



## **MFA FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT FACT SHEET**

The MFA Fine Arts Department offers a specialization in painting, sculpture, installation, printmaking, new media or mixed media while fostering an ideology of stylistic pluralism. The two-year, 60-credit degree program encourages students to follow a personal course of intellectual and expressive evolution as they experiment with diverse artistic persuasions, discover new aspects of their creative abilities and gain greater technical mastery.

In the first year, students refine their skills in workshops in their area of concentration and take part in seminars which focus on fundamental art theories critical to contemporary art making. The second year provides group instruction and critique, workshops on writing and business practices, term reviews with faculty and advanced seminar studies, and culminates with the completion of a thesis project. In addition, students benefit from the perspectives of leading members of the contemporary arts community through the visiting artists program, and a series of lectures and studio critiques delivered by prominent artists, critics and curators.

### **2009 – 2010 student population**

64 matriculated students

### **Department chair**

David L. Shirey, art critic, writer and editor

### **Some notable faculty members**

Polly Apfelbaum, Dan Cameron, Petah Coyne, Mary Heilmann, Marilyn Minter, Lucio Pozzi, Joao Ribas, Jerry Saltz, William Wegman

### **Some notable alumni**

Katherine Bernhardt, Luca Buvoli, Steve DeFrank, Inka Essenhigh, Erwin Redl, Sarah Sze, Phoebe Washburn

### **Student exhibitions**

Graduating students unveil their thesis projects in a group exhibition at the Visual Arts Gallery, located in Manhattan's Chelsea gallery district.

For further information, please visit our Web site at [www.sva.edu](http://www.sva.edu) and the department page at <http://mfafineart.sva.edu>.