

For Immediate Release

**PRESS RELEASE**

August 24, 2005

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[www.bu.edu/ART](http://www.bu.edu/ART)

## **Resurfaced**

September 9- October 30, 2005

*Opening Reception Thursday, September 8, 2005, 6-8:00 p.m.*

**\*\*\*What constitutes a painting in the wake of the postmodern period?\*\*\***

*Boston---* The Boston University Art Gallery exhibition *Resurfaced*, curated by Joshua Buckno with Stephanie Inagaki, asks: what happens when painting departs from the modernist square canvas format and extends into the third dimension, the realm traditionally reserved for sculpture? Like Pablo Picasso, Robert Rauschenberg, Ellsworth Kelly and other pioneering twentieth century artists, the seven artists included in *Resurfaced*—**Sam Cady, Sam Gilliam, Jennifer Riley, Gina Ruggeri, Katy Stone, Bill Thompson, and Roger Tibbetts**—continue to blur the boundaries between painting and sculpture through their use of various materials and methods. By redefining the painting surface with the use of both flexible and rigid supports; employing unexpected materials, such as Mylar, resin, and epoxy; and developing new approaches to canvas structures, these artists create hybrid art objects located at the intersection of painting and sculpture. These works inhabit space in a manner unlike conventional square painting. Yet the presence of the painting surface remains a predominant characteristic so that the burden of defining the objects as either painting or sculpture is inevitable and unavoidable.

Although each artist in the exhibition employs distinctive methods, two characteristic ways of expanding the painting surface into the third dimension emerge in *Resurfaced*: one focused on materiality and one conceptual. The more material concern involves the manipulation of preconceived notions of painterly space in the service of both abstraction and realism. Sam Gilliam and Katy Stone create abstract works that literally project from the wall, moving beyond the confines of the flat painting surface, the hallmark of modern abstraction. Working in a different aesthetic mode, Sam Cady and Gina Ruggeri use the shaped edge of the painting surface to accentuate the imagery in their hyperrealistic still life paintings thus further problematizing the mimetic character of painting. In comparison, Jennifer Riley, Roger Tibbetts and Bill Thompson address conceptual concerns of painting. They employ new materials and methods as a means to explore

issues of visual perception within the third dimension through experimentations in painting surface, color, and perspective.

## **PUBLIC PROGRAMMING**

### **OPENING RECEPTION**

**Thursday, September 8, 6 – 8 p.m.**

**At the Gallery**

### **GALLERY TALK**

Joshua Buckno, exhibition curator and Co-Director of the Nielsen Gallery, Boston, will discuss the exhibitions images and themes.

**Wednesday, September 28, 6 p.m.**

**At the Gallery**

### **GALLERY TALK**

Gina Ruggeri, artist, will lead an informal gallery talk and discuss the context of her work in depth.

**TBD. Please visit [www.bu.edu/art](http://www.bu.edu/art) and click on the “events” page for date and time.**

**At the Gallery**

### **TOURS**

Please check our website for a detailed schedule of student docent tours led by the undergraduate art history department at Boston University throughout the fall semester at [www.bu.edu/art](http://www.bu.edu/art).

**At the Gallery**

## **IMAGES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**

Please call the gallery or visit the BU Art Gallery website at [www.bu.edu/ART](http://www.bu.edu/ART) for events and programming information during the season. All exhibitions and events are free to the public.

### **Information**

Boston University Art Gallery  
855 Commonwealth Avenue  
Boston, MA 02215  
TEL (617) 353-3329  
FAX (617) 353-4509

Gallery Hours  
Tuesday-Friday 10am –5pm  
Saturday & Sunday 1 – 5 pm

[www.bu.edu/ART](http://www.bu.edu/ART)

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The **Boston University Art Gallery** (BUAG) is a non-profit art gallery geared toward an interdisciplinary interpretation of art, and committed to a culturally inclusive viewpoint that expands the boundaries of the museum. Exhibitions focus on international, national and regional art developments chiefly in the 20<sup>th</sup> century; seek to present the cultural and historical context of art, and to acknowledge the artistic contributions of under-recognized sectors of the population. BUAG is located at 855 Commonwealth Avenue, inside the College of Fine Arts at Boston University (BU West T stop on the B Green Line).

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