The Nature of Personal Reality
A group exhibition based on creating reality and the human need for connection and creation
June 27 – September 1, 2015

LOS ANGELES – May 2015 – Otis College of Art and Design is pleased to present the exhibition, The Nature of Personal Reality at the Bolsky Gallery, June 27-September 1, 2015, with an opening reception Saturday, June 27, from 4-6pm.

The essence of what it is to be human, the flesh and the body, and the wonder of existence is profound. Western philosophers followed the Cartesian dualistic approach to understanding reason by separating mind from body. Despite the influence of Eastern philosophies, the feminist revolution, and everything in between, this notion of rationalism heavily influences our culture. In today’s world, where we find ourselves laden with human affects and effects, with seemingly inescapable military industrialization, and both human and natural disasters, it is hard to tell if we, as a human race, are truly evolving. Our approach is often solely based on past events in a time and space that our conscious minds can recollect; a battle, a response, a fight, a reaction, and the science of the moment seems to be leaving the body altogether.

In 1974, Jane Roberts wrote, The Nature of Personal Reality: A Seth Book, in which the non-physical entity known as Seth states, “You make your own reality. There is no other rule. Knowing this is the secret of creativity.” The artists in this exhibition explore boundaries of reality, investigate new ways of understanding the domestic body, and express the need to feel something intimate and vital.

Artists in the exhibition include:
Ashton Allen (MFA ’16), Tada Asatooorian (BFA ’17), Amanda Benefiel (MFA ’16), Jeanette Degollado (MFA-Public Practice ’16), Margarethe Drexel (MFA-Public Practice ’16), Gerry Fialka & Mark X Farina (MFA-Public Practice ’16), Ivett Godoy (BFA ’16), Dakota Raine Higgins (BFA ’17), Zac Roach (MFA ’16), Regine Rode (MFA ’16), Gabriel Rojas (BFA ’16), and Erin Watson (BFA ’16).

Public Programming:
Saturday, June 27, 4-6pm, Opening Reception
Location: Otis College of Art and Design, 9045 Lincoln Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90045
Gallery Tours: 310.846.2579 or jdawson@otis.edu
Gallery Info: 310.665.6905, galleryinfo@otis.edu, www.otis.edu/benmaltzgallery

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.

From left to right, top to bottom:
Erin Watson, Sausage, 2014, Inkjet print, 20 x 30in.
Margarethe Drexel, and / or, 2014, Print and nails, 47 x 31in.
Gabriel Rojas, Genuine, 2015, Mixed media, 23ft. (Detail)
Experimental (Un) educational films by Gerry Fialka & Mark Farina, EYE AM NOT A ROBOT, 2009, Video still

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