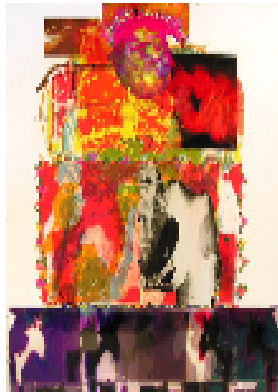
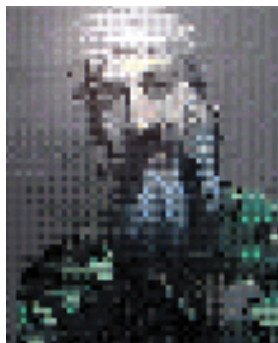


The University of Connecticut
Contemporary Art Galleries
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CONTEM
PORARY
ART GAL
LERIES



Gus Mazzocca



Aron Namenwirth



Kristi Arnold

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Contact information:

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Gus Mazzocca: 4 Decades/4 Generations

Contemporary Art Galleries (Storrs Campus)

January 28 – March 1, 2013

Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts

January 28 – March 15, 2013

Gus Mazzocca's Roast and Reception

Contemporary Art Galleries (Art Building)

January 28 - 5:00 to 6:30 pm

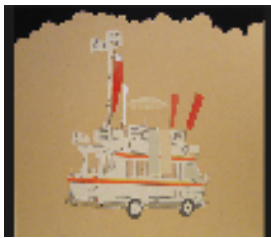
After four decades of teaching printmaking at the University of Connecticut, Prof. Gus Mazzocca retired at the end of last year. The Contemporary Art Galleries will be hosting a multi-site retrospective on Gus and his work entitled *Gus Mazzocca: 4 Decades/4 Generations*, beginning on January 28, 2013. In addition to a monograph exhibition of Gus's work at the CAG, from January 28 through March 15 we will be featuring a group exhibition at the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts. This show will feature work from four artists who studied with Mazzocca. The multi-site retrospective stands as a testament to Mazzocca's legacy at UConn, both as an artist and as a teacher.

From a short list of outstanding artists provided by Mazzocca, Barry A. Rosenberg, Director of the Contemporary Art Galleries has selected four to appear at the Jorgensen—one representing each decade of Mazzocca's career. All four of these alumni have gone on to live exciting lives as well as having successful and idiosyncratic careers, and all four cite Gus's teaching as a vital influence on their work.

Representing the 1970s is **Michael Maslin**, a longtime cartoonist for the *New Yorker* whose work has been published extensively. His first-ever publication was printed for a limited release at UConn in 1976, and he still remembers his time with Prof. Mazzocca fondly. "I so look forward to attending the opening reception, to seeing the art, and most of all, to seeing Gus.



Michael Maslin



Tyler Starr

Aron Namenwirth, who studied with Prof. Mazzocca in the 1980s, is now a professional artist living in Brooklyn. He described Mazzocca as his best professor, including those he studied with for his MFA at Yale. “Gus was one of my favorite teachers, I look forward to the opportunity to tell him that.” In addition to his work in printmaking and painting, Aron is also a musician.

Tyler Starr received his BFA from UConn in 1997, and was recommended by Mazzocca for his Fulbright Scholarship to study in Poland. He received his MFA from the University of Minnesota. He has worked as an emergency medical technician, which he cites as an important influence on his art’s interest in mortality and the unexpected. He is now an Assistant Professor at Davidson College. Starr holds a PhD from the Tokyo University of the Arts, and he works in video and animation as well as works on paper.

Representing the 2000s, **Kristi Arnold** has been living in Australia and is nearing the end of her studies toward a PhD there, after previously earning her MFA at UConn. Her work engages vividly with color and symmetry. Mazzocca encouraged Arnold to spend time in Poland, where she, too, held a Fulbright Scholarship—she cites this as a profound influence on the trajectory of her career. Arnold commented when invited by Rosenberg to represent our present decade, “I’ve always had a soft spot for Gus. He’s such a caring mentor and was such a huge inspiration for me.”

The Contemporary Art Galleries is very excited about the opportunity to put together this retrospective for Gus Mazzocca. In addition to the retrospective at the CAG and the group show at the Jorgensen, we will have open walls for student and alumni contributions their thoughts in words and images of their own connection to Gus and printmaking on the UConn campus in the Arena Gallery. The opening reception on January 28 will feature a roast of Prof. Mazzocca, with Prof. Deborah Dancy as roastmaster.

Gus Mazzocca was born in Boston, Massachusetts. He received an M.F.A. degree in Painting/Printmaking from The Rhode Island School of Design, a B.F.A. degree in Painting, and a B.A. degree in Political Science from the University of Connecticut. He has been awarded a Doctor of Arts (honoris causa) from the Akademi Sztuk Pieknych w Krakowie (The Art Academy of Krakow) His work has been shown in numerous solo and group exhibitions at galleries and museums in Austria, Poland, the Netherlands, Germany, the Czech Republic, Italy, Japan, and the United States. He has been teaching at the University of Connecticut since 1970.

“I continue to use the figure as a vehicle to create unfixed narratives that reflect movement, tension, struggle and celebration. The use of the digitally produced elements along with the more raw scratched and carved marks of the woodcut present a dichotomy that is ideally suited to these issues I present visually.”

Note - If you are interested in attending Gus’s reception and roast on September 28th please contact barry.rosenberg@uconn.edu. And, if you want to help support this project through a gift that will make possible publishing Gus’s exhibition catalogue and in his name create an Artist-in-Residency program.