Tampa, September 5, 2014 – The USF Contemporary Art Museum is pleased to present the exhibition *Making Sense: Rochelle Feinstein, Deborah Grant, Iva Gueorguieva, Dona Nelson* open September 27 through December 12, 2014.

*Making Sense* brings together four artists who make distinctive contributions to contemporary painting. Through a range of approaches, they explore painting as a medium, a set of techniques, an historical institution and a framework for making sense. Inspired by WWII-era Enigma decoding machines, *Rochelle Feinstein* takes on puzzling figures of speech, inscrutable ideas and encrypted social codes as challenges for painterly representation. Using a method she calls “Random Select,” *Deborah Grant* creates imagined, non-linear narrative encounters between historical artists, interwoven with her own varied humanistic interests from literature to religion. *Iva Gueorguieva* adapts the visual language of modern abstraction to create tumultuous, energetic spaces on canvas; her process of building up paintings by layering torn cloth with pigment and color washes produces spontaneous, dynamic compositions rooted in personal stories. *Dona Nelson’s* two-sided paintings, stained and layered with strands of cheesecloth, invite viewers to encounter them as freestanding forms. *Making Sense* includes new works produced by Feinstein and Gueorguieva at Graphicstudio, the 45-year-old collaborative printmaking and sculpture atelier of the USF Institute for Research In Art. *Curated by Margaret Miller, Director, USF Institute for Research in Art, and Megan Voeller, Associate Curator of Education, USF Contemporary Art Museum; organized by USF Contemporary Art Museum.*
**RELATED EVENTS:**

*Making Sense Conversation with the Artists: Rochelle Feinstein, Iva Gueorguieva and Dona Nelson*
September 26, 6–7pm, USF School of Music Barness Recital Hall (MUS)

*Making Sense Opening Reception*
September 26, 7–9pm, USF Contemporary Art Museum (CAM)

*Making Sense Curator’s Tour*
October 9, 12pm, USF Contemporary Art Museum (CAM)

*Making Sense Curator’s Tour*
November 6, 6pm, USF Contemporary Art Museum (CAM)

**ART Thursday: Making Sense Paint-Off**
November 13, 6–8pm, USF Contemporary Art Museum (CAM)

-All events are free-

**ARTIST BIOS & RECENT PRESS**

**Rochelle Feinstein**
Rochelle Feinstein (b. 1947, New York, NY) received a BFA from Pratt Institute in 1975 and an MFA from the University of Minnesota in 1978. Recent solo exhibitions include On Stellar Rays, New York, NY (2013 & 2011); Higher Pictures, New York, NY (2013); LAB Space/Art Production Fund, New York, NY (2009); Momenta Art, Brooklyn, NY (2008); The Suburban, Chicago, IL (2008). In 2014, Feinstein was included in the Whitney Biennial at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY. Her work is in numerous museum and private collections including the Museum of Modern Art, New York and the Miami Art Museum. Feinstein was the 2012-13 recipient of a Radcliffe Institute Fellowship; other recent awards and grants include an American Academy of Arts and Letters Purchase Prize, Anonymous Was A Woman grant, a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Fellowship, a Joan Mitchell Foundation grant, and a Foundation for Contemporary Arts grant. In 1994, she was appointed to the faculty at Yale University School of Art, where she is currently professor and Director of Graduate Studies of painting and printmaking.


**Deborah Grant**
Deborah Grant (b. 1968, Toronto, Canada) received a BFA at Columbia College, Chicago (1996), an MFA in painting from Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia (1999), and completed residencies at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture (1996); The Studio Museum in Harlem A.I.R. (2002/2003); Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito (2004); A.S.A.P. Residency in Mount Desert Island, Maine (2005). She has had solo exhibitions at The Drawing Center, New York (2014), Roebling Hall, New York (2006), Dunn and Brown Contemporary, Dallas (2007) and Steve Turner Contemporary, Los Angeles (2007 & 2012). Grant’s...
work has also been included in the group exhibitions *When the Stars Begin to Fall: Imagination and the American South*, the Studio Museum in Harlem (2014); *Agitated Histories*, SITE Santa Fe (2011); *After 1968: Contemporary Artists and the Civil Rights Legacy*, High Museum of Art, Atlanta (2008); *The Old Weird America*, Contemporary Arts Museum Houston (2008); *Greater New York*, P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center, Long Island City (2005); and Thelma Golden's notable exhibition *Freestyle* at the Studio Museum in Harlem in 2001.

<http://steveturnercontemporary.com/blog/2014/04/02/deborah-grant-10/>

<http://steveturnercontemporary.com/blog/2014/03/07/deborah-grant-9/>

**Iva Gueorguieva**

Iva Gueorguieva (b. 1974, Sofia, Bulgaria) received an MFA from the Tyler School of Art in Philadelphia. Gueorguieva has had recent solo exhibitions at such venues as ACME., Los Angeles, CA; Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects, Los Angeles, CA; BravinLee Programs, New York, NY; LUX Art Institute, Encinitas, CA; Angles Gallery, Los Angeles, CA; Stichting Outline, Amsterdam, Netherlands; and Pomona Museum of Art, Claremont, CA. Her work is included in many public and private collections including the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA; the Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis, MN; and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA. Her work is represented by Ameringer | McEnery | Yohe in New York and ACME. in Los Angeles. She is the recipient of the Orange County Contemporary Collectors Fellowship Award in 2012, the California Community Foundation Mid-Career Fellowship in 2010, and the Pollock-Krasner Grant in 2006. Gueorguieva lives and works in Los Angeles.


**Dona Nelson**

Dona Nelson (b. 1947, Grand Island, NE) moved to New York City in 1967 to participate in the Whitney Independent Study Program. She received her BFA from Ohio State University in 1968. Over the years, she has had numerous, widely reviewed solo shows at galleries such as Rosa Esman, Michael Klein, Cheim & Read (all New York); including a mid-career exhibition at the Weatherspoon Art Gallery (Greensboro, NC). More recently, she was included in survey shows at Harris Lieberman, D’Amelio Terras, Mary Boone, Robert Miller, and Boston University Art Gallery. In 2014, Nelson was included in the *Whitney Biennial* at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY.
Her work has also appeared at institutions such as the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, New York University’s 80WSE, Bard College, Apexart, the Milwaukee Art Museum, and the Aldrich Museum, and is included in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Guggenheim Museum, and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, among others. In 2013, Nelson received the Artists’ Legacy Foundation Award. She was a 2011 Foundation for Contemporary Arts grant recipient, and she received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1994. She is a Professor of Painting and Drawing at Tyler School of Art, Temple University, Philadelphia.


**Museum Hours + Admissions**

USFCAM Hours: Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 1-4pm. Closed Sunday and University holidays.

**Closed: November 11 for Veterans Day; and November 27–28 for Thanksgiving**

Admission to the Museum is free; however a USF parking permit ($5.00 daily) or pay-per-space parking is required. Please visit our website [http://ira.usf.edu/](http://ira.usf.edu/) for parking, directions, or more information on events associated with the exhibitions. Groups and organizations interested in tours should contact CAM to schedule at least two weeks in advance. Or call (813) 974-4133 for additional information.

Energy efficient lighting in USFCAM galleries is made possible in part by a grant from the USF Student Green Energy Fund (SGEF). The Institute for Research in Art is recognized by the State of Florida as a major cultural institution and receives funding through the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the National Endowment for the Arts. The USF Contemporary Art Museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.

**Institute for Research in Art Sponsors:**

National Endowment for the Arts; Arts Council of Hillsborough County, Board of County Commissioners; State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, Florida Council on Arts and Culture; de la Parte & Gilbert, P.A.; Carlton Fields Jorden Burt, P.A.; H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute; Knox Family Foundation; Lee & Victor Leavengood Trust; Raymond James Financial; The Tampa Tribune; Time Warner Communications; Time Customer Service, Inc.; Tower Realty Partners; The Wilson Company; Burr & Forman LLP; Nucci Spine and Orthopedic Institute; Baja | Cuva | Cohen | Turkel; USF Student Green Energy Fund (SGEF)