FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ALBANY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT GALLERY PRESENTS Body Language

Albany, NY (March 28, 2014) - - - The Albany International Airport Art & Culture Program will present Body Language, an exhibition in which the human figure is central to the work of eleven artists. The exhibition will run from April 5, through September 7, 2014. A public reception will be held on April 11, from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Without saying a word, we speak to one another through gesture, gaze and composure. More than any other subject matter in art, the body invites associations with our own sense of self, as well as our notions of other. In contrast to the tradition of aiming for a faithful likeness, the artists assembled here present subjects that are not at once who they seem.

While the characters in Lin Price’s paintings engage in activities such as laboring or searching, their objectives are mysterious. The central figure in Robert and Shana ParkeHarrison’s series, The Architect’s Brother, performs heroic tasks such as turning the seasons, using simple or even make-believe technology. From a different vantage point, the world Leona Christie describes is inhabited by figures whose uniform perfection is at once sensual and synthetic.

While rendered as a non-specific ‘protagonist,’ the character that populates Brian Cirmo’s paintings appears during intimate, isolated moments of everyday living. And while the figures in Paul Miyamoto’s work possess a similar anonymity, their distinct postures within a cultivated landscape are unmistakably those of farm laborers.

By contrast, Darcie Abatiello’s portraits are based upon photographs of missing persons published since the early twentieth century. Their curious combinations of imagery are echoed in Amy Podmore’s sculptures, whose metamorphic states evoke associations with dreams or fairy tales. Similarly, Sergei Isupov’s larger-than-life sized sculptures seem to have their own inner lives, and inhabit a strange and wonderful world.

Both Sean Hovendick and Melanie Baker explore notions of power and masculinity in contemporary culture. Hovendick presents some of the complexities and contradictions embedded in today’s gender politics through short, provocative videos. Baker composes large-scale drawings of well-known public figures in which she dramatically isolates the features that most distinguish them as members of the ruling elite.
Artists: Darcie Abbatiello, Melanie Baker, Leona Christie, Brian Cirmo, Sean Hovendick, Sergei Isupov, Paul Miyamoto, Robert & Shana Parke-Harrison, Amy Podmore, Lin Price

Public reception: Friday April 11, 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Albany International Airport Gallery, located on the third floor of the Airport terminal, before the security checkpoint. Parking will be validated for the reception. Airport Gallery hours are 7 a.m. – 11 p.m. daily.

NEW IN THE ANNEX GALLERY

Natural Gestures, through October 8, 2014. Featuring the work of Anne Francey, Allyson Levy and Sunghee Park; Curated by the University at Albany Curatorial Studies class.

Public reception: Friday April 11, 5:30-7:30 p.m. in conjunction with Body Language. Parking will be validated for the reception.

For more information please contact Sharon Bates, Director of the Art & Culture Program, at 518.242-2243 or arts@albanyairport.com.