

For Immediate Release—Nov 1, 2012

Contact: Hannah Swartz

40 Talbot Avenue, Medford, MA 02155

hannah.swartz@tufts.edu (617) 627-3094

Tufts University Art Gallery

at The Aidekman Arts Center

40 Talbot Avenue, Medford, MA 02155

<http://artgallery.tufts.edu>

**MFA THESIS
EXHIBITION**

Nov 30 - Dec 16, 2012

Public Opening Reception: Thursday, Nov 29, 5:30-8:00pm Artists' Talks: 6:00pm

MEDFORD, MA – The Tufts University Art Gallery presents the first of three MFA Thesis Exhibition for the 2012-2013 academic year, works by Master of Fine Arts candidates in the joint graduate degree program of Tufts University and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. This winter's exhibition features artists K. Tyler and Rebecca Wallach, whose work will be on view in the Koppelman Gallery in the Aidekman Arts Center from November 30 to December 16, with the opening reception on November 29 from 5:30-8pm. The artists will each be present and will speak about their work starting at 6 pm.

Although the subjects of their work and artistic mediums could not be more different, Tyler's photographs and Wallach's drawings in ink and gouache are rooted in their grandmothers' narratives and create a poignant illustration of the pleasures and pains of passing time and the tension between past and present.

K. Tyler's landscape photographs in *Sense of Place: Transitional Landscapes from the Evolving Plains* document the transformation of New Town, North Dakota—where her grandmother came from—a town built to house the relocated residents of three townships that were flooded by the Garrison Dam and Reservoir Project. Due to the discovery of large oil reserves in the area, the community is experiencing an economic boom, however it does not have the infrastructure necessary to accommodate the increase in population and traffic. Tyler's photographs capture the grand sense of the landscape, which seems to dominate the rugged lifestyle of those that live there.

Wallach's depiction of passing time is perhaps more literal in her new drawings, *Floating and Other Moments of Buoyancy*, which celebrates camaraderie and resilience among an older population. Wallach's depictions of familiar characters playing within ambiguously nostalgic environments offer allegorical interpretations of the challenges and pleasures of aging as part of a community. With both ebullient and muted qualities, her idiosyncratic representations suggest concurrent notions of the romantic and the bleak and are meant to initiate discourse about taking time to connect, the value of pastimes and the inevitability of time passing.



Rebecca Wallach, *Everything Feels/May Actually Be Much Lighter* (detail), 22 1/4 x 29 3/4 inches, ink and gouache on paper, 2012.

Photo credit: Erik Benjamins



K. Tyler, *House on HWY 23*, size variable, photograph, 2011.

Tufts University Art Gallery is fully accessible and admission is free. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm, and Thursdays until 8 pm. <http://artgallery.tufts.edu>