

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PORTLAND, Ore. - (August 4, 2014)

the immiscible edges

Michelle Acuff

August 8 – September 25, 2014

First Thursday Opening Reception, August 7 | 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Viewing Hours: Tuesday – Saturday | 12 noon – 6:00 pm

The White Box at the University of Oregon in Portland is pleased to present *the immiscible edges*, a solo exhibition of work by Michelle Acuff, artist and Associate Professor of Art at Whitman College. Join us Thursday, August 7, 2014 for the opening reception and to meet the artist. *the immiscible edges* is on display at White Box UO from August 8 – September 13, 2014.

Artist Statement:

"Art making is always a strategy for materializing knowledge, a way of constructing meaning from the world. These works speak to the tangled web of relations— aesthetic, ecologic, and material—that define the period in geologic and human history now known as the Anthropocene. The images and objects assembled here frame the fantasy, nostalgia and denial that characterize this precarious relationship with the planet and its inhabitants. As the industrial and commercial domination of the world grows ever more robust, human agents trigger the collapse of familiar categories, landscapes and frameworks. We catapult and hurl. The immiscible edges of everything loosen."

Michelle Acuff hails from the Midwest where she received her B.A. in Art from Augustana College, and her M.A. and M.F.A. in Sculpture and Intermedia from The University of Iowa. In recent years Professor Acuff has exhibited her work nationally in group and solo exhibitions across the country at venues such as The Urban Institute for Contemporary Art, Washington & Jefferson College, Bellevue College, the Pendleton Art Center, AIR Gallery, and the Attleboro Museum of Art. Professor Acuff has been the recipient of an Artist Trust GAP Grant, a Mississippi Arts Commission Individual Artist Fellowship, and has been awarded fellowships at many artist residencies throughout the United States including the Jentel Foundation, Ragdale, the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, Playa and the Brush Creek Foundation. In 2012 she was a resident at the VCCA's Moulin Au Nef program in Auvillar, France. Acuff's

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work is multi-media in nature, marrying ersatz images and industrially produced commercial objects with organic and hand-made sculptural elements. Her materials range widely from neon to porcelain, steel to Styrofoam, articulating a very tenuous connection to the natural world, and the precariousness of the environmental and social realities we face.



One of the featured works in the exhibition.
Upside Down in The Air Were Towers, digital print, 32" x 48", 2014

About White Box at the University of Oregon in Portland

The White Box is a visual laboratory for the research, exploration and presentation of global issues in contemporary art and design. The White Box programming reflects and extends the intellectual conversation of the University of Oregon.

About the University of Oregon

The University of Oregon is a world-class teaching and research institution and Oregon's flagship public university. The UO is a member of the Association of American Universities (AAU), an organization made up of the 61 leading public and private research institutions in the United States and Canada. The University of Oregon is one of only two AAU members in the Pacific Northwest.

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Links: <http://whitebox.uoregon.edu/>

White Box on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WhiteBoxUOPDX>

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