

PRESS RELEASE

1st September 2012

MID AiR**PRIVATE VIEW & PRESS CALL****EXHIBITION****LOCATION****Artists in Residence - Exhibition****Thursday 11th October 2012, 5.15pm-8.00pm****9th October to 18th October 2012 10.00am-5.30pm****Grove atrium, Hendon Campus, University of
Middlesex, The Burroughs, London NW4 4BT**

Middlesex University is proud to present *MID AiR*, a group exhibition by our current Artists in Residence showcasing their individual practices in the Atrium space of the brand new Grove building at Hendon campus. *MID AiR* presents the work of 8 Artists in Residence, ***Matt Dennis, Joanna Hill, Kate Johnson, Ben Jonson, Laura Liverani, Giulia Ricci, Elinor Voytal and Hannah Westwood*** each hailing from varied creative disciplines of Graphic Design, Printmaking, Fine Art, Film, Spatial Design, Photography, Jewellery and Textile Design. The show will offer visitors the chance to experience a selection of each artist's work created through the residency and within the artist's past and present practice. *MID AiR* will showcase each Artist in Residence at an integral point of the residency, being half way through a two year programme of personal exploration, research and experimentation.

As well as showcasing the outstanding work of the artists in residence *MID AiR* aims to create a dialogue with Middlesex University students as a presentation of the professional and creative practice and journey most students will embark on after study. In order to support this dialogue a series of short films exploring each artist's practice will be shown within the exhibition and online platforms. These short films have been commissioned by Middlesex University's Art and Design Department and will be created by students on the media courses.

About to move into its fifth successful year, the Artists in Residence scheme has been running at Middlesex University since October 2008. Through the scheme, Middlesex has given the traditional Artist in Residence model a new twist. In the past, an artist was often literally 'resident' in a studio, working on their own pieces, but cost and space issues in many schools mean this model has decreased in popularity. Middlesex's new approach bases the artists in workshops with the students, where they can offer students added guidance and advice on developing their skills and techniques alongside developing their own practice.

Programme Leader Nancy Slonims talks about the residency programming explaining: "*We've had interest from many very well-qualified and interesting artists and they are a fantastic resource. They are explorative, and experimental and it's great seeing them discussing work with the students. Most of the artists come from an academic environment which is very useful, they know our world but can also offer a different perspective, giving students a taste of an artist's working world. I really like the fact that we're helping emerging artists to get established...we benefit from the interesting things they produce – it keeps the dream alive!*"

Map <http://www.mdx.ac.uk/aboutus/Location/hendon/index.aspx>

Blog <http://airmiddlesexuniversity.blogspot.co.uk>

If you would like further information about the project or high resolution images please contact Hannah Westwood via email hwestwood@hotmail.co.uk or call 07711219030