The Gallery of Art, Temple University Rome, is pleased to present **2008/2020: Gretchen Bacheller, Benny Fountain, Ai Krasner, Fabian Lopez, Ryan Parker**, an exhibition of five MFA Alumni in the Visual Arts from Tyler School of Art and Architecture, Temple University (Philadelphia, PA), who spent their 2007-2008 academic year at the Rome Campus. The show will open live on Kunstmatrixt, our virtual 3-d platform, on Monday June 15 at 8:00pm Rome time (2:00pm EDT; 1:00pm CST; 11:00am PST). The artists will be present and will lead the audience through the exhibition, comment on their work and on their life-changing experience.

This exhibition is part of our ongoing series featuring TUR Alumni who spent a year in Rome, studying with the local faculty and learning about Italian artistic culture, and then returning to Philadelphia to complete their education. The years since receiving their MFA has seen them become distinguished artists and educators; exhibiting in the US and abroad; and bringing their memories of this early formative experience into their work.

The five artists in this exhibition came to Rome in the Fall of 2007, and remained through the Spring of 2008. They forged a lasting friendship based on their shared experience and artistic exchange. At the end of their stay, they exhibited in a group exhibition *Tutti eccetto Gus...*. They are reunited here for the first time with a selection of works from the 2008 exhibition, along with a representative synthesis of their artistic production over the years.

**Shara Wasserman**  
*Director of Exhibitions,*  
Temple University Rome
La Gallery of Art, Temple University di Roma, è lieta di presentare il “2008/2020: Gretchen Bacheller, Benny Fountain, Ai Krasner, Fabian Lopez, Ryan Parker”, una mostra di cinque ex studenti di Visual Arts della Tyler School of Art and Architecture, Temple University (Filadelfia, Pennsylvania), che hanno trascorso l’anno accademico 2007-2008 al Campus di Roma. La mostra verrà trasmessa live su Kunstmatrix, la nostra piattaforma virtuale 3-d, lunedì 15 giugno alle 20:00 ora di Roma (14:00 EDT; 13:00 CST; 11:00am PST). Gli artisti saranno presenti e guideranno il pubblico attraverso la mostra, commentando il loro lavoro.

Clicca qui per visitare la mostra virtuale

Questa mostra fa parte della serie di mostre dedicati ai TUR Alumni che hanno trascorso un anno qui a Roma. Dopo aver ricevuto il MFA questi ex studenti sono diventati illustri artisti, esponendo negli Stati Uniti e all’estero, ed insegnanti, trasferendo nelle loro opere i ricordi della loro esperienza romana.

I cinque artisti che esporranno in questa mostra sono legati da una stretta amicizia basata sulla loro esperienza romana ma anche sullo scambio delle loro idee artistiche.

Qui si riuniranno per la prima volta esponendo sia opere presentate nella loro collettiva del 2008 che all’estero Gus.... ma anche una selezione della loro opere d’arte prodotte durante questi ultimi anni.

Shara Wasserman
Director of Exhibitions, Temple University Rome
Artist Biographies

Gretchen Batcheller (MFA ‘09; lives and works in Malibu, California). Batcheller is an Associate Professor of Painting and Drawing and Chair of the Studio Art Department at Pepperdine University. Her work can be found in both public and private collections both in the United States and abroad. Her paintings have been featured in numerous regional, national and international venues including the Frederick R. Weisman Museum of Art in Los Angeles, CA; Burgenland State Gallery in Eisenstadt, Austria; and the Jeju Museum of Contemporary Art in South Korea. Gretchen was also selected as a finalist for the Arlin G. Meyer Prize through the Lilly Fellows Program.

Benny Fountain (MFA ‘08; lives and works in Waco, Texas). Fountain was born in Moscow, Idaho at the center of a rich agricultural region known as the Palouse. Fountain traces his love of the visual to the changing light and color of the farmlands he witnessed growing up. Educated in Portland, Oregon (BFA, Pacific Northwest College of Art), and in Philadelphia and Rome (MFA, Tyler School of Art), Fountain joined the faculty at Baylor University in 2013. In 2014, Benny conducted a project consisting of on-site composition and color studies of the frescos of Piero della Francesca in Tuscany, discovering visual patterns that are central to his current work. Fountain is a recipient of a Jack Kent Cooke Foundation scholarship and a Josef and Anni Albers Foundation Residency. His work has been featured in numerous national and international venues such as the Royal Scottish Academy of Art, where he was awarded the Meyer Oppenhiem prize, and The Drawing Center, The Bowery, and First Street Gallery in New York, NY. Fountain is represented by the Froelick Gallery in Portland, Oregon, where he has had five solo exhibitions.

Ai Krasner (MFA ’09; lives and works in Fresno, California). Krasner was born in Yokohama, Japan in 1974. Krasner produces works in collage, print making and sculpture. Krasner is interested in transforming everyday items into works of art. She interweaves sensitivity of Japanese culture into contemporary art. Krasner received the MFA in 2009 from the Tyler School of Art. In 2010 she attended Art Institute art residency in Santa Fe New Mexico.

Fabian Lopez (’09; lives and works in Saratoga Springs, NY). Born and raised in Los Angeles Fabian Lopez received his BFA in drawing and painting from California State University - Long Beach and his MFA in painting from Tyler School of Art where he was awarded a full scholarship; The Future Faculty Fellowship. He has participated in both group and solo exhibitions in Los Angeles, Philadelphia, New York and Rome Italy. Lopez was invited to participate in the inaugural year of the
Elizabeth Murray Artist Residency during the summer of 2018. Before joining the art department faculty at Skidmore College, Lopez previously taught at Tyler School of Art. His work has been published in New American Painters 104 and 122, title-magazine.com, theartblog.org and newsworks.org.

**Ryan Parker** (MFA ’09; lives and works in Philadelphia, PA). Parker received his MFA in printmaking from Tyler School of Art, Temple University in Rome, Italy and Philadelphia. His printed works on paper and fabric employ architectural forms and its patterned motifs to explore psychological space and create personal narrative. The prints that he makes are also informed by his interest in travel—which has led him to participate in artist residencies at Frans Masereel Centrum (Belgium), Cork Printmakers (Ireland), and Ballinglen (Ireland). Ryan was also awarded a 2017–18 Fulbright-Nehru Fellowship which brought him to India. His research included studying ancient architecture as well as the traditional, sustainable production methods of India’s fabric arts—in particular, block printing, hand painting (kalamkari), and the use of natural pigments. Additionally, Ryan has worked as a museum educator at The Fabric Workshop and Museum in Philadelphia, instructing textile design and screen printing in the Post-Graduate Apprenticeship, and in 2018-19, he was the Grant Wood Fellow in Printmaking at The University of Iowa.