

For Immediate Release
January 12, 2011
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Introductions: New Instructors Show

On Display at Pratt Gallery at Tashiro Kaplan Studios February 3 - 25, 2011
Opening Reception: First Thursday, February 3, 6 - 8 pm

Pratt Fine Arts Center is pleased to present the group exhibition ***Introductions: New Instructors Show***. The show features work by new Pratt instructors Curtis Erlinger (painting), Michael Lorefice (diverse disciplines), James Minson (flameworking) and Alair Wells (sculpture).

Curtis Erlinger has taught in many programs including Foundations at SUNY Buffalo, Youth Photography Education at CEPA Gallery, and as an artist-in-residence at Americorps-VISTA in the Northshore School District. He is a member of SOIL and PUNCH Gallery. He received an MFA in Painting from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Michael Lorefice earned his MFA from the Memphis College of Art. He has exhibited his work nationwide and works within the fields of painting, drawing, and filmmaking. In addition to being featured in *New American Paintings*, Michael has been an artist-in-residence at the Santa Fe Art Institute and Constance Saltonstall Foundation.

James Minson is a third generation flameworker. He has degrees from Sydney University, Tama Art University Tokyo, and Antioch University Seattle. He teaches internationally and his work is represented in several museum collections including the Corning Museum of Glass, Tacoma Art Museum and the Australian National Glass Collection

Alair Wells has a BFA in Sculpture from the Atlanta College of Art and an MFA from Louisiana State University. Alair has organized numerous iron casting events and exhibited nationwide. Before moving to Seattle she taught at Binghamton University. Alair also works as a metal fabricator and blacksmith.

Pratt Fine Arts Center offers year-round classes and workshops for beginning and advanced students in a wide range of disciplines including glass, jewelry/metalsmithing, sculpture, painting, drawing, printmaking and diverse disciplines. As a non-accredited education center, Pratt's classes are open to everyone.

The Pratt Gallery at Tashiro Kaplan Studios showcases the artwork of its instructors, students and renters, demonstrating the quality, strength and range of talent that is cultivated and made possible by programs offered at Pratt Fine Arts Center.



Title: *Introductions: New Instructors Show*: Curtis Erlinger, Michael Lorefice, James Minson and Alair Wells
Where: Pratt Gallery at Tashiro Kaplan Studios, 312 S. Washington St, Studio 1A, Seattle
When: February 3-25, 2011
Opening: First Thursday, February 3, 6-8pm
Gallery Hours: Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 12-5pm and by appointment

Pratt's Exhibitions and Lecture programs are sponsored by grants from 4Culture, National Endowment for the Arts, Seattle Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs, Adobe Foundation and the Washington State Arts Commission.

Image: Michael Lorefice, *Self Portrait of My Brother as a Red Paisley Shirt* (detail), 2009, oil on canvas, photo courtesy of the artist. High resolution images are available upon request.

Since 1976, Pratt Fine Arts Center has offered art classes for everyone and workspace for artists in its equipment-rich facilities in Seattle's Central District. Pratt serves 3,400 students each year and more than 500 working artists use Pratt's affordable studios and equipment.