



southeastern college art conference

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PRESS RELEASE

2009 SECAC ARTIST'S FELLOWSHIP WINNER - CHRISTINA WEST

The 2009 Southeastern College Art Conference (SECAC) Artist's Fellowship Award recipient is figurative sculptural ceramic artist Christina West. West is Assistant Professor of Art at The Ernest G. Welch School of Art and Design at Georgia State University in Atlanta, GA. Jenny Hager, Chair of the SECAC Artist's Fellowship, of the University of North Florida in Jacksonville, FL, with jurors Harry Boone of Georgia Gwinnett College, Kevin Concannon of the University of Akron, and Nikki Schneider and Tony Wright of the University of South Alabama, selected West from 58 applicants.

West graduated with an MFA from Alfred University in Alfred, NY in 2006. West is currently preparing for an Artist Residency at the Bemis Center for Contemporary Art in Omaha, NE in 2010 and recently installed her solo exhibition "Where the Wild Things Are" at Klemm Gallery in Adrian, MI. West has also recently been awarded the Mary L. Nohl Suitcase Export Grant in 2009, the New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship in 2007, and the George Sugarman Foundation Grant in 2007, as well. West is represented by Pacini Lubel Gallery in Seattle, WA. Her work can be viewed at <http://cwestsculpture.com>;

The SECAC Artist's Fellowship will facilitate the execution of a new body of work entitled, "What a Doll: The Human Object as Toy." West plans to experiment with new materials and methods, expanding upon the recurring ideas in her sculptural practice regarding the social figure and modes of representation. Fellowship funds would be used to purchase materials necessary to complete the work, from the beginning stages of developing prototypes and creating molds, to the execution of the works to be shown in galleries.

SECAC facilitates cooperation and fosters on-going dialog about pertinent creative, scholarly and educational issues between teacher and administrators in universities, colleges, community colleges, professional art schools, and museums. Although the organization represents the twelve states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia, members are located across the United States and abroad.

SECAC fulfills its purpose in part by sponsoring an annual fall conference, hosted by an institution of higher learning. The conference provides members with a forum for the exchange of ideas and concerns relevant to the practice and study of art. The organization also publishes a newsletter and the scholarly, peer reviewed journal, *The Southeastern College Art Conference Review*.

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