MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Variations of a Whole**
*A group exhibition of student work from Otis College of Art and Design*
June 28 – August 27, 2014

LOS ANGELES – May 2014 – Otis College of Art and Design is pleased to present the exhibition, *Variations of a Whole*, at the Bolsky Gallery, June 28 - August 27, 2014, with an Opening Reception on Saturday, June 28, from 4-6pm.

Art school is a place where freedom of thought and self-expression flourish, where up-and-coming artists are given an opportunity to restructure codes and belief systems into their own culture. *Variations of a Whole*, curated by Otis alumna Jeseca Dawson (’12 Graduate Public Practice), combines the work of thirteen artists from both undergraduate and graduate programs in Fine Arts and Public Practice. The work is evidence of the students’ exploration of ideas and materials, as well as their desire to manifest meaningful forms of self-expression. It exemplifies artists in the process of finding their own voice as they investigate identity, experimentation, social responsibility, art theory and the tension between human and natural production.

**Artists include:**
- William Jon Bengtson (BFA Fine Arts)
- Alexia E. Bernal (BFA Fine Arts)
- Corinne Bernard (BFA Fine Arts)
- Derek Corns (BFA Fine Arts)
- Sean Cully (MFA Fine Arts)
- Janet E. Dandridge (MFA Fine Arts)
- Víctor Albarracín Llanos (MFA Fine Arts)
- Laura Lindlief (BFA Fine Arts)
- Chelsea McCarthy (BFA Fine Arts)
- Angelica Sanchez (BFA Fine Arts)
- Yasmin Than (MFA Fine Arts)
- Rachel Wolfe (MFA Fine Arts)
- Carol Zou (MFA Public Practice)

**Public Programming:**
**Saturday, June 28, 4-6pm, Opening Reception**, Free
With live music by **The Small Steps** and stencil workshop with **Carol Zou**, celebrating Rosa Parks and transit-based activism.
Location: Otis College of Art and Design, 9045 Lincoln Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90045
Hours: Tue-Fri 10-5 / Thu 10-7 / Sat-Sun, 12-4. Closed Mondays and major holidays; closed July 4-6.
Gallery Tours: 310.846.2579 or jdawson@otis.edu to schedule tours for school, museum or other groups
Gallery Info: 310.665.6905, galleryinfo@otis.edu, www.otis.edu/benmaltzgallery

Jeseca Dawson is the Ben Maltz Gallery 2012-14 Curatorial Fellow, and is a recent graduate of the Otis MFA Public Practice program ('12). She received her Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies degree from Wayne State University’s College of Urban, Labor and Metropolitan Affairs, with a focus in photography and social science in 2005. In 2006, she began working at the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit (MOCAD), first as the Administrator and then as the as the Deputy Director of Operations and Administration. Jeseca is a video performance artist and photographer who explores issues around systemic violence in American culture. Her social justice advocacy began with the Multicultural Experience in Leadership Development (MELD), part of Wayne State University's Center for Peace & Conflict Studies in Detroit, MI.

About Otis: Founded in Los Angeles in 1918, Otis College of Art and Design prepares diverse students of art and design to enrich the world through their creativity, their skill, and their vision. The College offers an interdisciplinary education for 1200 full-time students, awarding BFA degrees in Advertising, Architecture/Landscape/Interiors, Digital Media, Fashion Design, Illustration, Graphic Design, Product Design, Painting, Photography, Sculpture/New Genres, and Toy Design; and MFA degrees in Fine Arts, Graphic Design, Public Practice, and Writing. Continuing Education offers certificate programs as well as personal and professional development courses. Additional information is available at http://www.otis.edu.

Images, L-R:
Derek Corns, After Begin Ends, 2013
Laura Lindlief, As Much In the Moment As of the Moment, 2013
William Bengston, Venus of the High-Desert #3, 2014

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