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UMD ART GALLERY PRESENTS "QUESTIONING THE BOMB: HISTORY AND NON-PROLIFERATION"

Global community of designers commemorate the seventieth anniversary of atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki with poster art exhibition.

COLLEGE PARK, Md. – From September 2 through October 23, 2015, the University of Maryland Art Gallery, in collaboration with Colorado State University and Massachusetts College of Art and Design, present "Questioning the Bomb: History and Non-Proliferation, curated by Associate Professor James Thorpe, Department of Art at UMD.

This year marks the seventieth anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August of 1945. This exhibition not only reminds the public of the specific historical events that decimated two Japanese cities and killed thousands, but also advocates for global relinquishment of such weapons of mass destruction from all national arsenals.

"This exhibition could not be timelier. It should open all eyes to the fact that these weapons of massdestruction are real, they come in all shapes and sizes, and can do significant damage," says Thorpe. "There's nowhere to hide, and we can't just close our eyes and wish these problems to go away. We need to take proper steps to confront this issue head on. These posters do just that, and I am so proud of all the designers and humbled by their artwork submissions."

"This exhibition brings together an unparalleled and unprecedented gathering of creative minds for the sole purpose of global activism through art," says Taras W. Matla, the gallery's administrator. "The posters are provocative and sobering. Moreover, they provide an important and meaningful platform for discussing actions and reverberating consequences."

A public opening reception for "Questioning the Bomb: History and Non-Proliferation" will be held on Wednesday, September 2, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the University of Maryland Art Gallery, 2202 Art-Sociology Bldg., College Park, MD 20742. For more information, please call 301.405.2763 or email theartgallery@umd.edu. Admission is FREE and open to the public.

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About the University of Maryland Art Gallery

Established in 1966, the University of Maryland Art Gallery is part of the College of Arts and Humanities, and the flagship visual arts venue at the University of Maryland. The Gallery is located at 2202 Art-Sociology Building, College Park, Maryland. Gallery hours: Monday through Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The gallery is closed Saturday and Sunday, major holidays, and on days that home sports events are held at Capital One Field at Byrd Stadium. Admission is free and open to the public. The Gallery's office hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The office is closed on Saturday and Sunday, and major holidays. For general information, please call 301.405.2763 or visit the website at www.artgallery.umd.edu.

About the University of Maryland

The University of Maryland is the state's flagship university and one of the nation's preeminent public research universities. A global leader in research, entrepreneurship and innovation, the university is home to more than 37,000 students, 9,000 faculty and staff, and 250 academic programs. Its faculty includes three Nobel laureates, three Pulitzer Prize winners, 47 members of the national academies and scores of Fulbright scholars. The institution has a \$1.8 billion operating budget, secures \$500 million annually in external research funding and recently completed a \$1 billion fundraising campaign. For more information about the University of Maryland, visit www.umd.edu.