cannot count on their wholeness or their seamlessness? What is the use of a narrative that betrays its vulnerability to the course of time, to accident or to failure?

According to Llorens, "The seven artists in 'A study of interruptions' assume that the moments when a story fails to hold together allow for a synthesis between a picture of the world and the world we are living in. An interruption is a brief interval during which agency is possible."

The exhibition features works in a variety of media including video and film projection, works on paper, sound art and installation. Exhibiting artists are Domenick, Kerry Downey, Leila Hekmat, Naeem Mohaiemen, Hong-An Truong, Katayoun Varizi and Mary Wailing Blackburn.

Llorens is an independent curator based in New York who focuses on practices that engage the political nature of representation. Recent projects include "In Defense" for Entrée in Bergen, Norway and "Troubling Space" at the Zabłudowicz Collection in London. She is a graduate of the Center for Curatorial Studies at Bard College and a Ph.D. candidate in Art History at Columbia University.

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 Angelica and Russ 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 201.684.7147.

For a photo, please click on this link:

http://www.ramapo.edu/news/pressreleases/2012/images/PRimage_AStudyOfInteruptions.tif

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as sixth in the Best Regional Universities North category for public institutions, Ramapo College of New Jersey is sometimes mistaken for a private college. This is, in part, due to its unique interdisciplinary academic structure, its size of approximately 6,008 students and its pastoral setting in the foothills of the Ramapo Mountains on the New Jersey/New York border.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include nursing and social work. In addition, Ramapo College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels. The College also offers five graduate programs as well as articulated programs with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, New York Chiropractic College, New York University College of Dentistry, SUNY State College of Optometry and New York College of Podiatric Medicine.