For immediate release

Columbia University School of the Arts
Presents the Inaugural Sound Arts MFA First-Year Show

New York, NY, April 28, 2014—Columbia University School of the Arts presents its inaugural MFA Sound Arts exhibition, showcasing works from first-year students. The exhibition will be on view from May 4 through 12, 2014, on the 3rd Floor of Prentis Hall, located at 632 West 125th St, just west of Broadway.

Sound Arts builds on more than fifty years of interdisciplinary and collaborative sound innovation at Columbia University. The interdepartmental program was developed by Faculty from the Computer Music Center, along with colleagues from Composition, Visual Arts, and Engineering.

The exhibition includes works from Carla Cisno (Milan) and Nolan Lem (Kansas City, Missouri).

Cisno’s What All Is (aluminum, water, sound, tactile transducers, signal generator, amplifier, table, light, large-sensor camera, and live projection) evokes a passage from Samuel Beckett’s Endgame (1957):

HAMM: Look at the earth.
CLOV: I’ve looked.
HAMM: With the glass?
CLOV: No need of the glass.
HAMM: Look at it with the glass.

Cisno is active in the fields of contemporary music, théâtre musical, performance and installation, and her current work focuses primarily on responsive sound environments and mixed media projects at the intersection of art, design, architecture and technology.

Nolan Lem’s Dice Roll (metal, fishing line, dice, motors, foam paper, wood, pulleys, electronics) is an experiential, kinetic network of rolling dice that explores the acoustic topographies of both sound and space through the interplay of order and chaos, pattern and noise, equilibrium and entropy.

Lem is an artist, engineer, and jazz musician whose work explores vernacular, found rhythms from daily life.

An opening reception for the exhibition will be held from 6 – 8 pm on Sunday, May 4.
On Monday, May 12, from noon – 2 pm, Curator Deborah Cullen will host a viewing, panel discussion with the artists, and reception. Deborah Cullen is Director and Chief Curator of The Miriam & Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery at Columbia University.

The exhibition and its events are free and open to the public.

**Schedule of Events:**

Opening Reception: Sunday, May 4, 6 - 8 PM

Closing Viewing, Panel, Reception: Monday, May 12, 12 - 2 PM

RSVP

Viewing by appointment: Monday, May 5 - Sun, May 11
(email soundarts@columbia.edu for info)

For more info: arts.columbia.edu/sound-arts-exhibition

**About Columbia University School of the Arts**

Columbia University School of the Arts awards the Master of Fine Arts degree in Film, Theatre, Visual Arts and Writing and the Master of Arts degree in Film Studies, and offers an interdisciplinary program in Sound Arts. The School is a thriving, diverse community of artists from around the world with talent, vision, and commitment. The faculty is composed of acclaimed and internationally renowned artists, film and theatre directors, writers of poetry, fiction and nonfiction, playwrights, producers, critics and scholars. Every year the School of the Arts presents exciting and innovative programs for the public including performances, exhibitions, screenings, symposia, a film festival, and numerous lectures, readings, panel discussions and talks with artists, writers, critics and scholars. For more information, arts.columbia.edu

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