FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 16, 2012

Papercuts applies ancient Chinese technique to contemporary works of art

A dynamic installation filled with delicate illusions is how artist Reni Gower describes Papercuts, which highlights contemporary paper cutting. The exhibition, curated by Gower, will open in Herron School of Art and Design’s Berkshire, Paul and Reese Galleries on Wednesday, September 26 and continues through November 10.

Gower will give a free, public lecture at 6:00 p.m. in the Basile Auditorium of Eskenazi Hall to kick off the exhibit, with a reception following until 9:00 p.m. A show catalog is available for purchase. Gower is a professor in the painting and printmaking department at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. She holds an M.F.A. degree from Syracuse University and an M.A. degree from the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

In addition to work by Gower, Papercuts includes work by Jaq Belcher, Béatrice Coron, Michelle Forsyth, Lenka Konopasek, Lauren Scanlon and Daniella Woolf, who bring a broad range of international perspectives.

Using all manner of tools, these artists obsessively cut, roll, punch, fold and pin various papers, which allows them to produce works that range from narrative commentaries to complex structural abstractions. They submerge their viewers in a meditative and liberating experience. Their works are bold contemporary statements that celebrate the subtle nuance of the artist’s hand through a process that traces its origins to 6th century China.

In conjunction with the exhibit, there will be a dinner in the Galleries with Reni Gower on Friday, September 28 at 5:30 p.m. Limited seating is available at $150 for an individual and $1,200 for a table of eight. The evening will include an auction of a dozen rare works by Garo Antreasian, Robert Berkshire, John Mellencamp, and others. Proceeds benefit Herron academic programs. A portion of the ticket price is tax deductible.

Herron is the fourth stop in the travels of this exhibition, which opened in Mobile, Alabama in 2011 and made two stops in Georgia in early 2012. Papercuts is scheduled to show in Boca Raton, Roanoke and Akron in 2013.
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Also opening on September 26 is an exhibit of work by advanced Herron drawing students, organized by their instructor Assistant Professor of Foundation Studies Anila Agha. The exhibition concludes on October 25.

Continuing through September 29 is IT’S A BOOK! – Recent Productions from the new Book Arts Program at Herron. This exhibit celebrates work from the 2011/2012 school year, showcasing students who graduated with Herron’s newly-established Minor in Book Arts.

Adjunct Faculty Member in Printmaking Karen Baldner, who curated the exhibit, teaches book arts, papermaking and letterpress at Herron.

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Limited parking is available in the Sports Complex Garage just west of Herron. Park in the visitor side of the garage and bring your ticket to the Herron Galleries for validation. Complimentary parking courtesy of The Great Frame Up.

Parking in the surface lot next to Herron School of Art and Design requires a valid IUPUI parking permit at all times.